

Professor Triggs Again in Striplin.  
Professor Triggs has broken out again. This distinguished personage, it will be remembered, is the professor of literature in the University of Chicago who a few months ago declared that Mr. Rockefeller was a bigger man than old Shakespeare or words to that effect. This, however, was not regarded as a particularly serious break, as the professor was probably a candidate for a higher salary in the excellent institution of which Mr. Rockefeller is the chief benefactor.

But in his recent outgiving, in which he declared before a class of summer school students that the poetry of Longfellow and Holmes is trivial and unworthy of consideration, he has not the excuse of self interest. How can he hope to gain anything by robbing these dead and gone poets of the laurels which have been bestowed upon them by the world?

It is rather strange that it should have taken so many years to discover that neither Longfellow nor Holmes was worthy the name of poet and that only this Chicago professor should have made this discovery. According to this distinguished literary critic, "The Psalm of Life" and "Excelsior" are "stuffed" and "drilled," and all that Longfellow wrote was "the outgrowth of the old New England Primer and the Bay State Song Book, which latter is mere doggerel. From a further analysis we are informed that Longfellow could not be a great poet because of this environment of Puritanism. "Puritanism is inimical to art." But we are also informed that Longfellow "was too cultured and refined to be truly American." It was certainly a stroke of genius to bring culture and refinement and Puritan doggerel into such close conjunction.

Great is Professor Triggs as a literary authority! Let us hope that he may continue steadfast in the work of enlightenment to the end that the public understanding on these matters may become clear and sound.

#### China Affair Still Unsettled.

Dispatches from European capitals and from Peking make it evident that the powers are still a good way off from a thorough settlement in China.

Great Britain withholds her signature to the agreement ostensibly because the international commission for revising the Chinese tariff is unsatisfactory to her, and at the same time she is moving for an opening up of some of the subjects which the powers had previously agreed to let alone for the very reason that no agreement was possible. It is quite evident that our government and Great Britain have no understanding with regard to this matter, as other powers have assumed, since Mr. Rockhill is ignorant of the nature of the British objections to the tariff commission.

It is a year since Peking was relieved. The powers find that it was easier to relieve the embassies than it has been to agree as to what should be done with the country. If difficulties are to be made now, however, it is not at all strange to see them emanating from Great Britain. Her position with regard to territorial prospects is bad, whereas that of Russia is decidedly good. As the United States government has no territorial aspirations it is in a position to take the lead in getting out of China.

France, which seems to be getting excited over the prolonged delay of Turkey in settling certain indemnity claims, has given Abdul Hamid a good sharp nudge. It is declared that M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, has given formal notice to the Turkish ambassador at Paris that the sublime Porte must make immediate and satisfactory reply to the French demand. Doubtless the authorities of the republic of France have noted the recent compliance with American demands for indemnity for damages inflicted upon the interests of certain of our citizens in the Karpuz riots and therefore have decided to follow Uncle Sam's lead in the business of "collecting little bills."

Prince Henry of Orleans, who died the other day in French Cochinchina, was something more than an ordinary "pretender." He had shown himself a daring and successful explorer both in Asia and in Africa, although, like most Gaelic aspirants after the vanishing vision of royalty, he had his days of wildness and extravagance—a good many of them, taken altogether.

There are indications that the people of Alabama are breaking away from the old time prejudices against negroes. Blacks and whites joined heartily hand in hand at a recent lynching entertainment. Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren, even of different races and color, to work together in unity!

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough have been entertaining 7,000 guests at Blenheim castle. This rather shows into the shade anything Count and Countess Castelford ever attempt.

A society has been formed in Virginia to see that no one is called colonel who is not entitled to the title. We had supposed that every adult male Virginian was named by sign of birth.

#### Canada's Labor Department.

Perhaps some timely suggestions may be culled from the first annual report of the Canadian department of labor. At least there is some timely interest in it in view of prevailing labor troubles in this country.

The department has been in operation now only little more than a year, its work being chiefly of three sorts—namely, (1) promoting conciliation in labor disputes, (2) enforcing the requirement for fair wages in all work of the general government done by contract and (3) publishing a monthly gazette. Under the conciliation act, practically a copy of the English act, which became a law in July, 1900, the department has authority to intervene on the application of either employer or employee for the purpose of settling or preventing by conciliatory methods any labor dispute.

During the last year it has been requested to intervene in six cases, and four of these were settled. The other two, being of recent origin, are still pending. The four cases settled involved about 2,000 strikers and included perhaps the most significant disputes which have occurred since the department was organized. It is also claimed that the direct and indirect influence of the department in preventing threatened strikes or hastening mutual agreement between the parties has been important.

Its action in enforcing fair wages in public contracts is likewise of moment. Following a disclosure of the fact about two years ago that most of the clothing for the Dominion police and the postmen was made in sweatshops, parliament directed that all contracts for work for the general government should provide against subletting and for the payment of fair wages according to the standard of the locality where the work was to be executed.

The success of the department in promoting conciliation has perhaps been its principal achievement and, considering its brief existence, is regarded as distinctly promising.

#### The School Savings Banks.

According to lately published statistics, there are now 3,588 school savings banks in the United States, which have 63,567 depositors. The amount deposited in these schools since the work was established is placed at \$576,000, and the amount remaining on deposit at the close of the last school year was \$335,000. It is doubtful, however, if these figures are complete. In Montgomery county, Pa., where the work seems to have advanced further than in any other section of the country, the scholars have deposited in about ten years no less than \$175,300, and at the close of the year 4,000 depositors still had in bank \$40,618. In Atlantic City the deposits amounted to \$6,376 during the last school year.

The school savings bank has gradually come to occupy an important place in the country's public school system. While it is nowhere obligatory that teachers or school officers shall assume these new responsibilities they in many cases have volunteered to adopt the plan when its benefits have come to be understood. In many parts of the United States, and especially in the west, the recent development of the school banks has been rapid. There are gratifying indications that practical teaching of lessons in thrift in the public schools may soon become general, and as the time approaches for another school year to begin the savings banks may be warmly commended to those who are charged with the work of educating the young people of the land.

There was none of "the law's delay" in the case of two highwaymen who robbed a man in Lacrosse, Wis. The robbery occurred at 7 p. m., and at 7:30 the same evening the robbers were captured and placed in jail. At 8 a. m. the next day they were bound over to the circuit court under \$1,000 bail. At 9 o'clock they were tried. At 10 o'clock the two men were on their way to spend three years in the penitentiary at hard labor. If murder cases could be as promptly disposed of there would be less inclination to call on Judge Lynch to satisfy outraged public sentiment.

Evidently General Palma does not think that the pathway of Cuba's first chief executive will be altogether strewn with roses. He says: "The president will have to plan the government and will need the support of both houses of the legislature, but they are likely to be even more divided than the political parties. If the president cannot count upon a majority of both houses, it is not likely that any honest patriot will care to take the office." It is intimated, however, that General Palma is not at all averse to undertaking this difficult task.

A dispatch from Simla announces that "200 Mahauds have attacked a military post at Kashmirker." It is barely possible that the average reader knows where Kashmirker is located and who are Mahauds.

New Yorkers have been made sick by looping the loop and slipping the loop at Coney Island. The most expensive sport there, however, is simulating the sun.

#### Lord Kitchener's Proclamation.

Lord Kitchener, the British commander in chief in South Africa, has issued a high sounding proclamation threatening with perpetual banishment the Boers who do not surrender before Sept. 15, together with a fine upon any property belonging to them in the colonies to cover the cost of maintenance for their families who may be under British authority. The reasons for the proclamation are set forth in eight "whence" clauses. Briefly they are that the burghers in arms are few in numbers, not well equipped, devoid of regular military organization and cannot carry on organized resistance, but can only make isolated attacks on small posts and detachments. The order is, according to Lord Kitchener, to put an end to "a state of things which is aimlessly prolonging bloodshed and destruction and inflicting ruin upon a great majority of the inhabitants, who are anxious to live in peace and earn a livelihood for themselves and families."

Lord Kitchener's proclamation in some respects reminds one of the verbal though not less pompous manifesto of a certain Major Pitcairn, who, speaking in the name of George III, thus addressed the embattled farmers at Lexington in 1776: "Disperse, you rebels. Lay down your arms and disperse." But they didn't disperse. And it remains to be seen whether stubborn Dutch farmers give much more heed to Kitchener's formal pronouncement.

To a people fighting in the last ditch for the preservation of their liberties and fully realizing that they have nothing politically to hope for at the end of the struggle the threat of banishment is not likely to have a pacifying effect. Living in exile would be about as satisfactory to them as living under the dominion of the government which took from them their liberties. The proclamation is therefore practically insignificant so far as any effect it may have in ending hostilities. It is, as the London Daily Mail says, "an empty thunderbolt." It is significant only as a tacit confession of the British government that it cannot conquer the Boers so long as any of them remain in South Africa.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has been making a tour of the tobacco region of the Connecticut valley and is impressed with the remarkable success attending the novel methods there employed in raising the Sumatra leaf. For years it was thought that this variety of tobacco could not be grown in the United States, but Yankee ingenuity has solved the problem, and the Connecticut farmers are producing as fine a quality of Sumatra tobacco as grows anywhere. It is done by stretching a cover of cheesecloth over the fields in which the plants grow. The object is to conserve both the heat and the moisture. The shield of canvas, stretched a foot or two above the plants, raises the temperature fully ten degrees higher than it is on the outside, while at the same time it keeps the moisture from evaporating and produces a humid hothouse atmosphere in which vegetation flourishes. Secretary Wilson says he heard the owner of seven acres of tobacco refuse an offer of \$7,500 cash for his crop. Evidently there is a good profit in the business despite the extra expense. The success of the Connecticut tobacco growers suggests that the cheesecloth covering might be used profitably on some other crops and in other localities, particularly in the growing of vegetables and garden truck. It would seem to be worth trying.

M. Jules Cambon, the French ambassador to the United States, who is now visiting Paris, has submitted to a newspaper interview, in the course of which he says some very pleasant things about this country and its people. He says among other things: "When one returns to Europe after living with the Americans, everything here looks small. America is so colossal and so young that she has many other surprises in store for Europe." For a Frenchman, whose whole country is only a little larger than our single state of California, to travel on swift trains for days and nights north, south, east and west without crossing a national boundary suggests a great empire.

From Paris comes the report that M. Baudin, minister of public works, who is giving much consideration to comfort in railway traveling, is about to rigorously enforce regulations against smoking. And it was only a few months ago that Paris had a big time unveiling a statue of Nicot for the great work he did in propagating tobacco in France.

Corn King Phillips says: "I'll never have anything to do with another pool. It was only by the merest chance I escaped annihilation. They're too risky and not at all to my liking." It is frequently the case that when men get into pools they are unable to keep their heads above water.

Mrs. Carrie Nation, having been released from jail, has gone to Atlantic City. As a seaside attraction Mrs. Nation will doubtless put the sea serpent entirely in the shade.

It would appear that Mr. Moss, who has been stirring up the New York police authorities, is no mousback.

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M. Z. SIMS, Aurora, Ill.

#### CHANCERY NOTICE.

State of Illinois: ss. County of DuPage: ss. In the circuit court of DuPage county, Illinois, October term, A. D. 1901. Emma Butler, vs. Charlie Butler, in Chancery. Affidavit of the non-residence of Charlie Butler defendant above named, having been filed in the Office of the Clerk of said Circuit Court, of DuPage County.

Notice is hereby given to the said Charlie Butler defendant that the above named Complainant has heretofore filed her bill of complaint against the said Defendant in said Court on the Chancery side thereof, and that a Summons thereupon issued out of said Court against the above named Defendant returnable on the First day of the Term of the Circuit Court of said DuPage County, to be held at the Court House in the City of Wheaton, in said DuPage County, on the First Monday of Oct. A. D. 1901, as is by law required, and which said bill is still pending.

Dated at Wheaton this 20th day of August, A. D. 1901. T. M. HULL, Clerk. GRAY & BUNGE, Complainant's Solicitors.

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