

tinued on the 18th, 19th and 20th. The naval bill was passed on the 21st. It carries an appropriation of more than \$61,000,000 and provides for the construction of two battleships and three armored cruisers of the first class. On the 23d consideration of the post office appropriation bill was begun.

MISCELLANY

SAINT HELENA.

For The Public.

An Isle that symbols vain regret,
Long rest by haunting dreams beset,
Where seabird's cry and billow's fret
Lend voice to isolation.

A fortress nature fain had kept,
And in its brooding silence slept,
Where human wrong had never crept
With fearful desecration.

There fierce ambition died away,
Through what long anguish who can say?
Or if its sunset cold and gray

Was flushed with dreams of slaughter.
The fevered breath of homesick pain,
The inborn pride so slow to wane
Passed long ago, but left a stain
Swept not by wind or water.

On that lone Isle, his gaze afar
With thoughts amid the thick of war,
Where trusted life-long comrades are,

By wave and rock-wall guarded,
Sits sullen Cronje, coarse and grim,
As captors fond of trappings trim,
Triumphantly have pictured him
Whose face no search rewarded.

No eye could pierce that alien mask,
No friend or foe had need to ask
If well performed his mighty task

That sought no meed of glory.
But never could that awful day
When 'mid the wreck of deadly fray
He stood like royal beast at bay,
Fade from his country's story.

Not that with fatal end in sight
He foiled the blow as best he might,
But that he fought for freedom's right

When only blood availed it.
Before him rose his native veldt
Where first in fervent prayer he knelt
For guidance of the zeal he felt,
When greed of might assailed it.

Yet there are those who deem it shame
That loyal Cronje's humble name
Should stand by his, whose olden fame

Rings through the world's arena.
Not till we try by truer test
Than surface thought has ever guessed,
May we decide which honored best
The prison of Saint Helena.

D. H. INGHAM.

THE COST OF MATERIAL AND LABOR.

A concern located in Pennsylvania recently made the following detailed statement of the increased cost of materials entering into their line of manufacture. They make vises, machinists' and plumbers' tools, etc., and their statement is as follows:

"The following percentages show the actual increase in costs of raw materials which enter largely into the manu-

facture of our lines, over prices current in the spring of 1899: Pig iron, 125 per cent.; steel, 100 per cent.; copper, 81 per cent.; tin plate, 76 per cent.; wire, 132 per cent.; nails, 170 per cent.; lumber, 87 per cent.; bolts, 111 per cent.; asbestos, 31 per cent.; pipe, 184 per cent.; pipe fittings, 111 per cent.; rivets, 110 per cent.; oils, 100 per cent."

As nearly as we can judge, the rate of wages paid for labor has advanced about ten per cent., although this, of course, does not mean that labor costs have advanced in the same proportion, because the work of increasing labor's efficiency has been going on continually, and we think it perfectly safe to say that the labor cost of most lines of machinery has been reduced at least ten per cent. annually for several years past; we mean, of course, in those shops that have been under the influence of modern progress and have kept themselves up to date.—American Machinist of March 8.

FITTING PEOPLE FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The cant that other races are not fitted for self-government, that the Cubans, the Puerto Ricans and the Filipinos must wait until the countrymen of Quay and Platt and Croker and Lodge decide that they are competent, is food for universal mirth. Aguinaldo's judgment on American capacity to govern would have equal force. Mr. Beveridge will not be disturbed if we do not concede self-government to our subjects for a hundred years. He would have "a free hand." Freebooters ask nothing more.

No nation ever learned to govern itself until it had the chance to try. No master of another race or nation ever decided that it was fitted to look after its own affairs. In the nature of things, where no voice is allowed, no self-constituted keeper will heed its plea for freedom. I share in the belief, recently uttered, that bad self-government is better than good government by another, and hold, with John Hay, in his "Castilian Days," before Washington days had destroyed his faith in liberty: "There are those who think the Spaniards are not fit for freedom. I believe that no people are fit for anything else." Wisdom comes through failures and mistakes. Only an enemy would prevent a people from making them. And a benevolent despot is rare and short-lived.—William Lloyd Garrison, at Providence, R. I., April 7.

Fortune sometimes favors the brave, and sometimes she leads them into a trap.—Puck.

WHAT JEFFERSON WOULD DO IN REGARD TO TRUSTS.

An extract from an address on "What Jefferson Would Do," delivered by the Hon. John P. Altgeld before the Albany Bimetallic League at Albany, N. Y., April 16.

How about trusts? Jefferson would abolish all monopoly and all special privileges. This much we know, for he has told us. If this were done, there would not be a trust left in America. But how would he do it? In my judgment, and I speak only for myself, there is only one way, and that is to have the people own and operate all necessary monopolies, such as municipal utilities and transportation. This done, most of the others would dissolve. There would be no private monopoly in this country. Leave everything possible to individual enterprise, and where that will not suffice, let the people do it in their collective capacity, for they are all equally interested.

But is this not opposed to the principles of Jefferson? On the contrary, it is in harmony with them.

Government in his day was something distinct from the people, and he wanted that government to meddle as little as possible with their affairs.

But he always labored to have everything possible left directly with the people. He had confidence in them, and wanted them to govern directly. He and Lincoln were alike in regard to having confidence in the people.

Experience has shown that a corporation standing between the people and the state will, when possible, plunder the one and debauch the other, and is therefore a constant menace to free government.

Having confidence in the people and making their welfare his guide, I believe he would have them keep everything possible in their own hands, and not put it in the power of any set of men to plunder them.

But no matter what the method of procedure, we know that he would enforce the law, and no attorney general from New Jersey would be paid a salary by the government to find out how not to do it.

PRETORIA BEFORE THE WAR.

Extracts from an article with the above title, by Howard C. Hillegas, published in Harper's Magazine for March.

At the station there is a scene which is so plainly the opposite of that which presented itself at Johannesburg that it is difficult to imagine how two such widely different cities could exist side by side and under the

same government. There in the Golden city were thousands of foreigners, from every country on the globe, jostling and running and climbing over each other in their pursuit of gold; here in Pretoria are the hundreds of easy-going, methodical, religious Boers, discussing affairs of state, driving lumbering ox wagons or attempting to conciliate an aggrieved uitlander. There were the cries of the stock brokers, the noise of the pounding stamp mills and the braggadocio of the gambler; here are the calm of the Christian home, the solemnity of a body of men in whose hands is the destiny of a republic, and the air of righteousness. There was Bedlam; here is the City of Peace.

Stretching away from the center of the city, where the statesmen, bankers and business men had their workshops, were the residential streets, the glory of Pretoria. There the clear mountain water, coursing in little rivulets between the sidewalks and the dwellings, fed the roots of the willows and the rose bushes, and vivified the landscape with the vari-colors of nature. Every cottage, with its rose fence and its smoothly cropped lawn, was a painting, and every Boer housewife's collection of flowers and plants was in an imaginary beauty contest, in which the admiring pedestrians were supposed to be the judges. Inside the cottages the tidiness and cleanliness that distinguished their Dutch ancestors furnished material evidence against the ruthless misrepresentation of the Boer's habits. Young women whose grandmothers assisted husbands and brothers in fighting against the savage tribes that attacked the pioneers, and who themselves were educated in European or South African colleges and seminaries, displayed their talents in the baking of bread, and the playing of pianos and other musical instruments. Young men fresh from European universities appeared, and with equal facility and knowledge discussed the latest phases of the eastern political question or the most recent advances in irrigation methods. The enjoyment which the old-time Boer, circumscribed as he was before the advent of telegraphs and railroads, found in the shooting of game, the young Boer of to-day finds in the same channels as the youth of other countries. He is a patron of the arts, loves open-air sports, dances, and, above all things, is an expert with the rifle.

"Do you know Gabbleby?"

"Well, I have a listening acquaintance with him."—Puck.

THE OTIS BRAND OF PEACE.

Judge Thomas Canty, of Minneapolis, arrived in Minneapolis from Manila, April 18. The Minneapolis Journal of April 20 contained an interview with Judge Canty, from which the following is taken:

I believe that it would take 500,000 men ten years to put down that insurrection, and that even then it would not be permanently done. The original cause of the insurrection was official tyranny and unscrupulousness and the attempt of Spain to put down the Kaputin organization, which had been formed with a membership of 100,000, chiefly among the Tagalos, to suppress them. It continues because the Filipinos have absolutely no faith in our word. The difficulty is not to defeat the forces of the islands in open battle, but to keep them driven when they have once been driven. This is impossible. By the time the pursuing force is back in quarters, the pursued and ostensibly defeated force is also back ready to resume guerrilla fighting.

When I went to Manila I asked Gen. Otis whether he considered that the war was about over, and he assured me that it was and that in a very limited time order would be restored. Acting on this theory, I began tramping through the islands, going out short distances from the towns, only to be halted on each occasion before I got outside the city limits, as you may say, by our own sentries.

The sentries assured me that if I went any further I should be knifed by the "niggers." This astonished me. I understood that the enemy had been decisively defeated and that there surely would be no danger to life in the immediate vicinities of the principal towns. I explained my ideas to the sentries, who assured me that the enemy had been defeated again and again, but that he was an enemy who would not stay defeated. He always came back again. This sort of thing happened on Laguna de Bay and in several places close to cities. The soldiers told me that the people making the trouble were ladrones, which is Spanish for thieves. Then I noticed that all the most pretentious houses in the towns were empty and that the small bamboo huts were inhabited. In other words, that the wealthy inhabitants had fled to the mountains, while a large proportion of the poorer element had remained. I asked the soldiers how this was, and they replied, referring to the wealthier class of natives who were missing from their homes, that they, too, were ladrones.

This and a number of other things brought me face to face with a conclusion that the wealthy class of Fili-

pinos were the ones running the war. I found this condition in all the principal towns outside Manila. The wealthy Filipinos and halfbreeds are ostensibly on the side of the Americans, but really are assisting to conduct the insurrection.

Our native secret service corps, for which we are paying a pretty penny, is engaged in rounding up ladrones, and in this service it does good work, being honestly assisted by the Filipinos of the better class themselves. In other words, we are doing police work for a people at war with us. But these secret service agents never discover anything of value concerning the actual movements of the enemy. If they do, they seldom report it. The fact is that if such a report was made the man making it would either have to remain thereafter in the American barracks or be assassinated.

In my opinion, the only progress that we have made in the Philippines is the substitution of guerrilla for regular warfare. Of course, our forces have opened up the railway and obtained possession of some cities where municipal governments with native officials have been set up. These officials are not loyal to us. Their existence is a continuous panorama of deceit.

TRUSTS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Surveying the wide area of British industry in general, it cannot be said that we suffer in any appreciable degree from combinations of producers to keep up prices. That "trusts" exist in free trade countries as well as in protectionist countries is undeniable; but while in the former, the economy in production which results from their promotion goes to benefit the consumer in the shape of reduced prices, in the latter they are identified with high prices to the consumers and large profits to the producers. Our American friends are just now receiving a short lesson in the principles of free trade. They have built up high tariff walls in the interests of high prices. If the American workingmen want high prices, by all means let them have them, but surely it is a little illogical for them to complain when the "trusts" and combines have raised the prices to the limit allowed by the tariff. The "trust" in itself is a harmless institution; it is the tariff—the element of monopoly—that makes it harmful. If they want to cripple the power of the trusts they must attack them through the tariffs.

We Britishers believe in cheapness. If we could get goods for nothing we would not be ashamed to take them. We are not ashamed to swallow the