

POLITICS OF THE DAY

THE TREASURY DEFICIT.

In spite of all Secretary Carlisle's prognostications to the contrary, the treasury deficit keeps right on growing at an unprecedented pace. For the seven months of the present fiscal year, this shortage, due to expenditures in excess of receipts of money, is nearly \$44,000,000. The Republicans attribute this to the present tariff law, and to the Democrats who made that law. But they pretend to forget that the deficit began under the late McKinley law, and before the present administration went into office.

No other reason has been generally assigned by Congressional advocates of the present banking or usurer rule of our Government. Not a word will these advocates, who form the majority of Congress, listen to about the real cause of the deficit. They at once frown upon and put their fingers to their lips to urge silence the moment another Congressman tries to explain that this poverty of resources is all the result of currency and bank loan contraction of the people's money. They refuse to listen to that for a moment, and desert the Congressional floor the moment it is broached in any seeming length.

Tariff! Tariff! Tariff! is all these ignorant advocates will see, hear, or think of. Increase or decrease it, and the problem is at once solved—to their mind. They absolutely refuse to listen to anything else; except, perhaps, the rantings of the usurers belonging to the administration, who are now repeatedly crying out that idiotic plea of "get the Government out of the banking business."

Well, suppose the tariff is increased at once. What will be the result? What man can prove or partly prove by any known facts that this would help the deficit to-day? It might or it might not. It is all guesswork. People might under it import much less of foreign goods than they now import. If so, where is the increased revenue to come from? The chances are that they would under it import less; because times are getting harder, if anything; and people cannot consume foreign goods so readily in hard times as in good times; hard times means the consumption of larger quantities of cheap goods, not expensive, imported goods.

The issue is not raised here of the advantages or disadvantages of protection by means of tariff. The issue is, "How to meet the treasury deficit." The first way is to reduce expenditures according to income. The next is to impose internal taxes sufficient to meet it. The third, and best, way is for this Government to create business throughout the United States on a large scale, by means of putting the people in the way of getting money to carry such business on. That is the whole secret of a solvent treasury in a nutshell.

There are statesmen in plenty in Congress who understand, appreciate and advocate this third plan; but, unfortunately for the public's health, they are grievously in the minority, and the country is now being ruled by a lot of Congressional ignoramuses—not counting those who get rich by means of continued existence of hard times. The people cannot do business without money. When will the average law-maker get that A B C fact into his head? And when the business of the people cannot be carried on, because of no or limited means to carry it on, a treasury deficit is necessarily a foregone conclusion, so long as expenditures are not reduced to receipts.—Philadelphia Item.

Revenue Needed, Not Taxation.
When the McKinley tariff was concocted there was a large surplus of revenue, and one of the proclaimed purposes of legislation and administration was to stop the accumulation of the surplus. The McKinley tariff did this only too effectively. What is wanted now is a reversal of the process which went on under McKinleyism. The Government wants more revenue and the country wants less taxation. It is not a surplus of \$100,000,000 with which the Government has to deal, but a deficit of almost the same amount, and the new tariff, to be successful, should be arranged to bring in money, not to keep it out.—Boston Post.

Buying in the Cheapest Market.
Because the Carnegie company has been enabled to sell steel rails to English railway companies at lower prices than they can be bought in England, the purblind protectionists cry out, "Now the English will be obliged to abandon free trade!" Instead of abandoning free trade the wise Englishmen will abandon making steel rails when they can get them cheaper elsewhere. They will never be prevailed upon to re-enter that fool's paradise where men undertake to make themselves richer by taxing themselves.—Philadelphia Record.

All Alike to the Workmen.
The Illinois Steel Company will make armor plate for Uncle Sam's sea dogs of war for about half what Mr. Carnegie wants for the job. And the poor devil who does the actual sweating in the mill gets his living out, whether he works for a man who gets two prices for his workman's product or for a company that gets only one!—Denver Times.

The Government and Trusts.
The mightiest factor in the most powerful combinations is the irresistible taxing power of the government, which is put at their command to protect them

from foreign competition and enable them to control the home market. This is a point of attack which is not obscure or concealed, and before we worry ourselves too much over futile measures of State legislation we had better batter down the wall of defense for trusts, which the Government of the United States has built up and still maintains.—New York Times.

More than a Billion Dollars.
The appropriations by this Congress are greater than ever before. The "million dollar Congress" of a few years ago will be regarded comparatively as a thrifty and economical body. Instead of a "billion dollars" the Congress just expired has cost the taxpayers not less than \$1,100,000,000. At this rate of increase from year to year each Congress a half decade hence will cost the country a billion and a quarter of dollars. How long will the taxpayers stand the drain and the increase?

It must be understood that these excessive and increasing appropriations are made while the revenue is decreasing or at least is inadequate to the expenditure. While the treasury is struggling from year to year with deficits the appropriations are increasing along all the lines of extravagance and profligacy in expenditure. It is not necessary that details should be investigated in order to condemn the great increase in expenditure. But the war and navy appropriations are increased. The United States can have no fear of a foreign foe except Great Britain. At the very time that a treaty for the peaceful adjudication of every controversy is provided increased expenditure is authorized for the army and navy in equipments for a war attitude against that power.

It is not to be denied that the political future is clouded by public doubts as to the speedy restoration of prosperity. With prosperous times the public credit and good government are secured. But with increased appropriations and a dwindling revenue the obscurity over the future is increased. Let the Republican Congress at the extra session provide for increased revenue by enlightened methods, not for lessened revenue by cutting off imports through a higher tariff. Then let appropriations be reduced so as to meet the revenue. By these methods the solvency of the Government may be preserved and the dangers of future political agitation may be averted.

Issues on Which Democrats Can Unite.
There are living and important questions upon which Democrats are united. A new tariff for bounties to monopolies and protection to trusts is impending. Triumphant plutocracy is again to celebrate its resumption and extension of power at Washington. Billion-dollar extravagance in the Government is adopted and defended as a perpetual policy. With these and other pressing questions demanding united opposition it is no time for Democrats to take up with side issues or to be carried away by fads.—New York World.

Gall and Wormwood to Spoilsmen
The reason that hidebound partisans like Grosvenor characterize the civil service law as a farce and humbug is because many thousand offices have been placed under the merit system while occupied by Democrats. No matter how the political traffickers and corruptionists may rage the people are too well satisfied with the introduction of the merit system and what it has accomplished in increasing the efficiency of the public service to return to the corrupt and demoralizing spoils system.—Detroit Free Press.

Brief Comment.
The original Hanna men are rubbing pepper and salt into the wounds of the Forakerites.—Zanesville, O., Signal.
Gen. Alger pledged himself to peace at the Detroit banquet on Washington's birthday. The general, it is pleasant to observe, has all the war record he wants.—Springfield, Mass., Republican.

McKinley and Hanna have no occasion to be thankful for the grave difficulties which will confront them at the outset of their administration, but they can at least be glad that the complications of foreign affairs are distracting the attention of the public from the subject of derailed prosperity.—Kansas City Times.



Senator Mark Hanna—You can't lose me.—Chicago Record.

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO PUPIL AND TEACHER.

Teachers Should Know the Value and Influence of Praise—Educational Progress in the South—Insist on Attention—Notes and Comment.

The Influence of Praise.
Many educators of the present day have a theory that if children, who have tried their very best, be prevented from knowing when their work is bad, they will soon improve; this improvement increasing with a corresponding increase in power. This theory is being tested at a Philadelphia Normal School, and whether it be true or not, certain it is that nothing is more helpful toward a useful and happy life than real honest praise.

The theory, held by some, that to praise a person only fills him with vanity and so prevents greater effort, is a mistaken one. The thought that he never does and never can do anything well will prove discouraging to even the stoutest-hearted; while on the other hand, to one who is striving to do well, the knowledge that he is succeeding will act as a powerful incentive, goading him on to achieve still greater success.

With children especially, praise is a necessity. Nothing is more discouraging to a child than the thought that everything he does is either wrong or, at best, nothing above the ordinary. To have everything he does taken as a matter of course, his best efforts meeting with no approval, will soon lead him to cease his efforts altogether. While a word of praise, or it may be only an approving glance or smile, will cause the little face to light up with pleasure, and because he knows that his mother or his teacher likes to see him doing well, he resolves to do still better in the future.

Teachers should know the value of praise from their own experience. If a teacher feels that she is not winning the hearts of her scholars, she becomes discouraged; but if she knows that they speak of her to their parents and friends she is at once lifted up and stimulated to greater effort in their behalf. Nor does this praise from her little ones lead to any feeling of vanity. On the contrary, it brings a sense of the deepest humility and a firm resolution to be worthy the loving trust of the children under her care. If praise can so influence the teacher, it has a still greater influence on the scholar.

Extravagant flattery is to be avoided. The child must not be made to feel that he can do everything better than his fellows, nor must he be made to think that wrong is right; but when he does well, encourage him to go on trying to do well always. Paint the right in such beautiful colors that the wrong will be entirely lost to sight or, in other words, aim to cultivate the positive side of the child's character and the negative side will take care of itself. Instead of constantly holding up before the children the things which they should not do, let us teach them those things that they should do, and encourage them by sincere, judicious praise.—American School Journal.

With an Orange.
Peel an orange by cutting the rind through the center and removing it in the shape of hollow half spheres. In the bottom of one of these pierce two holes side by side and then place one half in a goblet, the concave side down.

The diameter of the glass should be a little smaller than that of the orange peel, so as to hold the latter in position half way down the sides of the glass. Pour some red wine into the orange peel; it will run through the holes. Let it just reach the level where it touches the bottom of the orange peel.

Now pour water into the glass until it is almost full and watch the result. You will see a thin red film rising through one of the holes to the level of the water, while the water, which is heavier than the wine, descends through the other hole to the bottom of the glass.

In a short time instead of having the wine below and the water above the orange skin, the conditions are reversed, both liquids having completely changed places.

Two goose quills may be placed in the holes, one going downward and one upward, but they are not indispensable to the success of the experiment.—Selected.

Educational Progress in the South.
Supt. Hogg, of Fort Worth, Texas, estimates that while the South has gained 54 per cent. in population during the last twenty years, the increase in enrollment of school attendance is 130 per cent. School property has increased in value from \$10,000,000 to \$51,000,000. Of the \$320,000,000 expended for education during the last eighteen years, one-fourth has been for the colored population. Florida leads the van in this work, having an enrollment of 66 per 100 of her population as compared with 61 in other States.—The School Journal.

Get the Attention.
Teacher, if you cannot get the attention of your pupils your work is worthless. The pupils' attention you must have. Get it in some way. No one can tell you just how you can get it. Personality is greater than method. Without attention there can be no perception; without perception there is nothing to remember; hence there is no advancement without attention. The art of teaching is the art of getting attention.—Southern School.

Educational Intelligenc.
Troy is to have a new \$100,000 high school building.
Notwithstanding a strong sentiment in favor of the use of the piano in the Minneapolis public schools, the local

board is not able to supply the needed instruments.

A chair of oriental languages, including Chinese and Japanese, has been established in the University of California.

Exclusive of college publications, there are 150 or more periodicals in this country issued in the interest of education.

Charleston intends to establish a school for the training of negro nurses. New Orleans was the first city to open an institution of this kind and the experiment has been highly successful there.

President Harper, of the University of Chicago, announced last week that Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General of Canada, will be convocation orator at the university exercises, April 1, enjoying the distinction of being the first woman named for such an occasion in this country.

A contest of the will of the late Thomas Armstrong, a '71 Union College alumnus who bequeathed property worth \$150,000 to the college, has resulted in a decision sustaining the will. The income from this property will be devoted to the special departments of history and government.

A number of evening schools are being held under the auspices of the colored churches of Chicago, and not only middle-aged, but also old people of the colored race, are seeking the education which was denied them in their youth. The colored people say that they feel more at home in these schools than in the public schools.

The freshman class in the University of Illinois, recently had a class sociable and supper. The men of the sophomore class tried to break up the sociable. They broke the windows of the dining-room in which the freshmen and their ladies were assembled and threw in some foul-smelling chemicals. Some of the fluid fell on a lady's face and put out her eyes. In some schools the children are taught to say that Americans are "civilized and enlightened."—Exchange.

The Kansas City, Mo., Board of Education recently employed a drill master for the high school cadets, of which there are three companies, recently organized by the pupils themselves. The labor organizations of the city strenuously object to the movement, and have held meetings and given expression to their objections through the press, that the board might be warned. They have stated to the board, through their representative, that a remonstrance, signed by the entire organizations of the city, would be presented to that body at its next regular meeting.

Peat in the United States.

Peat bogs are usually found in northern latitudes. Those in Ireland, Scotland and England are too well-known to need description. In France and Germany bogs of this description are almost equally numerous, but it is not a matter of general information, however, that North America is abundantly supplied with bogs of genuine peat. Along the Atlantic coast, from New York to Florida, these bogs are of frequent occurrence. The Dismal Swamp, of Virginia, has a great deal of peat. The Okefenokee and other swamps in Florida also furnish a fair quality. In New England, Newfoundland and Canada, particularly in the region of the great lakes, there are peat bogs of immense extent, the Hudson Bay region also having hundreds of square miles of bogs, some of which are of considerable depth. The peat is not, however, to any considerable extent utilized in this country, the abundance and cheapness of coal causing the inferior fuel to be disregarded. When our coal gives out, as it probably will in 2,000 or 3,000 years, peat fields will come into play, furnishing a reserve stock of excellent fuel, not inferior in its heating qualities to a good article of wood.

Blight on Fruit Trees.
The blight which sometimes attacks fruit trees of every description is of extremely obscure origin, being attributed by some naturalists to a diseased condition of the sap, while others charge it to a microscopic fungus growth, and still others assert that the attacks of insects are responsible for the damage. Whatever may be the cause, the fatal effects of the blight on apple, peach, cherry, plum and particularly on pear trees are well known to all nurserymen and orchard owners. Many remedies have been tried; but, probably from the fact that blights arise from different causes and conditions, none have in all cases proved efficacious. The subject is one of great interest to those engaged in growing fruit-producing trees, and has enlisted the earnest efforts of naturalists and scientific men, but the causes of the destruction are such that no certain remedy can be prescribed for any given case.

A Woman Photographer.
The courage characteristic of Californians that enables them to face any sort of circumstances with a dauntless buoyancy has never been better exemplified than in the case of Miss Floride Green, who went there comparatively unknown a few months ago, and is now established in a most attractive studio in Union square. She has the distinction of being a successful woman photographer, and is especially in demand to go to private houses to take photographs of women who are in such delicate health that they cannot go to studios. Mrs. James B. Fry, widow of General Fry, who has been an invalid for years, is among Miss Green's patrons. Mrs. Fry's friends in San Francisco will be soon gratified to see a "counterfeit presentment" of herself, which is the work of a Californian.

Nearchus, the Admiral of Alexander the Great, noted the growth of the sugar cane in India B. C. 325.

BLUE AND THE GRAY

BRAVE MEN WHO MET ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE.

Thrilling Stories of the Rebellion—Old Soldiers and Sailors Relate Reminiscences of Life in Camp and on the Field—Incidents of the War.

Confederate Theaters.
The Confederate authorities knew the value of well-regulated amusements at a time when the people were wrought up to the highest pitch of excitement, and all reputable actors found no difficulty in securing exemptions after the passage of the conscript law. Among the stars on the Confederate stage in those days were W. H. Crisp, the father of the late Speaker Crisp; E. R. Dalton, Theodore Hamilton, and Sam Hubbard. Among the ladies were Mrs. Crisp, Miss Jessie Crisp, Miss Eloise Bridges, and the Waldron sisters. These favorites of the public appeared before the footlights in various cities, but, as a rule, they alternated between Richmond and Atlanta.

What were the plays on the Southern war-time stage? Perhaps the most popular were "Camille," "The Marble Heart," "The Romance of a Poor Young Man," "Rolla," "La Tour de Nesle," "London Assurance," "The Serious Family," "Naval Engagements," "Box and Cox," "Corsican Brothers," "Lucretia Borgia," "Black-Eyed Susan," and others familiar to the theater-goers before the war. Comedy seemed to have the preference. The people had so many serious things to worry over that they did not care for tragedy. So Shakespeare became a back number, and there was no demand for his masterpieces. Yet some of the Confederate theaters would have been equal to the task of rendering Shakespeare. Mr. Crisp was an actor of renown, and Dalton and Hamilton were fair tragedians. Mrs. Crisp and her daughter possessed rare talent, and a half dozen others might be mentioned who would be players of note on the stage of today.

The last year of the war found the theaters in a bad fix. The property-men and managers were in despair. To dress these stage ladies and gentlemen in a fashion suited to their different roles was an impossibility. So Camille went through her struggle with consumption and other things in front of delighted audiences attired in a costume which would have been more becoming to her grandmother, and Rolla looked not only like the "last of the Peruvians," but like a bewildered gentleman who had come to his last shirt and was wondering where he could get another. Still, the theaters drew better than ever. People had money to throw away, and they tried to get rid of it.

Sometimes it was very inconvenient to attend these places of amusement. Soldiers with muskets and bayonets were stationed there to preserve order, and when the audiences filed out officers were on hand to force every man to show his papers. Frequently, a young man with his best girl would find that he had forgotten his documents, and a squad of soldiers would then escort the two to the lady's house, and then carry the gentleman before the provost marshal for an explanation.

Generally, whenever a play was presented, the prettiest actress in the company would come out between the acts and recite "My Maryland," or some other war poem, and wave a Confederate banner. This feature of the program always drove the soldiers wild with enthusiasm. A few original plays were placed on the stage in those stirring days. Maria Jourdan Westmoreland, of Atlanta, wrote "The Soldier's Return," and John Davis, an actor, produced "The Roll of the Drum." These dramas had more or less merit, but were not destined to live.

In Atlanta the theater became a troublesome problem shortly before the siege. The city was filled with soldiers and refugees, and with them the play was emphatically the thing. It was their only amusement, and the roughs crowded the theater in such numbers that the better classes remained at home. About this time the city gas works had to shut down because Sherman had cut off the supply of coal. The theater, therefore, used tall candles, kerosene being unknown in that region. This was a picnic for the soldiers. Every private in the gallery fastened his eyes upon the candle immediately under him, and condescended it when the guards were not looking. More candles had to be lighted, but sometimes the house would be in darkness, except for the footlights. Scandalous things were done during these periods of artificial twilight. Good people protested, but the city was becoming a camp, and there seemed no remedy.

Just when affairs were coming to their worst, however, Mayor James M. Calhoun did what no mayor ever did before in the history of the world. He issued an order closing the theater, and pledged himself to use all the force at his command to keep it closed. There was a tremendous uproar. But the mayor was firm. He admitted that he was outside the law, but he claimed that it was a case of necessity—that the theater must be closed or the city would become a whirlpool of vice and crime.

The best people upheld the mayor, and the Confederate Vice President, Alexander H. Stephens, in a written opinion, justified his action. The theater had to suspend indefinitely, and the players packed their things and departed for other cities. A few weeks later the citizens were dodging shells, for the siege was on in earnest. The old theater did not re-open until some

of Sherman's soldiers gave an entertainment in it, and when the Federals started on their march to the sea, the building was destroyed in the fire.—Chicago Times-Herald.

A Military Murder.
It was a hot, dusty afternoon in the month of June, 1864.

The streets of Atlanta were almost deserted by the citizens, but many officers and soldiers belonging to Johnston's army might have been seen lounging on the corners and in the stores. There was no hum of traffic and no activity in the business thoroughfares, and the only sound that broke the stillness was an occasional sullen boom from Sherman's big guns, twenty miles away.

In a bookstore on Whitehall street several officers made a vain effort to keep moderately cool. A colonel was looking over a volume of "Hardee's Tactics," a major was glancing at the pictures in a "Life of Napoleon," while a group of young captains and lieutenants discussed the movements of Sherman and showed how that dreadful commander could be checked.

The solitary clerk in the establishment, a youth of 16, listened open-mouthed to these military heroes and studied the patterns of gold lace on their uniforms.

"By the way," said the Major, replacing his book on the shelf, "I suppose those deserters were shot this morning?"

"Yes, all of them," replied the Colonel; "there were seven, and they met their fate bravely."

"I heard," said the Major, "that one was a boy of 15."

"He said that he was under 16," remarked the Colonel, "but he was tall and well grown for his age. He was a bright young rascal, and knew what he was doing when he deserted."

The boy clerk showed signs of interest and asked several questions.

"Don't worry about it, my lad," said the Colonel kindly; "when you join us you will never desert. You will do your duty as a soldier."

"I hope so," the boy answered, "but it is pretty hard to expect a boy of 15 to do a man's work in the army, and shoot him like a dog when he flickers."

"But he mustn't flicker," laughed one of the officers. "When he becomes a soldier he must be one in earnest. It was a pity to shoot the youngster, but it was a military necessity."

"I suppose so," said the Colonel, thoughtfully, "but war is a bad business all the way through. I heartily wish that it was over, and I am willing to give up my share of its glory for 10 cents on the dollar."

"Hello! Not wakening, are you, Colonel?" asked the Major.

"You will see," responded the other with a grim smile.

Just then a country wagon rolled rapidly down the street.

The negro driver halted, and the Colonel and the Major walked out on the sidewalk and assisted two ladies to alight. The younger woman entered the store with her elder companion leaning on her arm.

"We have traveled a long distance," she said to the clerk, "and my aunt is almost fainting. Please oblige me with a chair and a glass of water."

The old lady was promptly seated, but she merely touched her lips to the water and fell back unconscious. A doctor who was present revived her, but she closed her eyes and asked permission to rest a few moments.

The officers saw that the two were well-dressed, with refined features, and their sympathies were aroused.

"If I can do anything," said the Colonel to the young lady, "command me. I am Colonel B."

"Thank you," replied the girl, for she was hardly out of her teens. "My aunt is Mrs. —. Her husband the Captain was killed in Virginia a year ago."

"I knew him," was the Colonel's answer. "He was a brave soldier."

"My aunt," continued the girl, half choking, "has a son, a boy of 15, who ran away and joined Johnston's army a few months ago. He left without leave and was on his way home to see us when he was arrested. We heard that he was to be tried here as a deserter, and we came to Atlanta to see."

"My dear young lady," said the Colonel, "read this." And he pointed to a local article in the evening paper.

The girl read it aloud in a low, clear voice. It described the execution of the deserters, and spoke of the heroic bearing of the 15-year-old boy.

"Too late!" moaned the girl. "How can I break it to my aunt? It will kill her."

"I am afraid she heard you," said the Major.

They touched the old lady gently and spoke to her. Both heart and pulse had ceased to beat, and the careworn features bore the unmistakable stamp of death.

The unfortunate lady had relatives in the city, and her remains were at once carried to their home.

"War is a horrible thing," said the Colonel a few moments after this heartrending scene.

"Yes," replied a young lieutenant, "but the execution of that boy was a military necessity."

"Say a military murder," was the response of the Colonel as he walked off with a sad face.—Wallace Putnam Reed, in Chicago Times-Herald.

A Himalayan Settlement.

Rupshu, a district on the north slope of the Himalayas, 15,000 feet above sea level and surrounded by mountains from 3,000 to 5,000 feet higher, has a permanent population of 500 persons, who live in goat hair tents all the year round. Water freezes there every night, but no snow falls on account of the dryness of the air. The people are shepherds and dress in pajamas and a long cloak, wearing an additional cloak in unusually cold weather.