

The Norfolk News

Some people are admired who are far from admirable.

If you want to get ahead keep a sharp lookout on the outlook.

The trust is bad enough, but the rust is said to be even worse.

It is not necessary to search for a precedent when your cause is just.

It may sound queer, but it is a fact that spoiled children are usually fresh.

Glasses used under the nose are far more dangerous than those used over it.

All the commercial travelers, and their names is legion, are against the trusts.

It is true that the outcome of a business venture depends largely upon the income.

Duties which are slight today are sure to confront us at a more inconvenient season.

At a recent election in Negroes 5,000 votes were cast and civil and military government was established on November 6.

Some people have the capacity to make black appear white. It's so with the devil. Otherwise he would go out of business.

It is not Dewey the admiral, but Dewey the representative of American manhood and civilization, which we so highly honor.

The boy in New York who recently stole some money to educate himself for the ministry, evidently holds to the theory that the end justifies the means.

One rarely does his best at a time of great opportunity or emergency unless it has become the habit of his life to do his best on every occasion which day by day arises.

The song "We Have Seen Better Days" was very popular a few years ago. There is no longer any sale for it. These are republican times in spite of the result in Nebraska.

Edward Atkinson's vigorous protests against the administration's Philippine policy seem to have reacted to the benefit of the g. o. p. Massachusetts went 65,000 for the republicans.

The prince of Wales is now 58 years old and as his habits are such as not to be conducive to long life, it begins to look as though his chances for a long reign as king of England were rather slim.

"If Lincoln were alive today, what would he do in the Philippines?" said Mr. Bryan in one of his Ohio speeches. Judging by President Lincoln's course in a previous rebellion against the authority of the union, he would in all probability crush the present one as quickly as possible.

Thanksgiving day is an American institution and the bronze roast turkey on that day is likewise American. The custom of observing the day is therefore, like other things American, expanding, and this year for the first time in history, the squawk of the expiring bird will be heard around the world.

Mark Hanna thinks the British government is as good as ours, but in this we cannot agree with Mark. It may possess some points which are even superior, but on the whole, every loyal American will stand up for our own republican form of government, where if everything is not to our liking we can have a voice in changing it.

The question, "What to do with our ex-presidents?" seems to have been solved. Benjamin Harrison keeps himself busy gathering in big law fees and traveling over Europe, while Grover Cleveland seems to be getting on very well at home. The thing to do with our ex-presidents is to let them alone so that they can mind their own affairs.

Anyone with a half eye can see whether democracy is drifting, or would like to drift, for a campaign issue next year. The sudden and simultaneous appearance of tariff articles in all the party newspapers indicates their evident yearning for the delightful Cleveland times of '92-'96. Who can tell but what the next trick turned by the democratic shuffler will be old Grover himself?

The preliminary report of the Philippine commission strongly endorses the course which the government has pursued and the carrying out of present plans in regard to the Filipinos. They are pronounced as utterly incapable of self government at present. The experiment was tried at Negros and failed. The natives were glad to have the Americans assume control again and are now enjoying the most peaceful and prosperous times they have had for many years, having a large share in managing their own affairs, under American control.

Numerous explanations have been offered by the English to account for the disaster which overtook General White and his forces at Natal. The facts seem to make it clear that he was

simply outgeneraled by the Boers and allowed an important detachment to become separated from the main body. This detachment was led into a trap and, by their indiscretion, two fine regiments were lost to the British army. General White, with the remainder of his force, is in a most precarious position, where only prompt re-enforcements can save him.

The reports from the Philippines are more reassuring. The fall campaign has opened vigorously and Aguinaldo's forces are specially disconcerted by the rapid movements of the cavalry. Many of them are deserting to the Americans and Aguinaldo is said to be having a hard time recruiting his army. Secretary Root has prophesied that all the reinforcements for General Otis will eat their Christmas dinner in Manila. There will then be a force of 65,000 men on the island and it would seem as though, if their movements were wisely directed, they might soon reach a satisfactory end to this unhappy struggle.

J. Adam Bode, discussing the sacrilege of comparing Washington and Aguinaldo, pierces the Atkinsonian marrow thus incisively: "Washington served in the army without pay, and sacrificed his fortune for the liberty of his native land; Aguinaldo swapped off a rebellion for a bank account. Washington fought against a despotic government and unjust taxation; Aguinaldo is fighting against a government that offers his people liberty and has never taxed them a cent but paid twenty millions for the right to make them free." It makes one who has any real patriotism and love of humanity in his veins unutterably tired at the adulation bestowed upon Aguinaldo in certain quarters. Not only is it not good Americanism but it isn't good sense. The people have taken the measure of these statesmen and they will be out of a job.

Carl Schurz advises the democracy to drop every issue but imperialism and go before the country next year on that issue alone. It hardly seems that rational men could take the view he does. He charges President McKinley with burdening the people with "imperialism." If that word means anything it means that the president has usurped his constitutional powers and become a dictator and a despot. To make such a charge is to appear ridiculous. No president ever consulted congress at every step more fully than has Mr. McKinley. There cannot be brought to mind a single instance thus far in his presidential career when he has not acted in accordance with the powers given him by the constitution of the United States. All that he has done has been done with the approval of a majority of the people. All this talk on the part of Mr. Schurz about "imperialism" is the veriest bosh. If the democratic party is content to take up this fictitious cry for an issue in 1900, the republicans can ask nothing better. It will be promptly, overwhelmingly buried out of sight by a great people who are in love with liberty and progress.

Telegraphic reports in yesterday's papers state that a rather unique ordinance was passed by the city council of Des Moines, Iowa, it providing that, "No person shall expectorate, spit or throw saliva on any sidewalk, public walk or crossing" in the city. What is more, the city board of health insists upon the rigid enforcement of the ordinance. Its passage is a result of the general discussion throughout the country of the alarming increase of tuberculosis. It is extremely probable that other cities will not be far behind Des Moines in legislation of this character. The habit of expectorating wherever and whenever a person desires is not only obnoxious, especially to ladies, but modern science has demonstrated beyond question that disease germs, especially those of tuberculosis are distributed by the habit. The inroad of consumption on the population is apparent to all, and each consumptive has it within his power to distribute uncountable germs of disease. The question of preventing this as much as possible is a pertinent one and will no doubt be supported by all those having the wellbeing of their fellows at heart.

Revised Sayings. If the fashion prevails of bewailing our nation's effort to maintain the dignity of its flag in the face of the enemy, says the Mobile Register, we will have to revise the sayings of those who once were national heroes, and ask our children to study their utterances in the following shape:

"Give up the ship."—Lawrance. "Be sure you're right, then apologize for it."—Davy Crockett. "We have met the enemy and ours are theirs."—Oliver Hazard Perry. "Wait until you see the whites of their eyes, boys; then run."—Andrew Jackson. "Don't hold the fort; I am running."—W. T. Sherman. "Damn the torpedoes; let's take a sneak."—David Glasgow Farragut. "I propose to run it out on this line if it takes all summer."—U. S. Grant. "There stands Jackson like a stone wall, but he is a fool to do it."—General Lee. "When you are ready, Gridely, you may skedaddle."—Dewey.

Irrigation in Persia.

The great subterranean rivers of the west which slowly wend their silent way, hundreds of feet beneath the earth's surface, have their counterparts on the other face of the globe. The Caspian sea is fed by many subterranean streams. These streams, like those of our own arid region, take their sources in the mountains which are covered with perpetual snow. The water from this melting snow percolates downward to a deep-lying, impenetrable strata, where it begins its underground passage to the sea. Nearly the whole of Persia is naturally desert. There is scant rainfall and the rivers are so few that irrigation from this source is very limited and serves only a small portion of the country. Centuries ago the Persians stumbled upon the idea of tapping the underground streams or springs at the bases of the mountains and the transition of the Persian desert into a land of great fertility is due to this constant source of water supply. But the water has been obtained only through the most indefatigable labor.

A well is sunk in the foothills to a depth anywhere from 100 to 300 feet. When this taps the vein of water, another shaft is sunk a couple of hundred yards farther down the slope, which is in reality a gentle descent of the table land from the mountains. A canal or subterranean aqueduct is then excavated between the two shafts. At a similar distance farther down another shaft is sunk and likewise connected with the second; and so the canal or conneough, as it is called, is carried for miles. As the conneough is given just fall enough to allow of a free flow of water it gradually approaches the surface until, when it draws near the land to be irrigated, the stream comes forth a pearly bubbling brook, dancing in the brilliant sunshine as it rushes on its mission to redeem the sterile waste places of nature. For miles it goes through what was at one time a desert, but which under the magic influence of this elixir of life, becomes a garden of the gods. It feeds fountains around which in languorous indolence repose the dark-eyed beauties of the harem; it furnishes the baths, those luxuries of the Orient; it waters wonderful gardens where in dazzling profusion, bloom throughout the year, the rose, chrysanthemum, narcissus, tuberose, dahlia, white lily and aster, besides fantastic shrubs and rare exotics, heavy with rich perfumes. Here grow to perfection the apple, peach, pear, nectarines, pomegranate, filbert, melon and grape, and many unknown tropical fruits in such abundance as to bewilder the traveller.

Where the soil admits of percolation, the land is flooded in small squares from lateral ditches. On such land, barley, wheat and other cereals are grown to great perfection. Again, irrigation is accomplished by a network of ditches and furrows. The mills which grind the grain are run by the current of the great irrigation ditches.

The cities of Persia secure the water necessary for domestic use from these ditches. The capital, Teheran, has no less than twenty large artificial streams flowing through it, constituted in the manner described from the underground currents.

The land lying adjacent to these canals is entitled to the use of the water, the amount being regulated by law. Each district is under an overseer whose duty it is to see to the proper application of the water and that there is no waste. Wealthy private individuals have also constructed ditches for their own use, furnishing the water to their tenants; but land contiguous to their canals is entitled to certain water rights even if not belonging to the owners of the ditches. Title to the use of water is inherent in the land and each section of land is certain of its water supply.

When the immense amount of labor involved in sinking shafts and connecting them by underground tunnels is considered, together with the fact that only the most primitive methods are yet in vogue, the Anglo-Saxon can but marvel at the patience and industry displayed in the accomplishment of such gigantic but necessary tasks. Some sections of Persia, especially those along the natural rivers, could add to their irrigated area by the use of storage reservoirs; but the greater part of the country has no flood waters to store, the melting snows but serving to keep alive the underground streams. Even in this despotic tyrant-ridden country, it has been found best, may necessary, to maintain government supervision of irrigation waters, which is the life blood of the nation. With a loose system of water control, the land would again be desert.

Among the noted names of the day perhaps none is more frequently mentioned at the present time than that of Cecil Rhodes, the South African "imperialist," the dream of whose life is to establish under British rule an empire which shall embrace everything on the African continent from Cape Colony to Cairo. Some incidents of his life are of interest. His father was an English minister. He received a limited school education, and while still a young boy went to South Africa to join an older brother who lived there. He took part in a gold seeking expedition and in a few years entered Oxford college, from which he graduated. Returning to South Africa he purchased a small in-

terest in the mines at Kimberly, which have become so famous and made him, along with others, immensely wealthy. They are diamond mines and practically control the diamond output of the world. Rhodes has not only proved himself a great financial manipulator but by his statesmanship he has added three-quarters of a million square miles to the British empire. His character is one of striking contradictions. In public and business matters he is cold, calculating, unscrupulous—a typical monopolist. In private life his qualities are lovable and he has many friends who are strongly attached to him.

Admiral Dewey's announcement that he will deed to his bride the handsome home recently purchased for him by the American people, has brought upon the admiral the first words of criticism since he has been in public life. People contributed to the fund with which the house was purchased because they admired Dewey and wished to show their appreciation of what he had done for the country, and they feel that it is very like an insult to their efforts for him to turn the property over to some one else, even though it be his wife. The American nation had expected him to retain the place as a home so long as he lives and then it should naturally be inherited by his son, and continue to be the Dewey home and a monument to the hero of Manila. If he had been married to the woman who is now his wife at the time he performed the valiant deed for which he has been remembered, people would have looked upon it differently. But there appears no reason why the home given to Dewey should be transferred to a woman he has just married, and who has an income of \$20,000 a year of her own.

Thomas Brackett Reed is no longer in public life. He is just a plain New York lawyer attending to his legal work along with other able men of his profession. Before he retired altogether from public view he issued a graceful valedictory to his old-time state of Maine constituency, in which he said: "During three and twenty years of political life, not always peaceful, you have never questioned a single act of mine. Other men had looked after their districts. My district looked after me." What a splendid compliment that was to the people he represented! It explains why the state of Maine has attained such prominence in national affairs. Down east they do not elect a man and at once begin to set up the pins to undo him politically. On the contrary, having selected a man in whom they have confidence, they keep him in the service as long as he will stay. The result is that long training makes them efficient and strong. The idea is the correct one. When it is more closely followed by other sections of the country they will be better served. Good servants should be looked after.

The reason why a large number of men and women occupy such mediocre positions in the world and are never recognized as of any particular force, is due not so much to their environment as to their personal indifference to their own possibilities. It is not so much that they lack knowledge and capability, but that they fail to use them. Men are prone to be lazy, and so hundreds drift down the tide of life, unknown and unheard of, simply because they have not felt the impelling force of high personal responsibility to do and dare. As Bulwer has so clearly expressed it: "The most useless creature that ever yawned at a club, or counted the vermin on his rags under the sun of Calabria, has no excuse for want of intellect. What men want is not talent but purpose; in other words, not the ability to achieve, but the will to labor."

The serious illness of Vice-president Hobart is attracting attention to the law of succession in the presidential office. Under the present law, if the presidency were to become vacant and there were no vice-president to succeed to the office, Secretary of State Hay would become the president for the entire remainder of the term. In case of his death the secretary of the treasury would succeed him, and so on down, embracing the whole cabinet. It is a wise provision and prevents any possibility of a headless government.

Railroad men are generally keen and good judges of business conditions. The president of the New York Central railroad said recently that he looked for three years of undiminished prosperity for all freight carriers, and urged the enlargement of the road's equipment.

The people who were loudly criticizing the war with Spain are not so vociferous since they see the British losses in the Transvaal reach a far greater figure in a single month than the total American field losses during the entire Spanish war.

The development of mankind is the important thing—and real success is to be measured not by increase of wealth but by growth of character.

Mr. McLean, who sacrificed himself to the cause of democracy in Ohio, has now returned to his Washington, D. C., house as per schedule.

And now we are promised an automobile plow.

The politician may occasionally have a new bonnet, but inside of it will always be found the same old bee.

The men who do business, not the men who talk about doing business, are the kind of men who are always in demand.

The English are finding the Transvaal to be what the Boers assured them it would be, "A hell on earth of shooting and unrest."

It is very plain that the country was not much excited over the outcome of the recent elections. The people are satisfied with the existing conditions and are confident that the future will be properly attended to.

For 27 years the United States has claimed the harbor of Pago-Pago, in the Samoan islands, and for the past two years she has been a member of the tri-partite government, under protest, all the time wishing to get free from the agreement and still retain the harbor. The arrangements recently announced by Germany and Great Britain gives the United States peaceful and undisputed possession of Tutuila island, where the harbor of Pago-Pago lies, and that is all this government wished. If the United States is to be a Pacific power we need all the harbors we can get, but we are not grasping for more territory. Germany, under the final arrangement, has by far the largest share of the Samoan group, as her interests there were greater than those of any other nation.

Since 1850 the population of the United States has increased from 23,191,876 to 77,000,000, which far exceeds that of any European nation except Russia. America is now far ahead of any other country in the world in the variety and magnitude of its agricultural, mineral and manufactured products. Every man engaged in agricultural pursuits in America produces as much as four farm hands in Europe. According to Mulhall, the eminent statistician, this country produces one-third as much food as all Europe. In 1850 we imported nearly all our iron and steel from England, now America far surpasses Great Britain or any other country in its output of pig iron and iron and steel manufactures. It owes its marvelous railroad development to the cheapness of its steel productions. In 1849 there were but 5,682 miles of railroad. The railway mileage now overreaches 181,603 miles, which is 41 per cent of the railroad mileage of the world. No other nationality has the earning power of the people of the United States. This power is twice as great as that of the people of Great Britain and Ireland.

Aguinaldo a Boor.

The Omaha Daily News of recent date contains an interview with Rev. Father McKinnon, formerly chaplain of the First California regiment who spent fifteen months in the Philippines, being in charge of the parochial schools after his regiment was recalled. In speaking of Aguinaldo, he said:

"Yes, I saw Aguinaldo a great many times. I saw him both as an enemy and a friend. When I was there as superintendent of schools I saw him to feel him out and find where he stood. As chaplain I saw him under different circumstances. The people who regard him as a patriot are mistaken. He is merely a tool. He is without education. He can read and write and that is about all. His speeches and proclamations are written by Abene, a hunchback, who was educated in Europe. Abene is an educated man, while Aguinaldo is merely a leader of men.

"The real powers behind the throne are Paturba and Scipot. Luna was the brainiest man of the natives, and could have led the people to an amicable understanding months ago, had he been living. I do not think the insurrection can last much longer. Aguinaldo will hold out as long as possible. He has but the following of one tribe now, and in another two months they, too, will have deserted him. I would not be surprised if he is killed by his own men. When I was looking over the school records I found a record which gave me an idea of his greatness, or rather lack of it. It was what we call an examination paper here. Aguinaldo was a teacher in a primary school and was examined in a higher branch. A common school child 13 years old could have answered the questions, but he made a total failure of it and did not get the promotion he asked for."

When asked about the Spanish friars, who have been the source of so much trouble in the islands, Father McKinnon said:

"As a class, they are good men. They do not have the same ideas that we Americans do, but compare favorably with religious bodies the world over. There may be some bad men among them, but all of the evidences of civilization now existing in the Philippines are a direct result of their labors. The growing of hemp, cane, coffee and tea was introduced by them, as well as the school system. They have labored among the natives with no hope but spiritual reward, and too much credit cannot be given them. I expect to go back to Manila in a few weeks to resume my work."

MR. EPIZOOT WILKINS.

He Writes of the Results of His Political Pilgrimage and Wishes Himself Back "Among the Clam Girdled Democratic Preeninks uv Noo Jersey."

BUREAU OF INFERMASHIUN, WASHINGTON, D. C.

To the Editor:

Doornin the last fu weeks I hev led a butterfli and humminbird existence, flittin frum stait to stait, and samplin the different kinds uv Democracy on tap. I hev bin flung frum one end uv the kountry to the uther by the combined efforts uv steam and jackasses, hosses and mules, until I am completely worn out, and hev wisht myself back upon the old farm, in the clam girdled Democratic preeninks uv Noo Jersey. I cood slip mi applejack in peece and soak up the political wizzard, shed abroad bi mi naber, Grover Cleveland. In spite uv all thet hev bin sed agin him, sence hev wuz consined to the tomb, I kin remember with pleasure that he at least hed the kurridge uv his convishuns, and warnt afrade to sa what he meant and stick to it. He didn't trim hiz sails to ketch all the changein breezes, like sum uv our onrripe staitsmen hoo seem to be afrade thet sum nu fangled political idee will git awa frum em before thet kin git a chance to coopt it.

The Democratic party, jist at present, seems to be engaged in a series uv experiments to see what stait kin talk the first prize fer foolishness at Dimicratie convenshuns. I hev already ritten, in sum uv mi former letters, konsernin the sitoosshun in Ohio and Kentucky, and how the fool killer hed neglected hiz dooty in thet 2 staits, but the performance in Massachusetts beat the band. I wuz hurried down to Boston in September thet da befoure the Dimicratie stait convenshun, to see what prospect thet wuz fer harmuny, and how natch help we cood git frum the Filippine insurgents, uv Massachusetts, hoo hev bin fritened awa frum the Republikin party bi the anticks uv Mr. Aguinaldo. I felt sumwhat dishartened wen I found thet the delegates to the convenshun wuz bracein up their enthooasium on Old Medford rum, instid uv applejack, and I wuz in doubt as to the general result uv sich an oversight. The next mornin, wen the convenshun assembled, mi gloomy forebodin's wuz realized. The different faeshuns uv the party wuz frim mad, and it took twenty poleecemen to keep them frum frein each uther out thru the winders. Bi hootin and howlin, and bi the joodishus roolin's uv the chairman uv the convenshun, aided bi the clubs uv the poleecemen, the goldbugs and the konservativ men among the delegates wuz kep in subjecshun, and the program put thru without much uv a hitch; but the ones hoo got the hot end uv the poker didn't seem to relish sich treatment, and uv en wuz hot enuff frum thet coller to subjecshun. The wuz poles on cleeshun da and vote thet the whole Republikin ticket.

In the resooshoons we kum out strong in favur uv our frends hoo air makin sich a frantick struggle to introduce the Declarashun uv Independance into the Filippine Islands, jist ez the American people air tryin to let go uv it, and we hev caushly advised them to stand up agin thet encroachments uv the tyrants uv the Republikin party in this kountry hoo air sendin men out da means to wallop em into subjecshun. The wuz dun in order to give the Massachusetts Filippinooze a chance to vote the Dimicratie ticket, and to help Mr. Edward Atkinson introduce his pamphlets and cookin utensils into a furrin territory when it gits peeceful enuff to go thare without gittin hurt.

The convenshun did one startlin thing thet took awa the bresth uv the oldest politthushun. It elected thirty delegates to a Nashedun convenshun thet hain't yet bin called, and pledged em to a man hoo ma not be a candidate, in favur uv an idee thet ma not be an issoon in the campagne uv next year. This hev never befor bin dun bi enny political party in this kountry, and wen I menshoned thet fact to Mr. George Fred Williams, hoo wuz ringmaster uv the performance, he sed, "Thet only shows thet we air an inventiv party, and thet we do not hev to wait for the konsent uv enny other Dimicrat." He hed the whip in hand, and he pled it with good effect, and the thirty delegates wuz corralled in a bunch and tagged fer William J. Bryan to be goosed next year ez sirkumstances ma require.

This iz a nu wa uv dooin bizness at convenshuns, but it savors uv rather to much previousness, and don't look well wen we set up a hawl agin the Republikin fer bein "bossed" at convenshuns. The plan hev its advantages, however, fer thet the condishuns next year ma be sich thet thet present party uv the party in Massachusetts might not be able to elect the delegates or dictate the platform. It ma be necessary to sa nothin on the issoos thet now seem on top, and we ma hev to git up sum intirely nu ones. In enny event a Massachusetts Dimicrat kin be depended on to change hiz opin-yuns ez offen ez required, and to do it without jarrin hiz convishuns much.

After thet convenshun wuz adjurned I circulated myself around among the intellectoonal bean counters uv Boston, to note the effect uv thet lillibershuns. I regret to remark thet it did not seem to hev created much havoc in public opin-yun, and thet the toomult in the hall wuz mostly uv local origin. I found the wind blowin and the street cars runnin jist the same ez if no Dimicratie convenshun hed bin held. One obstroperous old Dimicrat sed, "Why didn't the durred folks instruct the delegates to vote fer Atkinson and Aguinaldo fer our Nashedun ticket next year? We cood call em 'At and Ag' for short, and we shoold stand full ez good a chance uv electin the ticket ez we shall if sich consumit asses ez assembled here tudaay air allowed to make the platform and nominate the candidates uv the Dimicratie party. Bi all means let the ticket be Atkinson and Aguinaldo—a combishun uv senile excludosivness and nimble cloosivness." The language uv a hilted Bostonian iz generally to deep fer a Noo Jersey Dimicrat to understand, but ez near ez I kin ketch onto it, he didn't seem no sich a thing. I figger it out thet he wuz talkin sarkasm, and makin fun uv me and our convenshun rite to mi face.

Epizoot Wilkins
Frum Applejack Farm, wich iz next to Grover Cleveland's, in the stait uv Noo Jersey.