

The European princess who recently eloped with her French tutor has made a statement in which she denies that she ever wrote a letter containing coarse remarks about her husband; and this princess adds: "People in our rank of life never do such things." This reassurance will be extremely gratifying to the plain and simple folk who, because of several incidents, have come to believe that, after all, perhaps kings and queens and princes and princesses are like the rest of us, made of clay and may do wrong under provocation.

**This is
Sublime
Reassurance.**

It is proposed by some congressmen that the position of special pension commissioner be created for each state. This commissioner is to take from the members of congress the duty of looking after the pensions. If there are any members of congress who have grown weary of discharging their duty with respect to pensions, there are many industrious and energetic men at home who would be quite willing to take their places. The suggestion that a special pension commissioner be created for each state will not appeal very strongly to the people who believe that the duties that would naturally fall upon that officer can be discharged by members of congress.

**The
Pension
Agent.**

An interesting explanation of the alleged Rockefeller telegrams to certain United States senators is advanced by the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Press. This correspondent says that the anti-trust measures now before congress are favored by J. Pierpont Morgan and that some of the clauses in these alleged anti-trust bills were practically suggested by George W. Perkins, Mr. Morgan's right-hand man. This correspondent explains that Mr. Rockefeller differs with Mr. Morgan as to the desirability of paying any attention to public clamor and that Rockefeller is therefore opposed to measures which have the favor of Mr. Morgan and his associates.

**Here's
a
Solution.**

Referring to the report that the trust magnates may conclude to oppose Mr. Roosevelt's nomination in 1904, the Omaha Bee, a republican paper, says: "No intelligent man will underestimate the power and influence of great combinations that are vast and far-reaching and if exerted in the political field, will not be without effect." "If exerted in the political field" is particularly good. The editor of this republican organ is not generally regarded as a humorist and yet one might be persuaded to believe from this statement that the great combinations have not all along exerted their power and influence in the political field.

**"If
They
Should."**

The Washington Post is responsible for the story that while Secretary Moody was confined to his home undergoing repairs made necessary because of the accident at Annapolis, Mr. Roosevelt walked over to Mr. Moody's house. He rang the bell. The negro butler came to the door. This was the conversation: "I should like to see Secretary Moody." "Mr. Moody am not at home." "But I understand he is at home, and I want to see him." The butler hesitated and then said: "Well, I'll see. Who is you?" "The president," Mr. Roosevelt replied. "President ob what?" asked the butler scornfully. Just then Secretary Moody heard what was going on and established the entente cordiale.

**A
Striking
Query.**

Although Mr. Roosevelt could not bring himself to recommend the removal of the shelter which the trusts find in the tariff, in his message to congress he did suggest the appointment of a tariff commission whose duty it would be to make recommendations concerning tariff revision. In that message Mr. Roosevelt said that in cases of "a monopoly which works ill" the tariff shelter might very properly be removed. And yet no republican in congress, so far as heard from, is exerting any effort even to comply with Mr. Roosevelt's message relating to an appointment of a tariff commission. The president devoted considerable attention to this tariff commission in his message and it would seem from the energy he employed in that particular recommendation that, unless he has changed his mind as to the merits of the

**That
Tariff
Board**

recommendation, it might be well for him to again direct the attention of congress to his suggestion. To be sure, it is not at all likely that such a suggestion would prevail. Democrats would probably oppose it on the ground that congress is presumed to be a tariff commission. The republicans would refuse to give it support because they do not even care to make the admission involved in the selection of such a tariff board, that tariff revision is ever to be considered.

**Justice
and
Justice.**

The republican papers that are having considerable to say about the killing of an editor in South Carolina are strangely silent in the presence of the startling revelations made by Youtsey with respect to the assassination of Governor Goebel in Kentucky. The man who killed the South Carolina editor is under arrest and is booked for trial. Several of the men who were charged with complicity in the assassination of the Kentucky governor are fugitives from justice and one of them enjoys his freedom under the protection of the republican governor of Indiana who has persistently refused to surrender the accused to the Kentucky authorities in order that he may be tried.

**Byrne
and
Crum.**

Mr. Roosevelt received quite a shock when the senate declined to confirm the appointment of Addicks' friend, Byrne, to be United States district attorney in Delaware; but that was inconsequential compared with the shock which Mr. Roosevelt received when the senate committee reported, by a vote of 8 to 6, against the confirmation of Crum, the negro whom Mr. Roosevelt appointed to be collector of customs at Charleston, S. C. Recently Senator Hoar deemed it necessary to make public a protest against Mr. Roosevelt's alleged interference with the senate in the matter of legislation and altogether there seems to be a disposition on the part of republican senators to give Mr. Roosevelt a genuine touch of the strenuous life.

**No
Shackle
There.**

William E. Curtis, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, is authority for the statement that although it was extensively advertised last summer that Mr. Littlefield of Maine represented the president in the preparation of an anti-trust bill, that Mr. Littlefield is very much aggrieved because the president has refused to use his influence to pass the Littlefield bill and has in fact turned the cold shoulder to that measure. It has been generally understood that Mr. Roosevelt was in favor of the Littlefield bill and a great many people other than the gentleman from Maine will be surprised to know that the Littlefield measure does not have the presidential indorsement.

**Check
Book
Route.**

Republican papers generally congratulated the party that Mr. Addicks of Delaware had withdrawn from the senatorial race. It seems, however, that Mr. Addicks' withdrawal was conditional. The condition, although not bluntly stated, was that Mr. Addicks should be permitted to name the two senators from that state. So republican leaders must struggle along with the Addicks problem a while longer. The objection which these leaders make to Addicks is that he has obtained his prestige as a senatorial candidate by the use of money. That is indeed a strange objection coming from the representatives of a party that habitually elects men to the United States senate whose power and prestige has been won along the check-book route.

**Recruits
Worth
Keeping.**

The editor has received a letter from a Vermont supporter of the Kansas City platform offering to do what he can to increase The Commoner's influence in that state. He was one of the early supporters of the republican party and that he has enjoyed the confidence of his neighbors is evidenced by the offices which he has held. But in 1896 he could not indorse the republican position on the money question and in 1900 his opposition to the republican party was still further confirmed by that party's position on imperialism. He represents the patriotic and intelligent element in the republican party that has been alienated by the party's subserviency to organized wealth and he has been attracted to the democratic party

because of the principles set forth in the Chicago and Kansas City platforms. Aside from the principles involved the democratic party cannot afford to alienate men who are brought to it by conscience and judgment in order to conciliate those former democrats who have supported the republican party in the recent campaigns and who make their return to the democratic party conditional upon the party's abandonment of democratic principles.

A New York clergyman recently delivered a sermon from the text: "My father which gave me is greater than all; and none is able to pluck them out of my father's hand." This clergyman was prompted to choose this text because of a little incident that happened one wintry morning recently when the streets were covered with ice and he was walking with his little son. "You had better take my hand so you will not fall," said the father. "I would rather you would take my hand, father, then I cannot fall," replied the son. The clergyman referred to this statement as "profound philosophy and glorious theology." It was, indeed, an interesting incident and might well serve as inspiration for a powerful sermon.

**An
Inspiring
Theme.**

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, founded by George W. Childs, the paper that has regularly supported the republican ticket, arraigns the republican party in these words: "If the republican majority of congress were at all sincere in its pretended efforts to curb or destroy the trust evil it would go directly to the point by repealing the trust-breeding, trust-fostering and trust-sustaining Dingley duties, which alone support the predatory trusts in their nefarious activity. But the republican majority is not sincere; it is juggling with the matter; it has no purpose to interfere with the trusts. Its only object, judging from its 'conservative' action, is to try to induce the country to believe it intends to do something which it does not mean to do. There is no trust bill before congress which is not a transparent fraud and sham." No democratic paper has gone farther than this in the arraignment of the republican party on the trust question.

**A
Bitter
Protest.**

According to the terms of the bill introduced by Senator Aldrich to permit the secretary of the treasury to loan money to national banks on any other security than government bonds and providing that the government shall have a lien on all assets of banks in which public moneys are deposited and that this lien shall be in force after the security deposited by the secretary of the treasury shall be sold, in the event that those securities do not realize a sufficient sum. If the Fowler bill, providing for asset currency, passes and if the Aldrich bill should pass, then the assets of a bank will have a very large burden to bear. When it is remembered that the bank assets are largely composed of the deposits, one is tempted to wonder where the bank depositor will find his protection when the republican leaders shall have accomplished their purpose of permitting the banks to put up their assets in pawn for government money and as security for the money which the banks are to be authorized to issue.

**The
Poor
Depositor.**

The New York World is authority for the statement that the republican leaders of the senate recently notified the president that "they will pass the Elkins rebate bill, which weakens rather than strengthens the existing laws against discrimination between shippers in freight charges. They will pass the Knox bill, expediting the trials of suits against trusts in the federal courts. They will also pass the bureau of commerce bill, including as it does provisions for a certain measure of publicity for the transactions of all corporations engaged in foreign or interstate commerce, though not for so large a measure of it as the president has advocated and as is provided for by the Littlefield bill. But the Littlefield bill, passed by the house on Saturday by unanimous vote, the directors of the senate will not attempt to put through, and they so told the president." And now we are told by no less an authority than William E. Curtis, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, that the president has turned the cold shoulder to the Littlefield bill.

**Anti-
Trust
Bills.**

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