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Origin of Some Popular Words and Phrases.

"Crank" first gained universal vogue in connection with Gaiter's assassination of President Garfield. The word, as we now come to apply it, implies a condition of mind verging upon insanity, and this has given rise to the erroneous notion that it has its origin in the German word "krank."

The word "Dago," now commonly applied to Italians all over the country, came originally from Louisiana, where it at first referred only to people of Spanish origin, but later applied to Italians and Portuguese as well. The word is a corruption of "Diego" (James), a common Spanish name "Dude," with its feminine "dudine," may have come to us from the old English word for clothes—"duds," in earlier times spelled "dudes." Thackeray writes of one of his characters: Her dresses were wonderful, her bonnets marvelous. Few women could boast such duds." Shakespeare in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," writes of a "bucke of duds"—meaning a basketful of clothes ready for washing. Its present currency dates from February, 1876, when the word appeared in Putnam's Magazine.

"Jingo" and "Jingoism" are of dispute derivation. In the Basque language the word Jingo means God, and it is widely believed that "By Jingo!" was a form of oath with which the Basque sailors familiarized the English sailors, and, through them, all English-speaking people. But others think the word is a corruption of St. Ginguolph. A Jingo, either in England or America, is now set down as a man spoiling for a fight, eager for war at any cost. But the original song expressed exactly the opposite sentiment—a desire for peace. It began with "We don't want to fight," but if they had plenty of men, ships, and money, "by jingo."

"John Bull," was the invention of Dr. Arbuthnot, in one of his satirical sketches ridiculing the great Duke of Marlborough. He drew John Bull as the typical Englishman—a stout, red-faced old farmer, far too corpulent for comfort, choleric, with all an honest and well-meaning fellow. He clothed him in leather breeches and top boots, put a stout oaken cudgel in his hand and a bulldog at his heels, and so set him up for all time to serve as the representative Englishman. He may have been not so bad a caricature in the days of Queen Anne, but the average Englishman of 1896 is physically no stouter than, probably not so stout as the average American.

"Uncle Sam" and "Brother Jonathan" arose in this way: When Gen. Washington went into Massachusetts to take command of the Revolutionary army, he found a great lack of ammunition and other supplies. He turned for aid to Gov. Jonathan Trumbull, of Connecticut. In many emergency of that period he used the phrase, "We must consult Brother Jonathan on the subject." The expression came nationally current and it stands as the American parallel to "John Bull."

Uncle Sam was invented in the war of 1812. An inspector of war supplies was named Samuel Wilson. A workman who was marking a lot of casks received from Elbert Anderson, a contractor and which were stamped: "E. A. U. S." was asked what these marks meant, and he replied that they meant "Elbert Anderson and Uncle Sam" (alluding to Inspector Samuel Wilson, who was locally called Uncle Sam). The initials of the United States were transformed by a local joke into a national sobriquet.—N. Y. School Journal.

Rutherfordton is to have a new cotton mill, costing \$100,000.

About the Sultan.

The present sultan of Turkey is Abdul Hamid II.; he is an interesting figure among the rulers of the south because he has really defied England, Russia, France, and Germany, slaughtering a vast number of his Armenian subjects for no other reason than that they were Christians. All of these would be glad to kick Turkey out of Europe, but no one dares to move first. For the question would be, Who shall have Constantinople? Each wants it and a war would begin as soon as the sultan was got rid of, so they have to let him stay.

Abdul is short, bent in the back languid in movement, with large ears, nose, lips, hands, and feet; his hair is thin and dark; his teeth long and yellow; his complexion like parchment. He is fifty-three years of age; he succeeded his brother in 1876.

There is a palace on the Bosphorus a few miles above Constantinople; this palace is a wonder of art; it is made of white marble, and all that skill in carving and all that beauty in furnishing can do has been lavished here—but the sultan does not live in it. He is in a plain white marble building at Yildig, the highest point in the city. This building is surrounded with soldiers; let anyone attempt to go up the hill and he will hear the cry, "Yasak," which means "It is forbidden." If no attention is paid to this the soldier does not hesitate to thrust his bayonet into the intruder. They set small value on human life in Turkey.

Uppermost in the mind of the sultan day and night is the dread of assassination. The water and the food he drinks is tasted by several in his presence before he touches it. He sleeps alone in a bedroom to which he ascends by a ladder he pulls up after him. On the ground floor at Yildig are his secretaries; on the next is Osman Pasha, his great general, the head of secret police; on the next is the sultan and the favorite ladies of his harem. When an ambassador calls on him (having previously got permission, of course) he makes his speech to the interpreter, this man speaks it in Turkish to the great chamberlain or secretary, and he speaks it to the sultan. The reply is made to the chamberlain, he speaks to the interpreter, he to the ambassador. Private visitors if they are known to be friendly to Turkey can get fine presents.

The sultan is a hard worker; he does everything himself; he has ministers, of course, but they are mere clerks. There are four men he relies on—Osman Pasha, who sits in the same carriage with him when he goes each Friday to prayer; Hassan Pasha, minister of marine; his own body servant; and his private priest. These latter two, ignorant and fanatical, are more influential than the other two. The chief eunuch, Yefar Agbar, is next in influence; he is described as a most repulsive looking man.

The "mute eunuchs" of which one bears in Constantinople are men who have been made speechless in childhood purposely to serve the sultan. These are his executioners; they are skilful in the use of the bowstring, and Turks who feel certain their names will not be given could give the names of men they have known who have been summoned to Yildig by soldiers and never heard of again. The secrets of this home of the sultan will never be told. The order of the sultan is enough; the bowstring is thrown around the neck of the victim, weights tied to his body, and then a splash in the Bosphorus and all is over; the executioner does not know the name of the victim nor what he is charged with; nor could he speak them if he did.—New York School Journal.

Butler's and Clark's Inconsistency.

A far speaking of the time honored issues on which Democracy has been done. The public is getting restive and expressions of this discontent find their way into the newspapers. The country gets along well enough without Congress but when Congress is in session, something is expected of it. If it does nothing good there is always disappointment, and coupled with this a fear that it is going to do something bad. It is recalled how business was stagnated and every interest suffered through the eternal gabble and inaction of the Senate in 1892. Now comes along a Congress having a large Republican majority, the result principally of the dissatisfaction with its predecessor, and yet promising to follow in its footsteps. This body needs, for the good of the country, to legislate or go home. It will do neither. That conservative independent paper, the Washington Post, rehearsing the needs of the country, goes on to say:

Meanwhile, if the Senators, who know all this as well as we do, can find material for self-respect and self approbation in the reflection that they have at least prevented a prize fight in New Mexico or Arizona, we envy them the buoyancy of their infatuation. It is true that they are only so many ostriches hiding their heads in sand. Everybody else knows that the financial conditions are no more favorable today than they were a year ago, and everybody knows that for this unhappy situation the Senate is responsible.

And the New York Dry Goods Record, concluding a well-considered editorial on Congress, says: The time is at hand when the forty-five States now represented in that body should rise en masse and demand of their servants a fulfillment of their pre-election pledges, and failure in that duty should be followed by requests for their immediate resignations. Too much politics and too little or no business experience to guide them are drafts upon the country's resources, that are growing steadily weaker, and every delay is succeeded by a greater one. The voice of the Senate since it convened has been one of vacillation and jingoism. The hour is at hand when some thing must be done to advance the business interests of the country. Will the Senate rise to the occasion?

This is but the beginning. These are merely the mutterings which precede the storm. Vociferous orators denied on the stump in 1894 the right of Cleveland to issue bonds under the old legal tender act, and were elected to Congress on the strength of their denunciation of him. He is issuing bonds again, right under their noses, and they neither stop him, provide a more regular way for him to do so, nor enact legislation to obviate the necessity for bonds. Meantime the country is anxious and expectant and rapidly getting ready to vote at Congress a nuisance.—Charlotte Observer, 1st.

Fusion Harmony.
Senator Butler says that the Populists must vote for no man for a presidential elector who does not openly on the stump declare himself a "free and unlimited" Senator Pritchard and Chairman Holton say that the Republicans cannot stultify themselves by voting for free silver men. By way of throwing a little oil on the waters the Caucasian says that both of the old parties, Democrats and Republicans alike, are "scoundrels and liars."—Wilmington Review.

[And all this is the result, perhaps, of some of those "ideas" Senator Butler says his crowd stand for. Great, isn't it?—Ed.]

And now it turns out that the Caucasian, which claimed to have 20,000 circulation, has only 8,000! The Progressive Farmer has 8,000! A Populist paper which can not get up "the wind" is a rare bird!

A Trifling Congress—Public Impatience.

Congress has been in session upwards of two months and nothing has been done. The public is getting restive and expressions of this discontent find their way into the newspapers. The country gets along well enough without Congress but when Congress is in session, something is expected of it. If it does nothing good there is always disappointment, and coupled with this a fear that it is going to do something bad. It is recalled how business was stagnated and every interest suffered through the eternal gabble and inaction of the Senate in 1892. Now comes along a Congress having a large Republican majority, the result principally of the dissatisfaction with its predecessor, and yet promising to follow in its footsteps. This body needs, for the good of the country, to legislate or go home. It will do neither. That conservative independent paper, the Washington Post, rehearsing the needs of the country, goes on to say:

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Two Views of the Bond Sale.

Len's Review says: "The wonderful success of the popular loan alters the face of events. January operations become ancient history, as the nation mounts above all doubts and fears to a solid certainty that the people can and will uphold their government with \$368,000,000 bid by 4,600 banks or persons. The tremendous strength of the national credit is demonstrated as it has not been before for many years. The influence of this event upon all manufacturing and all trade cannot be lightly estimated; it strips the silver agitation of all its power to hurt; it puts the Treasury upon a safe basis for a time, whether Congress does anything or not; it notifies foreign nations that the United States have power as well as purpose; it unlocks millions of gold which have been gathered in preparation, brings directly several millions of gold from Europe and stimulates the anxiety of foreign investors to obtain American securities."

Writing on the same topic the New York Sun points out that, as the first payment on the bonds is 20 per cent in gold for which the subscriber gets exactly one-fifth of the bonds bid for, "if," says the Sun, "the bidder finds that it would be unprofitable to take any more bonds at the price, he cannot be compelled to take them." Moreover: "Any speculator with two hundred odd thousand dollars could bid 112, for instance, for \$1,000,000 of the loan, receive his \$200,000 in bonds, sell them at the market price of say 116, and then draw the gold for his next installment from the Treasury, and continue the process so long as it might afford a profit, until his whole subscription of \$1,000,000 should be exhausted. The only protection that the loan enjoys against such predatory operations lies in the business honor and integrity of the subscribers, and in the stability of the market for the bonds."

The statement of the problems following the acceptance of the bids it will be seen, brings forward the very interesting question: How much of real patriotism will be shown by the bidders, all persons of means, and, presumably, of standing in their respective communities? How many of them will have "business honor and integrity" enough to withstand the temptation to trade on the circumstance the Sun points out, and take from the treasury the gold necessary to purchase the remaining 6 per cent of the bonds they have bid for?

It looks as though we should have a test of American character.—Asheville Citizen.

Internal Revenue and Pensions
North Carolina pays \$2,682,779 in internal taxes and gets back in pensions \$572,000—a yearly net loss of \$2,000,000.

The great State of Massachusetts pays, under this system of internal revenue, \$2,687,178.85 and gets back, under the system of pensions which now exists and will continue to exist of necessity, \$5,948,985.49.

The great State of Ohio pays \$12,477,148.00 of internal revenue, and she less back, in the form of pensions, \$14,787,191.54.

The great State of Pennsylvania pays \$10,991,086.12 internal revenue, and she gets back \$18,574,846.86.

The State of Iowa pays \$465,105.87 internal revenue, and gets back in pensions \$5,760,000.

Kansas pays \$277,888.81 internal revenue and gets back \$5,084,592.16 in pensions, and so on.

Dr. J. J. Mott says he is for silver regardless of party.
Hon. Wm. H. English of Indiana, who was the Democratic candidate for the vice-presidency in 1880, is dead. He was worth \$5,000,000.

District School Quarrels.

It will appear by a perusal of the proceedings of the county commissioners each month that there is a very meeting a great deal of frivolous stuff to be settled from some of the various school districts. Not only is this true, but we are reliably informed that the same is on the increase. Some of it comes from the white districts and a great deal from the colored. They are mostly little jealous and factional quarrels, worth not a cent either way, yet they are pulled up before the commissioners, and the only end they serve is to break up the school in that particular district or squander the money in a useless way. If the people who do this would stop long enough to think what harm they do, there might be a slight cessation of it. We have hopes that the white people will see this and, where it has been the custom to have quarrels to injure the efficiency of the school they will stop it. In regard to the negroes it is useless to express any such hope. They will for a long time continue, under the present law, to squander the money which the white people furnish, in a way which is of little benefit to the race.

At this meeting of the board of commissioners there was a case in which a buck negro had been teaching school with no scholars. He was getting a salary of \$25 and averaged about one scholar a day.

There was another case where a negro committee hired a teacher, and then becoming dissatisfied with his work, they turned him off. He refused to be treated so, and a great furor arose. In a few nights the school house was burned.

These are examples of what progress the colored brother is making with the money he sets for educational purposes. Of course there are exceptions, where there is good attendance.—Monroe Journal.

A Declaration of Independence

A good deal has been said and written about the speech delivered in the House of Representatives on the 4th inst., by Representative Pearson, of the ninth district of North Carolina. We find it in the Congressional Record of the 5th, and it is of interest. Thus:

There has been two deliverances recently upon the subject of what is called the new silver party. One in that paper [the Observer from which he had just had a quotation read] addressed to the voters of my State [his reference is to the report circular of Senator Pritchard and Chairman Butler]; and it is an invitation to all of us Republicans and Democrats to break up the old party lines and go into the silver party. I am glad to recognize that a distinguished representative of that party, and the only one named as such in the Congressional Directory [Mr. Newlands], sits before me. With great respect to him and to the purpose that he has in view, I say now that I take the earliest opportunity to decline the invitation which the leader of the Populist party has framed in the letter which has been read. I decline it not only in my own name, but in the name of 125,000 true Republicans in the State of North Carolina to-day. We are not going to break the ranks; and we are not going into a new party which has one single idea, and which will not receive 50 electoral votes in the next presidential contest, as we know and as they know. [Applause]

This may be called a new declaration of independence. As was said of recent language of Senator Pritchard, of the same substance, these be brave words. Of Mr. Pearson, it may be said, as of Senator Pritchard: We shall see if he lives up to them.—Charlotte Observer.

Harry Skinner made a speech on free silver in the House Monday.