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It seems that China is destined to get bumped if the door is open, and badly jammed if the door is closed.

It is worthy of note that the only congressman who ever resigned a seat after learning that he was not honestly elected is a democrat.

If it is true that Mr. Schwab, speaking of the shipbuilding trust, said, "All is lost save honor," then, indeed, are his assets pitifully small.

The gentlemen who are shrieking so loudly for "harmony" are the gentlemen who raised the rumpus. That fact should not be overlooked.

When a "captain of industry" uses the mails to defraud it is called "subtle financiering." When anybody else does the same thing it is called a crime.

A democratic administration purchased with trust money would be worse for the consumers than a republican administration. That's the only difference.

It seems that the only thing doing at the headquarters of The Hague peace tribunal is the matter of janitorial attention to the cobwebs accumulating in the deserted rooms.

To a man like Congressman Shafroth the words of praise bestowed upon him for his manly action are worth more than congressional honors or the salaried emoluments thereof.

Pending settlement of the vexed question as to who is "father of the new navy," it might be well to help the child get rid of a whole lot of useless nurses who get most of the baby's malted milk.

J. Adam Bede's contention that the democratic party should disband may be founded on the fact that he cannot understand why it did not after he left it. J. Adam mistakes the size of the hole he left.

The Iowa anti-trust law has been declared unconstitutional on a technicality. Some of these days it may happen that the taxpayers will benefit by a technicality, but it appears to be a very faint sort of a hope.

Judging by the appointment of "Doc" Jamieson, it must be evident that President Roosevelt is a strenuous civil service reformer only when the appointment of spoilsmen will not serve his purpose better.

It will be observed that the newspapers that howl loudest about "yellow journalism" have nothing to say about the crimson and buff tendencies of the administration managers of Washington court etiquette.

Postmaster General Payne has issued an order that only Bell telephones shall be allowed in post-offices. Why? Well, the fact that Mr. Payne is a stockholder in the Bell Telephone company may have had something to do with the order.

Dr. Harper says that criticism of Mr. Rockefeller is not barred from Chicago university. Certainly not, but neither is any professor in the university barred from thrusting his head into a lion's mouth if he really wants to do it. Dr. Harper is too awfully innocent.

It seems that an investigation has brought out the fact that 20 per cent of the gas meters in New York city measure too fast and that the gas was in many cases adulterated. This is the natural result of a private monopoly, but would not exist under municipal ownership.

The Washington Post says: "Mr. Bryan declares that no one will be admitted to the St. Louis convention who was antagonistic to the Kansas City platform." Ananias was struck dead for just such misrepresentation, but owing to changes the Post paragrapher is safe—for a time.

J. Sloat Fassett still insists that we are under treaty obligations to Korea. Strange that J. Sloat fails to keep up with the procession. Were we not also under treaty obligations to Colombia? And what's a little matter like a treaty with a world power when that power wants to gobble something?

The Sioux City Journal says that Wall street is coming around to Roosevelt, which is proof that a great light has "dawned upon Wall street." The Journal is mistaken. It is not a new light; it is merely Wall street acknowledging the fact that its attempt to befuddle the people was a dismal failure.

Some of the papers that bolted in 1896 are calling Mr. Bryan a republican asset because he is not willing to have the party turned over to those who betrayed it. Well, they can give expert testimony on the subject of "republican assets," but somehow the republican papers do not treat Mr. Bryan as kindly as they did the men who assisted the republicans in 1896.

The Milwaukee News is authority for the statement that Secretary Shaw has no authority to withdraw government money from banks for the purpose of paying it over for the Panama ditch. It seems strange that a newspaper usually so perspicacious as our Milwaukee contemporary should for a moment think that Shaw, or any other member of this administration, would for a moment be deterred by such a little thing as lack of authority.

Harper's Weekly says that the answer to the question as to whether it will be well for the country to keep Mr. Roosevelt in office or to displace him by a democratic nominee "will depend entirely upon the reputation of the man selected by the democratic national convention." Harper's Weekly means that this will depend entirely upon the man's "reputation" with the J. Pierpont Morgans.

Henry Watterson reiterates that he wants nothing and will have nothing, if he could get it, in the shape of political office, but desires simply to be "a Kentuckian of Kentuckians, a democrat of democrats." Are we to accept this as assurance that after the democratic national convention shall have nominated a ticket and adopted a platform, Mr. Watterson will not desert and make a hurried trip to Europe, as he did in the year of 1896?

Commenting upon the appointment of Jamieson as naval officer at Chicago, the Tribune says: "So the world goes on, and the shufflers, trimmers, compromisers, and accommodating men retain their popularity with the politicians at the expense of the efficiency and purity of the public service." And yet, this deplorable condition exists, in spite of the fact that we have in the White house a man whose friends claim as a stalwart champion of civil service reform.

The American flag was hauled down the other day in Cuba with Mr. Roosevelt's consent, and the Dubuque (Ia.) Telegraph directs Mr. Roosevelt's attention to the fact that he once declared that where the American flag is put up, it shall "stay put." The Telegraph forgets, however, that Mr. Roosevelt also said, "Words are good when backed

by deeds—and only so." In other words, the flag is to "stay put" when it serves the Roosevelt administration's interests to have it so. Otherwise, it is to be hauled down.

A dispatch to the Cincinnati Enquirer, under date of Live Oak, Fla., February 16, quotes Mr. Bryan as saying: "Mr. Hanna has grown in public estimation during the last eight years, his recent election demonstrating his increasing hold upon the people of his state. He won his place at the head of his party in the senate and in the nation by his extraordinary executive ability and by his skill in organizing the forces that control that party. Even his political opponents recognized the strength of his personality and his many admirable qualities. He was one of the most forceful figures in modern politics."

In his address at Chicago, Bishop John L. Spalding sounded this warning: "If the present methods continue a few individuals and trusts will soon control the means of production and distribution, and this in an era in which money is the mightiest form of social influence and dominion. To these few individuals and corporations will belong an authority and power greater than any history makes known—an authority and power which are incompatible with political liberty and popular institutions. If our national welfare cease to rest on a foundation of religion and morality it will vanish."

The Louisville Post says that in 1896 and 1900 the democratic party repudiated the platform of 1892, and adds: "Now if the democratic party has again changed its opinion, there is no reason why it should not have the equal boldness to repudiate the platforms of 1896 and 1900." Are the Post and the people whom it represents willing to make the test of the election of delegates to the national convention the question as to whether the national platforms of 1896 and 1900 shall be repudiated? If the Post really desires to be bold, will it be willing that the boldness be displayed at the primaries rather than reserved for the convention floor, after delegates have been elected on the so-called harmony platform.

The Denver News says: "The clause of the anti-trust act which provides for the imprisonment of persons guilty of operating illegal trusts would be, of a verity, the strong right arm of the government if there were an administration at Washington with a serious intention of enforcing the law. To repeal it would leave the law merely an instrument by which an illegal trust might be made to dissolve, but the organizers of it would go scot free of punishment and at liberty to carry on their nefarious business in some other form." Because these things are so well understood the News thinks that the Foraker bill will not be pushed at this session of congress. The News is, undoubtedly, correct; and yet the democratic newspapers will do well to take every opportunity to warn the people that the Foraker bill represents the program that will be carried out in the event the republican party is restored to power.

The Wall Street Journal says that a number of replies have been received by New York banking houses in response to a request for a statement of business conditions in their locality. The Journal says that these replies differed from each other in manifold details, but that there was a curious similarity between them in one respect. For instance, many of these replies, after saying that business conditions are good, declared that business men are "very conservative because of the feeling that something might happen;" and, it is explained, that "what this thing would be nobody seems to know, but most people connect it in some way with the presidential election." Those who remember the incidents of the campaign of 1896 and 1900 will have no difficulty in understanding "what this means." It is, however, a bit early to bring out that old and well worn scheme, although, perhaps, it is just as well to have it now, because it may be depended upon that the American people will be required to endure the same attempts to frighten them, that were practiced so successfully during the last two presidential campaigns.

How He Stands With Morgan.
Will He Stand Without Hitching?
Same Old Scheme.
When Words are Good.