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## PROTECTION.

Americans returning home from Europe are now subjected to a closer examination and allowed to bring into this country free of duty fewer things than ever.

So long as protection is the order of the day why would it not be a capital idea in the interest of American resorts, American steamboats and American railways to pass a law that Americans should not be allowed to travel abroad for pleasure until after they had seen their own country?

Thousands of Americans who have never seen Niagara Falls flock to Europe every year and pay tribute to foreign transportation lines and foreign resort keepers.

Why not insist on a certificate being presented, before they are permitted to go abroad, showing that they have seen Niagara, the Yosemite, the Yellowstone and the Grand Canon of the Colorado in Arizona?

This would indicate that their own country had not been overlooked, and in this way the great West would catch some of the 100 millions spent annually by wealthy Americans and in return they would become enthusiastic and patriotic as to their own country.

## A PARALLEL.

Some years ago a pugilist named Corbett defeated an older pugilist named Sullivan; it was said he accomplished this by virtue of being decent, young and an American, and having worked hard at his trade. Presently a third pugilist arose who was none of those

things, but who defeated Mr. Corbett in turn, by virtue, it was said, of being a good deal of a brute and able to endure unlimited punishment.

Last year decent young America made a Sullivan out of Spain. Spain had been a great nation in her time, but her day was past, and her active adversary quickly brought her to her knees. Now is there a power lurking somewhere among the lower peoples of the earth, that will some day do the office of a Fitzsimmons to us? Given a rugged race of men that cared for none of the things that we care for, and teach them the mechanics of fighting as thoroughly as our men have learned it, and it would be hard to say why not. There are some writers who claim that the Chinese and Japanese will one day break out upon the rest of mankind, and that when they do nothing will stop them.

Regarding the proposition that we need a new punctuation mark, to indicate statements made in an ironical manner, we would submit that this would be only opening the door to a whole lot of new trouble, and that the man who does not know what he is reading had better be left to enjoy life after his own fashion. Tell him "this is a joke," and the chances are he will want you to prove it.

## PROSPERITY AND PRODUCTS.

The corn-producing states show much evidence of prosperity. It has come to stay provided it is properly cared for. Condensation is necessary for its continuance. Just as the greatest success is achieved by industrial concentration so will the best results be obtained by the people in corn-producing states in manufacturing grain into flour, cereal food, starch, glucose and similar articles.

The same net results can be had in these industries as already secured by the condensation of corn into beef and pork.

The corn-growing states should not only have the producer's profit but the manufacturer's. It is much wiser to retain this money than to send it out of the country.

What the agricultural states need most is diversity of industry—factories, mills and plants of all kinds employing labor and at the same time teaching the young new occupations are very desirable.

## SENATORIAL SPECTACLES.

The desire on the part of many American citizens to make the choice of United States senators elective by a vote of the people instead of by a vote of members of the legislative bodies of the states has been greatly increased and strengthened in a reluctant public opinion by the spectacles which have been presented by various states in still continuing attempts and failures to obtain a result. The most exciting of these exhibitions have occurred in Nevada and Montana, where, as everybody knows, a choice could only be secured by buying votes. Pennsylvania has divided the honors of this kind of political patriotism which, at the moment of this writing, has resulted in the failure of Mr. Matthew H. Quay, whose name and deeds have, for so many years, decorated the republican party, to secure a needed thirteen votes. The show in our state lags superfluous, and for reasons unknown to this deponent, lacks the vitality of being either animated or interesting. If the statesmen who are gathered at Lincoln wish to impress anybody with their display of devotion to the public good in choosing a successor to the extinguished Mr. Allen they should send for Stewart, of Nevada, or Mr. Clark, of Montana, recruit their bank balances, and proceed to save the state and country on a strictly commercial and patriotic basis.

## THE RAILROAD QUESTION.

In the interest of the small shipper and the small town the railroad question ought to be settled. Anything in the way of an improved law that will prevent unjust discrimination in favor of the large shipper or that will benefit the small village by giving it a fair show as against great commercial centres will meet with the approval of the majority of American citizens.

The bone and sinew of the country are in the small-sized towns and any arrangement of political economy in freight rates or taxes of any kind that retard their growth is a state of national disease and should be changed.

In the interest of the small shipper and small town we believe in the railroads of the country having the right to combine to prevent unjust discriminations in favor of large towns and great shippers. Too much concentration of population or power is dangerous.