

cal enforcement of their system, and have adopted the idea of national reciprocity to escape from threatened evils. The island of Cuba is not really comprehended under this idea. Her power to make treaties with foreign nations is in the absolute, and her legislative powers are in the partial control of the United States. In all but name, she occupies the position of a state in the union; and the most obtuse intellect must admit that it is only a question of time when she legally will occupy that position. Both good morals and sound economic policy therefore demand that she should participate in the internal free trade which the other states have enjoyed and under which they have prospered.

The writer is not confident of the beneficial effects to follow from the proposed reciprocity treaties with other nations. Under the prevailing sentiment in this country, the proposed treaties must conform to the "principle of protection" which rigidly fosters everything which can be produced within the national lines, regardless of degree and amount. Under these treaties, without doubt, articles not produced in this country could be admitted, but the great monopolies would be permitted to retain their special privileges, and thus to continue their extortion from the public. In other words this perverted sentiment demands that reciprocity and protection must harmonize with each other, while true reciprocity and protection are repugnant to each other. All trade is between individuals and not between nations. All trade is reciprocal; therefore to have full reciprocity, all trade must be free and subject only to taxation for revenue and police regulation, exactly as we possess our other liberties. On the proposed lines, therefore reciprocity can not be a success, because it excludes the idea of freedom between traders, which is its essential element. If, however, it were intended and used to promote freedom of trade, such freedom must come through its use as a retaliating instrument to compel other nations to relax their protective laws. Whenever we have reached this stage, the people will be prepared to accept freedom of trade by more simple and direct, and less complicated methods.

Moreover taxation is always a question of domestic policy, and these treaties would involve our system of taxation in endless confusion. Where treaties existed containing the most favored nation clause in relation to trade, another element of confusion would be introduced. Free trade nations like England would obtain superior benefits from immunity from, while she suffered none of the in-

juries of the "protective" clauses.

Under these conditions we may further predict that the conflict will again be opened in reference to our "protective" laws, that it will involve every question of taxation in nation, state and municipality; and that the abuse of corporate powers will likewise be involved, and that these artificial instruments to combine capital for special purposes will emerge from the conflict with restricted powers, that they will cease to be vehicles of fraud both upon stockholders and upon the public, and that in their organization, actual capital and not wind and water will be required.

JAMES DENTON HANCOCK.
Franklin, Pa., Feb. 25, 1902.

THE CONSERVATIVE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Conservative county behind other counties of the state in giving effect to the provision made by the last legislature for fighting contagious diseases and preventing their spreading. There is a state board of health which has formulated a set of rules governing such matters, but it is left to each county to organize local boards for enforcing these rules. It is not a costly undertaking. All that is contemplated is to establish a system, whereby uniformity of action can be secured. Different counties have arranged details in different ways. Richardson county has adopted a plan which seems simple, and not likely to pile up much expense. Any householder or physician, upon recognizing a case of contagious disease, is to notify the county commissioner for his district. He must thereupon form a local board of health for the township affected, to consist of himself and the nearest justice of the peace and physician. These three men are to see that the state board's rules as to quarantine are enforced, and the justice is to make the requisite reports to the state headquarters.

Something of the kind ought to be put in force here as soon as practicable.

ABOUT EATING STARCH.

Some frantic ass down east, where all the most frantic live, has set a horrible yarn afloat in the papers about a girl who died of eating starch. We print on another page the remarks of an alleged physician on the case. He explained that "common starch is largely adulterated and often contains arsenic." But he was wrong. Starch is never adulterated for the sufficient commercial reason that there is no similar substance cheap enough to mix with it. Certainly arsenic, which costs eight or ten cents a pound, would not tempt

the most conscienceless manufacturer as an adulterant for two-cent starch.

As to this wise doctor's learned discourse on the effects of starch on the system, many hundred men and women have been employed in the Argo factory in the last ten years. They have nibbled at starch when they felt like it, and so have the owners of the plant. Nobody has ever formed the "starch habit." Neither has the factory physician ever detected the slightest disorder traceable to the practice. Starch, like sugar, which is a related product, has a local and temporary effect on the kidneys. Starch workers being examined for life insurance have sometimes been looked on with suspicion, but have caused the alarming symptoms to disappear by eating no starch for a couple of days. As for "intestinal obstructions" and "glue masses," starch acts in a soothing manner on any of the air or digestive passages, and can never irritate or obstruct.—Nebraska City Tribune.

A horn piercing the skull 4½ inches was found on a nearly paralyzed wild bullock lately shot in Australia.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Nebraska City National Bank,

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB.,

at the close of business, February, 25, 1902.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts.....	\$289,051.74
Overdrafts.....	83.27
U. S. Bonds and premiums.....	108,000.00
Other bonds and securities.....	90,634.87
Bank and other real estate.....	11,240.00
Cash, Exchange and Due from Treas. U. S.....	145,840.83
Total.....	\$578,850.71

LIABILITIES.

Capital.....	\$100,000.00
Surplus and profits.....	11,651.29
Circulation.....	100,000.00
Deposits.....	362,199.42
Total.....	\$573,850.71

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

W. L. WILSON, Pres. ROBT. LORTON, V. Pres.
H. D. WILSON, Cashier.
ROBT. PAYNE A. P. STAFFORD.

R-I-P-A-N-S

There is scarcely any condition of ill-health that is not benefited by the occasional use of a R-I-P-A-N-S Tablet. For sale by Druggists. The Five-Cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cents, contains a supply for a year.