

# THE WASHINGTON HATCHET.

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## NOT YET A CONVINCING ANSWER.

The outlook for this week is that warmer conditions will prevail both as to the temperature and the situation in China. Where are the foreign Ministers? Are they dead or alive? That's the momentous question which, in our opinion, will never be ascertained until Peking has been reached. Then, and not till then, will the actual truth be known. Mystery! would to God we could believe it to be a mystery. "Only immediate relief can prevent a general massacre." This cry for help from Minister Conger has thus far met with no response. That wily old fox, Li Hung Chang, declares that the Ministers are safe, and that some of them are even now on their way to Tien Tsin. These and other Chinese assurances we believe to be absolutely false. There is not one single incident or circumstance to justify such a belief in the mind of any intelligent human being. On to Peking! Lift the veil and the whole horrible truth will be manifest to the world. This country is stirred from centre to circumference. Righteous indignation is written on all faces. A call to arms would meet with an overwhelming response. Mediation, indeed, for what? To shield the Imperial government of China from the consequences of its own mad acts, its murderous fanaticism, its horrible atrocities! Mediation! Yes, when the blood of our murdered dead has been avenged; when the horde of yellow heathens and their rulers shall have been taught a never-to-be-forgotten lesson; when their great walls shall have been pulled down, and a strong government established guaranteeing absolute protection to all classes and conditions of men of whatever creed or nationality. When this condition of things shall have been established, then you may talk about mediation, not before.

Emperor William, in an address to his troops starting for China, told them if they closed with the enemy, to spare nobody and take no prisoners. This is just as it should be, and the whole world will agree with him. The murder of Baron Von Ketteler by the dowager Empress was one of the most heinous crimes of the century, and quarter should not be given to the yellow fiends. The report that the bloodthirsty Tuan is killed is not believed. That he is being sheltered by the Empress is without question, he has been her tool to do her dirty work, and when captured should meet the same fate as shown his victims, burned at the stake over a slow fire.

The acting viceroy at Canton was requested to send a despatch to the Italian Minister, Marquis Salvazi Razzi, and to obtain a reply from him concerning a matter known to him and the consul only. The acting viceroy replied that it was impossible, that messages were received from Peking through Governor Shan Tung secretly and he was compelled to refuse. The war may be waged by Germany and Russia with Japan following, while England and the United States are looking on for the opportunity to partake of the loaves and fishes. The United States, after backing and filling, now on paper, seems to urge the advance on Peking, and Germany, without

circumlocution, proclaims herself to be in the front rank for justice, after which mercy will be thought of.

A force of ten thousand men could have reached Peking long ago, but as usual where many nations come together, some fall out and the others blunder, and all go to pieces. Thus it is that history repeats itself, for in the history of the world one nation against a bunch is much better and more likely to succeed.

The crying evil of stopping the street cars on the far side of the street crossings is met with daily, in the cars running into vehicles and smashing them up, and maiming the occupants. There should be some way of putting a stop to this outrage on the people, and the officials should be brought to punishment for the maiming of citizens and loss of life caused by the carelessness of the street railroads and their officials, and those permitting the evil brought to punishment. Firemen have been killed and the property of the city destroyed and members of the fire department maimed for life. The chief of the department has entered his protest, all of which has been without effect in stopping the tragedies to pedestrians and others of our people. This and other abominations will continue until the citizens of the District take the law into their own hands and end the outrages. Suffrage is the quickest way to free us from the many faults of the triumvirate government of the city of Washington.

The people of Porto Rico have spoken, and with no uncertain sound. Very few American flags were thrown to the breeze on the Fourth of July, and it is likely that it may be many fourths before it will be done. It is claimed, and justly so, that the people of Porto Rico have not been treated as they should have been by the United States. That the right of citizenship has been denied to them, and that under the Spanish Government they were in a much better condition than under Old Glory, every word of which is true, and the mistake made by the present Administration which is likely to return and sting them in the coming political campaign.

We have numerous complaints from residents at Chesapeake Beach, who complain of extortion by the railroad company on freight consigned to the Beach. We believe that the present management may blanket and cover up a good enterprise by the grasping cupidity being put forth by them for the almighty dollar, and squeeze the eagle until it sheds its feathers, and put an end to the enterprise.

The annual tournament and festival will be held at Carroll Chapel, Forest Glen, Md., on August 9 and 10. Prizes are offered in both professional and amateur classes. Riding will begin at 10 a. m. on Aug. 9, under the direction of Chief Marshal Pinkney Marlow. Mr. Charles Eccleston, of the District Bar will address the Knights. Hon. T. V. Powderly, Commissioner of Immigration, will deliver the coronation address. Flying horses, music and dancing, dinner and supper, ice cream, and all kinds of refreshments are provided for.

The British have at last corralled the Boers and entirely surrounded them, but magnanimously give them another chance, and leaves a small lane for them to creep through. It looks as if England was keeping other things open in South Africa, and is ready to close and depart to China at the opportune moment.

Japan may be only an infant as a world power, but so far she has been able and willing to knock the chip off all the other fellows' shoulders, and prove herself to be the spunkiest of them all, with a chance to grow and whip her biggest brother.

The Boers are waiting for the election of William Jennings Bryan to help them out of the mud. It is sad, but so, that the waiting for the gallant William will be long, and the Boers will be a memento of the past when William is a President.

## GHIPS.

A live man is like a good coin, he wears to last.

It is not possible to offer any excuse for ingratitude.

The man without friends or enemies is a monstrosity.

The man who has not been cheated has a lot to learn.

The wise man is one who knows he is learning something every day.

The best cure for laziness is to starve the laziness out of the lazy ones.

The fellow that abuses you can be easily settled with; just forgive and forget him.

Honesty draws large interest and yields the greatest returns for the amount invested.

If a man profits by the experience of others, he will also surely profit largely by his own.

When a woman starts down hill she never minds the road, but will go the whole way at one jump.

The man who marries a woman for her good looks, has no better title to her than the whole world.

You can find fellows standing on the street corners in Washington telling heaps of things they don't know.

The dead gets lots of praise. We do not envy them, and we are just as willing as any one can be to throw in our share of the article.

We know lots of people in this city who are always looking for work, and if they should find it it would shatter their nervous system.

Women, they say, do not like to be loved too much, but we have not that kind of women in Washington; the climate does not produce them.

The oily tongued individuals are safest when locked up in prison or a good watch placed upon them. We never knew one of them who was not dishonest.

About the greatest nuisance to come in contact with is a man who thinks he is well educated. A half-learned man can make a heap of trouble in the shortest space of time.

You often hear people say, "Well, he never injured or wronged anybody but himself; he was honest, poor fellow." That is all pure bosh; he wronged himself, that was dishonest, and he did the same thing to relatives near to him, and that was another act of dishonesty. We do not take any stock in the old tune, "he never wronged anybody but himself." He did, and was an all-around ass.

James J. Jeffries, champion heavy-weight pugilist, went to Asbury Park last Thursday to go into training for any fight in which he may become engaged between now and Sept. 1st, when prize-ring contests will become illegal in the State of New York.

## THE CRIMINAL CUCKOO.

He is the One Exception to the Kindly Nature of Birds.

Bad temper and cruelty are perhaps the most obvious signs of mental degeneration in the beasts. The larger monkeys, for instance, become as bad tempered as a violent man when they grow old, and many in their treatment of other animals are cruel as we use the word in regard to man. Among the carnivorous beasts the cat amuses itself by torturing a mouse, and the weasel tribe kill for sheer love of killing. No such cruelty is seen among eagles or falcons. Pierce as their tempers are, they do not torment other birds which they catch or kill for killing's sake. Good temper is general among birds.

Except the cuckoo, such a thing as an ill tempered wild bird is unknown. Nowhere in the race can a temper like that of the Tasmanian devil or the wild hunting dog or the Cape buffalo or the baboon be found. Even those which in spring are thieves and egg robbers are not mauvais couchours at other times. Good temper and good fellowship in society, a personal affection to each other to which the beasts offer no parallel, industry and independence, intense devotion and foresight in tending their young, with other very human and engaging traits of character, must all be credited to the race of birds.

Among these kindly and simple natures the cuckoo is a monster. Let there be no mistake on this subject. He unites in his life and character, from the egg to the adult bird, practices and principles to which the whole race of warm blooded animals offers no parallel. He is an outrage on the moral law of bird life, something so flagrant and so utterly foreign to the way of thought of these kindly beings that if he did not exist he would be inconceivable. It is not merely that he is a supplanter and a changeling. His whole nature is so evil that in the world of birds he is an incarnation of the principle of ill, an embodiment of vices which would if understood or adopted by other birds put an end to the existence of the race.—London Spectator.

## TRAINING WATCHDOGS.

The Method That is Used by a German Instructor.

Although it is generally believed that watchdogs are "to the manner born," it seems that a certain amount of training helps very much to turn out a really good one. This system of training has developed into a regular business in Berlin, where one Herr Straus has an academy from which watchdogs are turned out by the hundred every year.

His system is educational and is applied to almost every kind of dog. He first teaches the animal obedience by training it to perform certain "tricks" at command and then trains it to distinguish between a visitor and a burglar and what part of a man's body should be attacked to render the man helpless.

Outside of the gate the trainer places a dummy representing the burglar, and to the latch is attached a string. By means of the string the gate is opened slowly, until the head of the dummy becomes visible, when the dog is taught to fly at its throat. Herr Straus is very particular about this. He makes his dogs attack the throat or the upper part of the body always. Sometimes a real man well padded takes the place of the dummy, and of course he is well paid for his services.

All dogs, it seems, may be made good watchdogs, but the St. Bernards and the Russian wolfhounds are the best where property of great value is to be guarded. For dogs not so fierce as they are a different system of training is used. They soon learn to guard anything committed to their care, but are not so quick to attack an intruder as the fiercer dogs are.—Philadelphia Times.

## Indian Compositions.

New "composition" stories are furnished by two young Indians whose efforts in this difficult line are reported by The Southern Workman.

The subject assigned to the first boy was the life of General Armstrong. Referring to the general's boyhood among the idolatrous, ancestor worshipping natives of the Hawaiian Islands, he wrote as follows:

"The people of the Sandwich Islands worshiped the idols of their aunts' sisters."

The second boy, a member of the same class, writing upon a different phase of the same subject, got the city of Washington confused with the man for whom the city was named. Referring to the retirement of General Armstrong from the service after the war, he said:

"When General Armstrong finished the war, he wrote to Washington and asked him if there was anything more he could do for him."

## Periodical Famines Expected.

Since the first great famine of which there are records devastated the land in 1770, when 10,000,000 perished in Bengal alone, India has scarcely passed a decade free from scarcity of grain in one district or another. The British government expects a drought about twice in every nine years, a famine once in every 11 or 12 years and a great famine about twice in a century.—Review of Reviews.

## Tobacco.

Numerous observations prove that the use of tobacco is a potent cause of disease of the eye. Total blindness from degeneration of the optic nerve has been traced to this cause. Recent observations point to tobacco and alcohol as the great causes of color blindness, and this accounts for the fact that it is much more common in men than in women.—Health Culture.

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## GEMS OF THOUGHT.

The child is father of the man.—Wordsworth.

A man of pleasure is a man of pains.—Young.

'Tis impious in a good man to be sad.—Young.

Man makes a death which nature never made.—Young.

Like our shadows, our wishes lengthen as our sun declines.—Young.

Examples would, indeed, be excellent things were not people so modest that none will set, and so vain that none will follow them.—Augustus Hare.

There is no better motto which it (culture) can have than these words of Bishop Wilson, "To make reason and the will of God prevail.—Culture and Anarchy.

In youth, grief comes with a rush and overflow, but it dries up, too, like the torrent. In the winter of life it remains a miserable pool, resisting all evaporation.—Madame Swetchine.

As long as it is grievous to thee to suffer, and thou desirest to escape, so long shalt thou be ill at ease, and the desire of escaping tribulation shall follow thee everywhere.—Thomas a Kempis.

A Bible and a newspaper in every house, a good school in every district—all studied and appreciated as they merit, are the principal supports of virtue, morality and civil liberty.—Benjamin Franklin.

I never could believe that Providence had sent a few men into the world, ready booted and spurred to ride, and a million ready saddled and bridled to be ridden.—Richard Rumbold, on the scaffold, 1785.

To some true and faithful lives, the word never comes with any rapture or any ecstasy at all, but only like "daily bread," a simple, quiet faith, arming the soul for duty and keeping it unshaken before all danger.—G. L. Merriam.

If our plans are not for time, but for eternity, our knowledge and, therefore, our love to God, to each other, to ourselves and to everything will progress forever. Knowledge and love are reciprocal. He who loves, knows. He who knows, loves.—Charles Kingsley.

"There is nothing," says Plato, "so delightful as the hearing or speaking of truth." For this reason there is no conversation so agreeable as that of the man of integrity, who hears without any intention to betray, and speaks without any intention to deceive.—Addison.

Persons of genius are more individual than any other people, and less capable consequently of fitting themselves, without hurtful compression, into any of the small number of moulds which society provides in order to save its members the trouble of forming their own characters.—John Stuart Mill.

It is a sublime moment in any man's career when, rising to the full dignity of his manhood, he utters forth his whole personality in complete, glorious self-attainment and self-surrender in the prayer, "Thy will be done;" for in that prayer he dedicates himself wholly to the doing of God's will in righteousness, to a lasting warfare with evil in all its phases and forms, and with all the energy of which he is master, reinforced by the eternal strength.—W. W. Fenn.

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