

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

Man is of few days and full of condensed cussedness.

Always view a scene with a mule in it from the foreground.

When told to take a back seat the average man will take afront.

Any one in Paris is likely to have Santos-Dumont drop in on him.

A man's true friends keep quiet when some one is enumerating his virtues.

Some women confide in men for the purpose of extracting secrets from them.

What good will it do us if they have found the smallpox germ? We didn't lose him.

The Chinese invented firecrackers; but the Christians figured out the automobile.

Presently he may go fourflushing down the corridors of time as King Peter Out.

The doctors say fat babies are not healthy. Is this to be construed as a deadly blow to the nursing bottle?

Good advice has a monetary value. It's the other kind that is handed out by those who are running a gift enterprise.

While a negro and a Chinaman divided class honors at Yale, the athletic honors of the institution are still held by the whites.

Porto Rico held a flag day, at which fifteen hundred American flags were carried in procession. It seems as if this were a loyal colony.

While the easy-going individual is trying to figure out which is the best foot to put forward the strenuous man gets there with both feet.

When King Peter arrived at Belgrade the bands played the Servian national anthem. The Servian national anthem is "God Help the King."

A scientist assures us that the earth is good for 20,000,000 years yet. Unless, of course, Morgan and Baer should decide to take it with them.

The largest man in the world has been discovered in Kustjak, Russia. Good! We have several unbeaten specimens of the smallest right here.

It costs some young men as high as \$25,000 each for a four years' course at Yale. But these young men would spend the money even if they were not at Yale.

To be sure the office should seek the man, but any of our statesmen would tell you that there is no necessity of hiding in the cellar when the office is going by the house.

An eminent scientist connected with the agricultural bureau states that the world's demand for beans has passed the supply. The roar of apprehension in Boston papers sounds like a yardful of locomotives letting off steam.

A pastor has preached against what he is pleased to call "the peekaboo waist." The waist may be immodest, but calling public attention to it comes nearer to being immoral than the garment itself. Beloved brethren, let us think twice before speaking three times.

"Freedom, home life and content of heart" were some of the possessions for which a former member of the President's cabinet declared himself thankful, when speaking at a public dinner recently. He had been referring to our multimillionaires, and the blessings of which their great wealth almost necessarily deprives them, and "I am glad I am not a rich man," he said. A great many thoughtful people feel the same way—especially those who are able to add, "I am glad I am not a poor man."

Some curious person asked the late Oliver Wendell Holmes about his age. "Seventy-two years young" (not "old") was his reply. Some men are younger at seventy than others are at forty or fifty. Some men are never young. Old age hovers over them before they reach mature years. They are rotten as soon as they are ripe. Some men are never old, but carry to the latest hours of their lives the buoyancy, the blitheness of disposition, the faculty for mental labor, the power of thought and expression, the susceptibility to higher culture which marked their growth from adolescence.

When it is here remarked that the male American is declaring symptoms of dawning effeminacy no occasion is offered for indignant reprobation. The average American has so much thorough masculinity that he can spare enough to cover a less vigorous people. What is meant is that the natural reaction to the paramountcy of the American girl has set in. As she shares the pursuits, the pleasures and the liberties of her brothers and imposes her commands upon them she becomes more masculine; they more feminine; her shoulders square off, theirs begin to slope. She dons the

sweater and the blazer and wears her skirts shorter and shorter; they take to pink shirtwaists and clocked open work stockings, and their ever baggier trousers, worn so long that they have to be turned up at the bottom, seem fashioned on a seraglio pattern.

Servian government bonds, despite the precarious position of rulers and people, have been rather more steady in the recent fluctuations of European public securities than those of other states. During the Boer war period, between 1899 and 1902, when British consols fell 20 points and German imperial 3 per cents 10, the extreme decline in Servian 4s was 8 points. What is more striking still, their price at the opening of June, 1903, was higher than the highest figure reached in the period from 1898 to 1902 inclusive. This did not result, however, from blind confidence in Servia's willingness or unwillingness to pay. Servia is mortgaged to the bankers as tightly as Turkey or Greece or Portugal or China. There sits at Belgrade a so-called "autonomous" administration of monopolies," which, without reference to the government, receives and administers for the benefit of Servia's creditors, (1) net earnings of various state railways, (2) liquor licenses, (3) tobacco monopolies, (4) customs duties, (5) salt monopoly, and (6) petroleum monopoly. This has an interesting sound. It makes one wonder what sort of figure a "trust plank" would cut in the platform of a Servian minority party.

Once upon a time a boy drifted away from the teachings of a good mother and got into bad company. It is a strange characteristic of the tangle that he is not satisfied with being tough. He wants to spread the contagion, to extend his meanness to make other boys as bad as himself. And he finds many converts. So the boy who figures in this editorial learned to lie, to pilfer, to drink, to curse and all these things were hailed as virtues in the small circle in which he had been initiated. At heart he wasn't a bad fellow, but he was weak. Finally, he was caught stealing, and was sent to the penitentiary for one year. He did a lot of thinking. In his little stone cell he discovered that the way of the transgressor is always hard, and the one mighty resolve he made was, "I will be good." He meant it, too. He had a foolish notion that he could walk out of prison one day, begin at the spot where he took the wrong road, look the world in the face and start anew. When the term was ended he walked out into God's sunlight and went to work. The bad thoughts were gone, the bad living was only a memory, and he went to work almost happy. He got a job as brakeman, and did his duty as a man who owed society nothing beyond what had been paid behind the gray walls of the great prison. Society, as a whole, never quite forgives a human being for a crime. There is always a some one to give the struggling man a kick in the face when he needs a helping hand. The anonymous letter writer got in his deadly work. "You have an ex-convict in your employ," was the burden of the missile, and it reached the mark and lost the young brakeman his place. Men do not like to work with ex-convicts, if they know it. There is a sneaking feeling that the fellow who has been in the "pen" isn't fit to associate with free men, and nobody cares to go into details. Yes, they discharged the penitentiary brakeman, and in the books of hell long fiery credit mark was set down to the cur who wrote the anonymous letter. The young man? The last heard of him he was idle, trying to remain honest with the road to ruin wide open and the narrow way to respectability almost barred.

OLD MASON AND DIXON LINE BEING RESURVEYED

The work of restoring and remarking the Mason and Dixon line is rapidly nearing completion, under the supervision of competent engineers appointed jointly by the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania. In April, 1901, each State appropriated \$5,000 for the purpose.

No question of territory is involved in the reconstruction, but the historic

line is being resurveyed.

interest in this imaginary division of North and South, warranted a remarkable line marked out by Mason and Dixon in 1763.

Rock and earth mounds used at that time are still in existence to demonstrate the thoroughness of the original survey. An erroneous impression obtains that the line is thirty feet wide, but the fact is that the line is imaginary.

The false idea is due to the fact that the original survey necessitated a thin-foot path through the wilderness, signs of which still remain.

The national bad habit is not stealing, drinking, gambling or looting, but plain, every-day exaggeration.

TURKEY TO BLAME

IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MACEDONIAN UPRISING HAS MADE TERRIBLE RECORD.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Aug. 17.—The Bulgarian government has presented a memorandum to the powers setting out at great length the condition of affairs during the past three months in Macedonia since the Spanish government undertook to inaugurate the promised reforms. The most precise details, dates, places and names of persons are given in memorandum, the whole constituting a terrible category of murder, torture, incendiarism, pillage and general oppression committed by the Ottoman soldiers and officials.

These particulars were obtained entirely on official sources, such as the reports of the Bulgarian consuls and agents of the Bulgarian government, and in many instances the reports made by the Turkish authorities. The Bulgarian government guarantees the absolute truth of every statement and challenges the port to disprove a single claim made in the memorandum. The memorandum begins by stating that during the past three months the Ottoman government has taken a series of measures with the alleged intention of inspiring the era of promised reform and of assuring peace and tranquility to the Bulgarian population of European Turkey, but which have had the contrary effect of further exacerbating this population and reviving the revolutionary movement instead of proceeding solely against persons guilty of breaches of the public order. The military and civil authorities have sought every possible pretext to prosecute, terrorize and ruin the Bulgarian inhabitants, alike in the large cities and in the small villages.

Wholesale massacres, individual murders, the destruction of villages, the pillaging and setting fire to houses, the arrests, ill-treatment, floggings, arbitrary imprisonment and banishment, the closing and disorganizing of churches and schools, the ruining of merchants, the collection of taxes for many years in advance—such, proceeds the memorandum, are among the acts of the Ottoman administration of the vilayets of Salonica, Monastir, Uskub, and Adrianople.

No Evidence of Oil.

Washington, Aug. 17.—During the spring of the present year, Mr. T. W. Vaughn, of the United States geological survey, made a trip into Georgia for the purpose of looking into the probabilities of the occurrence of petroleum in that state. One of the localities visited by him was the vicinity of Albany, Dougherty county.

During the preceding year (1902) Mr. Vaughn spent a month in making a geological reconnaissance from the edge of the crystalline rocks near Macon as far south as Albany. The object of his work was to ascertain whether the geological conditions gave any indication of the occurrence of petroleum. The geology is extremely simple, and there were no indications of the geological structures usually associated with oil pools. There was an entire absence of any of the surface manifestations in the way of gas, oil, sulphur, etc., which are ordinary accompaniments of oil in all regions. Mr. Vaughn is of the opinion, therefore, that no oil will be found in western Georgia in the strip of country extending from Macon through Montezuma, Americus, and Albany, that is, from Bibb county through Crawford, Houston, Macon, Dooly, Sumter, Lee and Dougherty counties.

Numerous miscellaneous measurements are made in California each year by the hydrographic branch of the United States geological survey, on the streams that rise in the Sierra Nevada. Measurements were recently made by Mr. S. G. Bennet, hydrographer, on the tributaries of the upper Merced river, which will be of interest to many persons who have looked upon the waters of these streams as they pour over the brink of the granite walls that form the boundary of the Yosemite valley, and have asked what is the volume of water flowing over the different falls.

This is a difficult question to answer, as the amount varies from season to season, from day to day, and even from hour to hour, according to the amount of snow and the state of the weather on the high mountains where these streams rise.

Fatal Shot By Mayor.

Prairie du Chien, Wis., Aug. 17.—R. D. George was shot at McGregor by Mayor John W. Walters during a quarrel over the Corbett-Jeffries fight. The victim, although still alive, will probably not live till night.

Bid Americans Defiance.

Milwaukee, Aug. 17.—Major Robert L. Ballard has demanded reparation from Sultan Dezen, the tribal leader of the Moros. Although professing a warm friendship for Americans, the sultan recently surrounded a small detachment of United States troops, paying him a friendly visit, and with a strong force of warriors, offered battle, his men ultimately bearing an American flag. So far the only reply has been defiance.

REVIEW OF NAVY

TWENTY-ONE WARSHIPS AT OYSTER BAY.

GLITTER IN THE SUNSHINE

FOUR PARALLEL COLUMNS A MILE LONG IS THE SIGHT THAT GREETTS THE PRESIDENT

BRIGHT AS A DOLLAR

Splendid Weather Ushered In Sun Feat Day At Oyster Bay Salutes Fired and Ac-
knowledged.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 18.—Twenty-one warships drawn up in four parallel columns a mile long and including some of the best fighting ships of the United States navy, resting on the glossy surface of Long Island sound, composed the picture which lay spread out before President Roosevelt when he stepped out on the veranda of his home at Sagamore Hill early yesterday.

Their brasswork shining under the slanting rays of the morning sun gave evidence that every ship was spick and span for this, the first naval review at the nation's summer capitol and probably the first ever held for the exclusive purpose of presidential honors.

Commanded by Rear Admiral Barker and three other naval officers of similar rank, the fleet, comprising two squadrons each of two divisions, besides a flotilla of torpedo boat destroyers, included a representative of nearly every type of fighting craft from the ponderous Illinois to the lean destroyers. Two parallel columns of battleships and cruisers headed by the Kearsarge, Rear Admiral Barker's flagship, flanked by files of destroyers, composing the north Atlantic fleet, covered the placid sound for two miles off shore from picu-esque Lloyd's Neck and blocking the mouth of Oyster Bay, presented a splendid marine spectacle, abundantly suggestive of massive power.

Bulgaria Free for Action.

Rome, Aug. 18.—The memorandum of the Bulgarian government to the powers regarding the situation in Macedonia has produced a great effect here. The general impression is that the Bulgarian government is no longer to hold back popular feeling, which unless it is repressed, in time will lead to a war with Turkey. The fate of Bulgaria in that event, it is thought, would probably be the same as that of Greece in the last war with Turkey.

The Italian government is exchanging views on the subject with Vienna and London.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Aug. 18.—Orders have been issued for the mobilization tomorrow of two divisions of reserves. It was rumored that they will be employed in strengthening the forces on the frontier to prevent the passage of Bulgarian bands into Macedonia. The officials, however, state that the rumor is unfounded, and that the reserves were called out to undergo their customary training for fifteen days.

A dispatch received here from Uskub says that six hundred Bashis Bazouks, under the command of Bulgarian chiefs, who are notoriously cruel, have pillaged and destroyed a number of Christian villages in the districts of Debre and Okrida. The Turkish authorities, it is added, confined at the outrages and furnished the Bashis Bazouks, with old uniforms, in order that they might appear to be regular soldiers.

Street car Smash-up.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 18.—In a rear end collision of two trolley cars on the Independence-Kansas City line, two persons were fatally injured, four seriously hurt and half a dozen others sustained minor bruises and cuts. The fatally injured; Eric Cobb, aged thirty.

Willis Wood, aged sixteen.

The cars were returning to Kansas City from Forest Park and were crowded with passengers. The car was running at a rapid rate.

Government Clerk a Suicide.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Stephen E. Hall of Aurora, Ill., a protege of Senator Albert J. Hopkins, killed himself in his room here yesterday. Hall shortly before ending his life had suffered great pain due to some stomach trouble and had applied at a nearby drug store for a certain medicine which the druggist was unable to supply.

Five Dead in Ship Wreck.

Quebec, Aug. 17.—The steam tug M-122, founded on Wednesday night near Cutarde shoal, about fourteen miles from here. The tug left here Sunday afternoon for Seven Islands, but had to put back because of some defect in the boiler. She started again Monday and passed Rimouski two days later. Nothing was heard of her until a dispatch was received here, saying she had founder'd and of the eight men aboard, five were drowned.

REIGN OF TERROR EXISTS

CHRISTIANS OF USKUB, TURKEY,
FEAR MASSACRE.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Aug. 19.—A reign of terror is reported to prevail at Uskub, where the Christian inhabitants are afraid to leave their houses. The vials have issued the strictest orders to the Musselman population to remain quiet and not molest their Christian neighbors, but the Musselmans, meeting in the mosques, have resolved at a given signal to massacre the whole Christian population immediately the first insurgent band appears near Uskub or on any other pretext. The Christians are terrorized. The Turkish troops who are their only protection, do not show the slightest disposition to aid them. The attitude of the Turkish troops was recently plainly manifested when a train load of soldiers, shortly after leaving Uskub, fired on the Bulgarian workmen who were repairing the track. Three of the workmen were killed and their bodies were left lying on the line.

Teleggraphic communication between Sofia and Constantinople is interrupted, the wires having been cut between Adrianople and Constantinople. No telegrams from Constantinople have been received here since 6 o'clock Monday evening. The Turkish flags at Adrianople refuse to state where the break occurred. Fears are expressed here regarding the safety of the railroad between Adrianople and Constantinople.

Chinese Warship Sunk.

Hong Kong, Aug. 19.—The Canadian Pacific's steamer, Empress of India, from Vancouver, B. C., July 27, and Yokohama, Aug. 10, for Hong Kong collided near this port today with the Chinese cruiser Huang-Tai.

The warship sank an hour after the collision. Empress of India saved 170 of the crew of the cruiser. The captain Huang-Tai, who refused to leave his ship and thirteen of the crew were drowned. Empress of India was badly damaged amidships.

Huang Tai was a tender to the naval engineering college of the southern Chinese squadron at Nanking, 260 feet, 2,110 tons displacement, 260 feet long, had thirty-six feet beam and drew twenty feet of water. The cruiser was built in England.

Its armament consisted of three seven-inch Krupp guns seven forty-pouders and six small rifle guns and was fitted with two torpedo tubes. It had a complement of 300 men.

Empress of India also, constructed in England, is one of the finest vessels of the Canadian Pacific Railroad company. It is 449 feet long and over 3,000 tons register.

Portland, Ore., Aug. 19.—The Empress of India carried twenty-five cabin passengers and 250 steerage passengers, the latter being mostly Chinese. She was under command of Lieut. O. P. Marshall.

Boys Must Quit the Lines.

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 19.—In the course testimony introduced before the arbitration commission on behalf of the miners yesterday, it developed under cross-examination that many of the miners were in the habit of taking their boys into the mines to work with them, each boy being allowed half a turn on cars, although his coal output went under the father's check.

Controversy over the responsibility of this class of labor led to an agreement between the miners and the principal operators involved in the arbitration that the commission in its findings should make a rule that no boys under fourteen years of age should be allowed to enter the mines in this district.

The testimony to-day showed that any miner working twenty days a month could earn \$100 a month.

Desertions From Ships.

London, Aug. 19.—The British consul at Portland, Ore., James Laird, emphasizing in the annual report the increase in the number of desertions from British ships in ports within the jurisdiction, complains that the owners and captains make no stand against the "crimpers," and rarely show a disposition to assist the local authorities in prosecuting persons guilty of infractions of the law, and he adds in the absence of proper evidence, little is done.

Mr. Laird then criticizes the law recently passed, licensing sailors, boarding houses, saying:

"The clause rising the legal rate for furnishing seaman from ten to thirty dollars is very objectionable. It acts as a premium on crimping. Slang as it may