

NEWS OF THE WEEK

A Weekly Resume of the Really Vital News by the Editor

One of the most violent and destructive storms ever known swept over England last week. Many ships were lost and hundreds of bodies have washed ashore. Great damage was done in the interior. In the parks in London many trees were destroyed and much damage done to buildings. The crops in many sections were ruined. In Montana there was also severe damage done by a snow storm. Snow fell to the depth of eight inches in the uncut wheat, which has been ruined. There seems to be no end to the disasters by storm and flood this year all over the world.

The refusal of Governor Durbin to honor requisition for ex-Governor Taylor and other criminals from Kentucky is liable to produce a sort of anarchy in this country. A requisition made on the governor of Arkansas for a criminal from Indiana has been dishonored, the governor of that state declaring that he would return to criminals to Indiana until the Kentucky criminals are returned. If that precedent is followed, a criminal will only have to make his escape from Indiana to some other state to escape all punishment.

Orders have recently been sent to all recruiting officers to hasten enlistments as there is urgent need of infantry soldiers in tropical countries. What has happened over in the Philippines to cause this order to be issued no one knows.

Three million dollars have been added to money in circulation during the last five years by the coinage of cents.

The United States transport ship Kilpatrick arrived in New York last Friday via the Suez canal, bringing the bodies of 300 soldiers who had given up their lives for imperialism. That is the largest number that was ever brought home in one ship. Meantime recruiting stations are being established everywhere to induce young men to go over there and sacrifice their lives in the same unholy cause.

The Scotch are not relishing the position of paupers that Carnegie has placed them in. They seem to have more manhood in them than the tip-taking Americans, including this city of Lincoln which is adorned with one of the Carnegie libraries. A writer in the British National Review attacks him and his gifts in the fiercest manner. It calls him "a corrupter" and other things of that sort. He says that Carnegie's gifts to the Glasgow university "are skillfully contrived to secure the subservience of the university," and are "a sure preparation for the ultimate ruin of the Scottish seats of learning." While Scotland disdains this sort of pauperism, the Americans take all such tips from the millionaires with servile thanks and hold out their hands for more. Hurrah for the self-respecting Scots!

Morgan and Baer have defied the government and refused the department of which Cortelyou is the head the information that it is entitled to under the law and now the railroads have issued another defy. They have refused to bid for the transportation of troops to the maneuvers in Kentucky and have formed a pool in which they agree not to put in competitive bids at all and make the government pay the same rate for the transportation of troops that is granted to the general public. This government is getting to be a mighty weak thing in the hands of the republican party. What do you suppose would happen to the railroads under any other government that should attempt to act that way?

Affairs in the Isthmus of Panama seem to be in a very precarious state. There is talk of secession there on account of the rejection of the Panama

"Barbara Villiers"



or, A History of Monetary Crimes," by Hon. Alex. Del Mar, formerly U. S. Commissioner of Commerce and Navigation; member U. S. Monetary Commission; author of "A History of the Precious Metals," "History of Money," etc. Contents:—The Crime of 1666; Silver; The Coining Mill and Press Invented; East India Trade; Barbara Villiers, the King's Mistress; The Coinage Bill; Surrender of the Coinage Prerogative by Charles II; Bribery; Crime of 1747; Crime of 1868; Crime of 1870; Crime of 1873; Equitable Money; Crime of 1900. ILLUSTRATED. Cloth, 8vo., 75 cents. THE CAMBRIDGE ENCYCLOPEDIA COMPANY, Box 160, Madison Square P. O., New York.

treaty by the Colombian congress. The sympathetic writing in some of the dailies of this country is giving the movement much encouragement. There seems also to be troubles on the southern frontier of Colombia and Castro is sending large bodies of Venezuelan troops in that direction.

A suit has been instituted against Mr. Gompers, other officers of the federation of labor, the united hatters' union and the members of the local union of hatters at Danbury, Conn., claiming \$125,000 damages for boycotting that firm, which caused wholesale dealers to refuse their goods and retail dealers not to offer them for sale. The case is brought in the United States court, where capitalists always have a pretty sure thing. The firm bringing the suit claims that its business has been damaged to that extent by the charges made against it, both in this country and Canada. If the court decides in favor of the firm it will destroy organized labor, for the only weapon they have against unfair employers is the boycott.

Radium still keeps all scientific circles in a tumult. The scientists have dropped the term "mystery of radium" and have substituted "the miracle of radium." An English scientist says: "The discovery of what seems to be an everlasting production of heat in an easily measurable quantity by a minute amount of radium compound is so amazing that even now that many of us have had the opportunity of seeing with our own eyes a heated thermometer, we hardly are able to believe what we see. This can barely be distinguished from the discovery of perpetual motion, which it is an axiom of science to call impossible."

After much bragging over the cup defender as a Yankee boat with a Yankee crew it has turned out there was not a Yankee in the crew. The captain of the Reliance was a Scotchman. The first, second and third mates were Norwegians. Of its crew of forty-two men, thirty-seven are unnaturalized and two naturalized Norwegians, two unnaturalized Swedes, and one an unnaturalized Dane. There was not a single American aboard of the craft.

There has been a world competition at Hawkesbury in New South Wales, Australia, for some months between egg-laying hens. The hens sent from Loup City, Neb., by Mrs. A. H. Hansel are so far a long ways in the lead. The contest is under the supervision of the Australian government. At the end of the first month (the contest is to last for a year, ending April 1, 1904), Mrs. Hansel's hens took the lead and have held it ever since. At the last report they were 21 eggs ahead of all competitors. The third in the race are also from the United States. The hens of Mrs. Hansel sent were rose combed Leghorns.

The decadence and superstition in high society grows more alarming each year. The Chicago newspapers announce that there are ten times as many "palmists" in that city as there were a year ago and that all of them are making money and some accumulating fortunes. Books on the subject fill a large space in the public library and are read by thousands of the youth of that city as well as by adults. God made the country and the devil invented the city. In the cities is where superstition reigns supreme.

Some of the Boston teachers who were induced to go to the Philippines have got back and they are talking pretty hot about the way things are run over there. They have brought back the circular which Superintendent Bryan sent to them and back up their accusations by quoting from the circular. They say as long as a teacher wants to draw United States pay, that teacher must turn a blind eye to the tragedies going on under American rule. Any blabbing to people in the United States will be followed by dismissal. In fact, some teachers who have written home how they were deceived and warning other teachers not to fall into the same trap, have been discharged. The teachers are not any worse off than any other employes in the islands. Imperialism must suppress free speech and a free press. It could not exist if it did not.

Scandals in Quay's halliwick have always been numerous, but of late years they have been more numerous

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than ever. The eastern Pennsylvania state penitentiary, where counterfeiting was extensively carried on by the convicts, was investigated and every officer was summarily removed. The institution is now in charge of the chaplain and some doubts are expressed about him.

There is a great social democratic congress in Dresden. It is announced that a new program will be promulgated consisting in a "change in the theory of socialism, which has been made necessary by modern conditions, especially those affecting industry and agriculture, to which the socialist theories of the past were no longer applicable." That is what The Independent has been saying all the time about the German social democracy.

The next day after the landing of the transport that brought the bodies of 300 dead soldiers from the Philippines was a day of great sadness at the pier where the ship lay. It is said that the ship and the dock was covered with weeping women in black who had come to claim their dead. The sorrow was one of the fruits of imperialism which is being constantly witnessed, although subsidized, imperial, plutocratic papers keep very quiet about it.

During the last twenty years American girls have transferred in dowries something over \$200,000,000 to the titled husbands in Europe, the last \$40,000,000 of which goes to the impetuous Duke of Roxburge, whom Miss Goelet has agreed to marry. Miss Goelet being the only heir to her father's millions, she will transfer the whole fortune to England. English aristocracy is being put on a sound basis from the proceeds of the toil of American workers, which has been latched from them by tariffs and special privileges. And the toilers continue to "vote 'er straight."

A London cablegram says that a ship carrying a regiment of English soldiers to India was lost in a storm and the whole regiment drowned. That is what will happen to some of the transports carrying soldiers to our "colonies" some of these days. They have to be transported 7,000 miles over the open sea.

After mature consideration and consultation, in person and by mail, with members of both the senate and the house of representatives, President Roosevelt has abandoned the suggestion that congress be called into extraordinary session in October. The extraordinary session which he announced many months ago would be held this fall, will be called according to present plans to meet on Monday, November 9.

The corporations have complete control of the democratic machine in Massachusetts. Gaston still runs things. In commenting on some of the latest tricks played there the Springfield Republican remarks: "What fools these mortals be! Substitute for the word mortals, Gastonized democrats of Massachusetts, and you have a comment which fits like a

glove." Of the platform that seems to have been prepared long in advance, the same paper says: "As a literary production, shorn of the one live issue in state affairs, the platform will no doubt be ably composed and read beautifully." The "one live issue" referred to is whether the Massachusetts laws preventing the issue of watered stock shall be repealed and the state turned into a plutocratic mill to turn out trusts on the same plan as New Jersey. The Gastonites will not object and that is the kind of democracy that they have done in Massachusetts.

Admiral Dewey wants a larger navy—larger than it will be even when the enormous reinforcements now in process of construction are complete. Fifteen cruisers of 5,000 tons displacement are to be recommended to the next congress by the chief of the bureau of navigation, and twelve of 3,000 tons displacement. It seems the Oregon, which gave the nation so much reason to be proud of her in 1898, when she rounded Cape Horn in record-breaking time, is now "obsolete" and may soon need to be replaced as well as supplemented indefinitely. New inventions make old fleets obsolete. Armies of men are taken from productive employment to produce these instruments of death, another army is required to man them, and so the world is robbed of the services of its children, while the burden of the support of all their unproductive armies must fall on the shoulders of the remaining citizens.

Senator Clay of Georgia has also gone over to the republicans, for he is advocating the nomination of a man for president who favors everything that the rankiest republican advocates—a man who is a high protectionist, gold standard, railroad man. This is what Senator Clay says: "We have talked the subject over among ourselves, and we have about concluded that Senator Gorman is not only the strongest man in the party we can nominate, but we believe there is an excellent opportunity of electing him."

A detachment of cavalry rode up to the residence of the county commissioner of Teller county, Colorado, surrounded the house and a sergeant went to the door and knocked. The weather was very cold and it was snowing. The commissioner was sitting by the fire holding his baby, his wife having gone to a neighboring store. When the knock was heard the commissioner went to the door with the baby in his arms. He was made to mount a horse and the cavalry rode away with their prisoner. He was informed that he was arrested because he had denounced the militia for breaking up a peaceful meeting of the citizens. The commissioner claimed that free speech and the "right of the people to peacefully assemble" was guaranteed by the constitution. He was informed that the constitution did not follow the flag of the militia, and that if he made another remark against any action of the militia he would be permanently confined in the guard house. What grandly will call attention to this trampling of the constitution under foot by a military satrap? But you find it in The Independent.