

"Old Glory," knowing that it is the symbol of liberty—liberty, not only to this people, but to all mankind.

**COCK ROBIN'S SLAYER.**

For The Public.

"Who killed Cock Robin?  
'I,' said the sparrow,  
'With my bow and arrow,—  
I killed cock robin.'"

So sang Mother Goose,  
With her tongue running loose,  
But she either was blind as a bat,  
Or she'll need your last prayer,  
For cock robin's slayer  
Was the girl with the bird in her hat.

And never forget,  
She is wearing it yet!  
Some butcher may write her a sonnet;  
But a poet would urge,  
First, a funeral dirge,  
Apropos of the corpse on her bonnet.

From meadow and grove,  
O, merciful Jove!  
To a civilized planet afar,  
Take thy sweet birds unslain,  
Let the slaughtered remain  
To remind us how barb'rous we are.

ROBERT CUMMING.

There is a part of London known as the Inner Belt. It lies outside the limits of the city, and within the suburbs. This is the part, in East London especially, but also in other parts, which suffers most from overcrowding. The working class must be within easy reach of their work. Nearly all the industries, factories and works are situated in East London and in South London, so that in the former the Inner Belt extends as far as the river Lea. The overcrowding in some parts, in Spitalfields for instance, is so terrible that beds, not rooms, are rented; that children have to sleep under the beds; that a person who is on night duty will rent a bed by the day, while another sleeps in it at night; that the day is even divided into three watches of eight hours each, the bed being rented by three persons who occupy it each for eight hours.—Sir Walter Besant, in *January Century*.

**FREE TRADE POINTS.**

For The Public.

In his "Critical Period of American History" (Chap. IV., p. 134), John Fiske says:

The simple principle that when two parties trade both must be gainers, or one would soon stop trading, was generally lost sight of; and most commercial legislation proceeded upon the theory that in trade, as in gambling or betting, what the one party gains the other must lose.

On the following page Mr. Fiske remarks with one of his characteristic parentheses:

The sturdy race of smugglers—those despised pioneers of a higher civilization—thrived in defiance of kings and parliaments.

Many exchanges have printed a paragraph announcing that the daily population of the Equitable building in New York is 3,100, and that the mail averages about 18,000 pieces a day. This record is outstripped by several buildings in this city, notably the Monadnock block, which at present has a daily population of close to if not quite 5,000. So vast is the postal business of this human hive that it was found necessary to establish on the main floor a branch post office with four mail carriers. The Monadnock block is 400 feet long, 70 feet wide, 16 stories high at one end and 17 at the other, and has in all 1,200 offices. In one day over 20,000 persons passed through the Jackson boulevard entrance alone.—Chicago Chronicle.

Miss Sensitive—"Oh, why doesn't the president do something to relieve the unhappy conditions in the Philippines? Our poor soldiers are dying or becoming insane; and the unfortunate Filipinos are being imprisoned or torn away from their families, and sent to desert islands. The—

Miss Factly—Oh, you are too unreasonable for anything! What can good Mr. McKinley do? You talk as if he had as much power as Mr. Morgan!

G. T. E.

Kind Old Lady—Why, my child, you must be nearly frozen.

Little Shivering Oliver—Yes'm. I had a soft job down ter de thee-ayter, but de S'ciety Pervenshin Cruelty ter Kids got me fired.

McHanna—Yes, we certainly should be pardoned for feeling somewhat elated over our success in the Philippines.

Hannamack—Especially when it is remembered that while the Spaniards in two hundred years of warfare, were unable to overcome the natives, we, in no more than one-hundredth of that time, have overcome them and ended their insurrection time and again.

G. T. E.

Beetz—I saw Mr. Carnegie, but he refused to assist me.

Optimitz—You should feel gratified, man! He probably thought you were too intelligent to need a library.

G. T. E.

**BOOK NOTICES.**

The Philippine Information society, which aims to place "within the reach of the American people the most reliable and authoritative evidence attainable in regard to the people of the Philippine islands and our relations to them," has issued the sixth number of its first series of publications. "Iloilo, an Episode of January, 1899,

and Strained Relations in Manila" (Boston: L. K. Fuller, secretary, 12 Otis Place. Price, 10 cents), containing the documentary history of the circumstances under which President McKinley declared war against the Filipino republic six weeks before the outbreak of hostilities. The documents consist chiefly of the president's war proclamation of December 21, 1898, and correspondence between Gens. Otis and Miller, showing the impatience of the latter to open fire and the anxiety of the former to wait until the time was ripe. This number of the Information society's publications, like all that have preceded, is entirely non-partisan. It consists of nothing but official documents, connected with colorless explanations, and it comprises all the documents that are available. It is an invaluable contribution to the ready reference literature of the Philippine question. The seventh number of the same series also is out. It deals with the efforts of the Filipinos to make peace.

From Slavery to Freedom (Aurora, Ill.: Charles H. Davies, Price, \$2.00), by Charles H. Davies, is a sociological treatise. For a book in which so many good things are so well said, its imperfect arrangement and its lack of unity are disturbing. These defects in construction, however, correspond with what we should regard as defects in the author's philosophy. Taken point by point, very much of the philosophy is sound and clear, and sustained by strong and pointed arguments. But there is such a lack of correlation that the treatise becomes little more, in our judgment, than a disordered collection of thoughts of varying value. Mr. Davies makes at one point an excellent refutation of the atheistic theory that human progress is the resultant of a fierce struggle for existence. But, calling that struggle "competition," he is misled, by the ambiguity of his term, into supposing that his preceding arguments are applicable to industrial competition. The truth is, as he himself, with his evident faculty for logical demonstration, would doubtless have concluded but for his slip in confusing terms, that the industrial concept to which the term "competition" is applied—that competition which is really "the life of trade"—is in no sense akin to the concept of a fierce struggle for existence. The industrial correspondent of the latter concept is rivalry between conflicting monopolies, not competition among equal traders. Industrial competition is best defined as "free bargaining among free men." When so understood, the theory that it involves a fierce struggle for existence loses all plausibility. So far from resulting in the survival of the strongest, it results in the leadership of the most useful. They set the pace. To assume that the leadership of the most useful can possibly injure anybody is to get close to the verge of the absurd. There is in Mr. Davies's book, however, a refreshing loyalty to the doc-

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trine that private property is a right resting upon production, and that social questions involve something more precise than loose ended sentimentality. Those qualities of the book command respect for all he says. Its rugged spirit is expressed in this quotation from it: "The irrepressible conflict must always be between right and wrong."

#### FEBRUARY MAGAZINES.

—Love's Medical Mirror, for February, J. N. Love, M. D., editor and owner, 49 W. 44th st., New York. Ten cents a copy; \$1 a year.

—Bellamy Review, for February, published by the Socialist Publishing Co., 23 East 23d st., Kearney, Neb. Five cents a copy; 50 cents a year.

#### MARCH MAGAZINES.

—Public Libraries, published by the Library Bureau, 215 Madison st., Chicago. No price mentioned.

—The Peacemaker, published by the Universal Peace Union, 1306 Arch st., Philadelphia. Five cents a copy; \$1 a year.

—The Social Gospel, edited by Ralph Albertson and James P. Kelley and published by the Social Gospel Co., South Jamesport, N. Y. Ten cents a copy; \$1 a year.

—The Criterion (New York: The Criterion Publication Co. Ten cents a copy; \$1 a year) begins a series of papers on "One Century of the Drama," by Charles Henry Meltzer.

—Southern Farm Magazine for March (Baltimore: Manufacturers' Record Publishing Co. Yearly, \$1; per copy, 10 cents), begins its ninth year with a prize article by Samuel Rau, on the relation of southern manufactures to farming.

—Scribner's Magazine (New York: Charles Scribner & Sons. Price, 25 cents; \$3 a year), has an interesting article by Brander Matthews on the English language in America, and an enlightening one by Thomas F. Millard on the Chinese settlement.

—The Social Crusader (Chicago: The Social Crusade, Ashland block. Five cents a copy; 50 cents a year) continues the excellent condensation by Marion Craig Wentworth of Herron's lectures. In quoting from Henry George it misplaces him in economic classification.

—The American Monthly Review of Reviews (New York: Review of Reviews Co. Yearly, \$2.50; per copy, 25 cents), in its March number, offers a character sketch of Edward VII., by W. T. Stead, and a paper by John R. Commons, proposing a new way of settling labor disputes.

—The Iron Molders' Journal (Cincinnati: Iron Molders Union of North America. Five cents a copy; 50 cents a year) gives detailed report of Cleveland conference between the National Founders' association and the Iron Molders' union. The technical article is on a patent skimgate.

—Locomotive Fireman's Magazine (no visible imprint), leads with an illustrated study of New York tenement house life, by Henry White, the general secretary of the garment workers' organization, and is replete with interesting economic, technical, educational and literary matter.

—The Cosmopolitan (New York: John Brisben Walker. Price, yearly, \$1; per number, ten cents) emphasizes an article by Sir Robert Hart in explanation of the Boxer movement in China, and contains also an article on the Philippine question by George Frederick Seward, and one on public ownership by Prof. Ely.

—The International Socialist Review (Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Co., 56 Fifth ave.), besides department contribution by Prof. Herron on socialism and religion, and Max S. Hayes on the world of labor, begins the story of "The Charity Girl," by Caroline H. Pemberton, author of Stephen the Black, and prints a poem on the "Joy of Work" by Ernest H. Crosby.

—The Open Court for March (Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Co., London; Kegan Paul, French, Trubner & Co., Ltd. Yearly, \$1; per copy, 10 cents), begins with a brief but comprehensive essay by C. C. Bonney, on the province of government, in which Mr. Bonney takes a stand for the doctrine that right and wrong in the social

world are not dependent, as certain modern sociological philosophers contend, upon time, place and circumstances. The editor, Dr. Paul Carus, writes on our relations to Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines, and also on the Old Testament in the light of science.

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