

## THE COMING ISSUE.

Central committees in Illinois, or elsewhere, not even national committees of any party, have neither influence nor power to make issues for political parties. The late action of the Illinois committee of Mr. Bryan's party, with the personal presence of Mr. Bryan himself, to secure unanimity where there was known to be growing division upon the 16 to 1 element of the silver issue, settled nothing as to what shall be the main question between parties in the next presidential election. Significant signs are not wanting to make it probable that the action of the state committee of Illinois was a shrewd device of Mr. Bryan's own procreation to check the silent movement which began on the Pacific coast, swept through Iowa, and caused disturbance in Illinois, in opposition to the fatal 16 to 1 proposition. The Pacific states were already lost to the silver cause. Iowa had flatly repudiated it through the original silver advocates with Governor Boies in the lead, and the people at the late election, giving distinct and bold prominence to the silver question in all its phases, condemned it by overwhelming majorities at the ballot-boxes. The older states ignored silver altogether, and the case was becoming desperate. It was necessary that something should be done, and Mr. Bryan did it. He is as quick as a panther to see a break in his own armor.

The coming issue for 1900 has already come. The new congress, after a long and high debate, will fix and formulate it, aided by stirring events which are already foreshadowed by the reported attitude of Aguinaldo and the people of the Philippines. If it be true as reported at the moment of this writing that this intrepid leader had lost his popularity with his people because of his friendly attitude toward our country it is probable that he joins them in order to regain it. In this case the government and people of the United States, including Theodore Roosevelt, have abundant reason for sobriety over impending dangers of wars of conquest which, all the world will say, will be both wanton and wicked.

## DEGENERATE CHINA.

THE CONSERVATIVE took notice by a passing mention of the eloquent, passionate and impressive appeal for peace by the Chinese minister at the Exposition. It was on the occasion of the miscalled Peace Jubilee and the visit of the president, who, with others, invoked the spirit of peace upon our nation by boasting its prowess and terrible achievements in war. It was in the midst of such a paradoxical performance, when the hearts of assembled thousands were stirred by the questionable glory of a people eighty million strong in its conquest of Spain, the

crippled old woman among nations, that this great representative of "the oldest nation" of 400,000,000 of people pronounced one of the most moving tributes to peace that was ever made by any man of any nation since the discovery of gunpowder.

Poor, degenerate China! Knowing nothing about war, without the Christian religion, "no army, no navy, no quartermaster or commissariat," as Mr. Charles Denby tells us and as all the world knows, the helpless victim of wrong and injustice at the hands of every other nation, despoiled of her rights and territories as wolves destroy the carcasses of their prey, China, under the teachings of such heathens as Confucius and Mencius, sees, only when it is too late, what has been lost to a civilization dating back thousands of years by the continuous calamity which kept it in ignorance of the beauty and blessings of the Christian idea of peace and justice, and righteousness, among the nations of the earth.

## WHAT SHAPE IS YOUR HEAD?

There is a school of anthropologists, according to whose view there are only two European races at bottom, namely, the long-heads and the broad-heads. As far back as geology gives testimony of mankind's existence, these two types of skulls are found, and they persist just as sharply in the men of today. If you will examine the outline of your head, around its broadest part above the ears, you will find that it is either long and narrow, and of nearly the same width throughout, or else shaped something like a pear, with the bulge back of your ears and the stem above your eyes. You will then have the advantage of knowing to which race you belong, and can inform your family that you are dolichocephalic or brachycephalic, as the case may be.

The significance of the matter lies in the different work that the two types have accomplished in the past, and their probable destiny for the future. They are characterized by a recent writer somewhat as follows:

The long-heads are usually tall and fair-haired, active, ambitious and courageous, the locomotive element of mankind. They fight for the sake of fighting; they are explorers and adventurers; the whole world is their country. They gain riches with ease, but are not so well adapted for keeping hold of them; they prefer action to much talk, and in religion are mainly protestant. Their type prevails in the north of Europe.

The broad-heads inhabit more southern countries, and are more docile to guidance, in religion and other matters as well. They are more likely to be short in stature and dark of skin. They are prudent, hard working and economical, and though not cowardly, not warlike either. They accumulate goods

slowly, but keep what they get; they are easily taken in with words, love authority and tradition, and are suspicious of change.

The long-head, as may be supposed, is usually found in control of things. It is he that has the bulk of the world's wealth, and he is the scholar and the athlete as well. But he does not last; he is the one that does the great things, but he may not leave any children behind him. Some of the long-headed races of history, who were known for conquerors, have died out entirely, and it is suggested that his day may be past, and that the broad-head may be the one whose qualities best fit him for the work of the future.

## THE TRANSMUTATION OF METALS.

It was the famous Dr. Girtanner, of Goettingen, who once made the prophecy that "in the nineteenth century the transmutation of metals will be generally known and practised. Every chemist and every artist will make gold; kitchen utensils will be silver, and even gold."

The great chemist failed as a prophet on the transmutation of metals by the wondrous arts of chemistry; but the century now on its last legs, the immortal nineteenth, has discovered, if all that we hear be true, that the value of metals can be transmuted by written statutes into the most precious of human possessions on the simple plan of "be-it-enacted," by the process of a simple declaration by the almighty congress of the United States.

## CHEAP MONEY.

The only cheap money that the laborer, farmer, mechanic or man of business and property needs in this country, or in any other country, comes to them in the form of a coined dollar, or its equivalent, which is worth 100 cents, unless it be this kind of a dollar which he can now borrow at the low interest rate of four, five or six per cent. This kind of cheap money is what is now making the farmers and people of this state so rich that too many of them are more or less discontented because they are not richer.

The recent protest of J. Sterling Morton, of Nebraska, against the cutting of Christmas trees is warmly commended in the West. In his protest he said: "The trees selected for slaughter on this anniversary are always the straightest and most symmetrical. There were last year more than twenty million of Christmas trees cut down and put on the market. The absurdity of celebrating the birth of the Saviour of the world by a wanton waste and extravagance which jeopardize the welfare of millions of human beings yet unborn is obvious to every thinking man."—New York Tribune.