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THE EASTERN WAR. Without formal declaration by Turkey, war has nevertheless broken out between the Porte and the Grecian Government, and the former has gone so far as to recognize the condition and order the commander of the Turkish forces to take the offensive.

There are some well-meaning men in both parties that denounce fusion and show hostility to the movement. Most of these have allowed sentiment, party zeal or hope of future political preferment to govern their reason.

The Sultan claims that Greece is the aggressor; that she has permitted her armed men to invade Macedonia, and that he, the Sultan, is driven by the inevitable to resist the invasion.

This latter exaction King George will scorn, of course. Practically, therefore, we may consider Turkey and Greece at war at this moment.

On the other hand, the Turks have an army greatly in excess of that of Greece, well disciplined and armed with the latest and best devices of warfare, especially with a fine equipment of artillery, in which arm the Greeks are notably deficient.

Invasion of Greece from the Macedonian side is less difficult than invasion of Macedonia from the Greek side of the line because the Turks have behind them excellent rail and road connections, with a base of supply far superior to that of Greece, and not exposed to any assault, while the Grecian base is very likely to be crippled by blockade of ports and loss of communication and transportation from it with the outside world, while Turkish commerce and connection with outside trade will not be interrupted.

On the other hand, the Greeks are a patriotic and valorous people, and are fired by the hope, dear to every Grecian heart, of recovering much of the territory of ancient Greece, and re-establishing something of the grandeur and importance of the old Greek Empire.

Greece will have the sympathy of most of the civilized world, and sympathy will cheer though it cannot fight. The Greeks are harder than the Turks, and if the war is a long one will wear better under its trials. They will have a good deal of volunteer help from adventurers, and not a little from absent sons.

They have, as we view it, right on their side, while Turkey is to fight for retention of that she took by force of arms, and without a shadow of right save that of conquest.

It is improbable that the European Powers will desire to see the war go on if we except Germany. There will therefore develop very early an effort to put an end to the conflict. Out of this effort, however, it is very probable that friction will develop that will involve all Europe in a war. If that comes on, no man may venture to forecast the outcome.

IS CUBA TO BE SOLD? The story is afloat that Spain is about to offer to Cubans the independence of their island for a spot sum cash. The tale runs that \$100,000,000 is the amount asked. There are a good many reasons for thinking that there is something of truth in this story. It has been repeated three times. Every time it has come from Madrid, and on each occasion it has accompanied a story about withdrawal of portions of

the Spanish armed force in Cuba. On neither occasion has the Spanish Minister at Washington entered any denial of the story, though he is quick to give the lie to anything else that does not harmonize with Spanish desire.

Then, again, Spain is very hard up to use a familiar term. Her credit is pretty well exhausted, and it is very doubtful if she could make more than one loan on Government faith. Finally, while the Spanish insist that the insurrection is nearly beaten out, Spanish statesmen, we have reason to believe, have made up their minds that Cuba is lost to the nation. If not now, when the next revolution breaks out. It is not improbable therefore that Spain, in making the offer for the return of a large body of troops from Cuba to the continent, has in mind the offering of Cuba for a spot sum which would reimburse her collapsed treasury and save her from bankruptcy and revolution at home.

Of course it is well understood that the Spanish take great pride in Cuba, rather they take pride in its ownership precisely as a man is proud of his ownership of a fine horse. There is no affection in the matter; it is a thing of pure vanity. There is also the great reluctance the Spanish character always has to acknowledge defeat. It has been said that the Spanish never know when they are whipped, and that such a thing as surrendering an ambition is more galling to the Spaniard than any other humiliation.

But at the same time Spanish statesmen are pretty far-seeing. They know, if masses of the people do not, that Cuba is lost to Spain; if not today, then with certainty to-morrow; that if the insurrection of this year falls there will be no next year or the next, and so on, until the end, and that end must be the loss of Cuba. It is therefore the part of wisdom to get what can be had for Cuba now, rather than be compelled to part with the island without compensation.

So far as the Cubans are concerned they can afford the cost. It would be wise for them to buy as cheaply as \$100,000,000. The sum is by no means large, when the natural wealth of the island is considered and the possibilities of the Gem of the Antilles when once taken from beneath the depressing influence of the Spanish monarchy, which has bled it like a leech, are contemplated.

There are some well-meaning men in both parties that denounce fusion and show hostility to the movement. Most of these have allowed sentiment, party zeal or hope of future political preferment to govern their reason.

The fusion movement aims to create a party for the abolition of party in municipal affairs. The partisan official is compelled to serve two masters—the party machine which placed him in power and the people as represented in the municipal government.

The party he will serve blindly, because he fears its reprisals and hopes to deserve its further rewards, and the other he will rob to satisfy the demands of the machine and of party friends and supporters.

The city he will squeeze like an orange for the benefit of his political machine.—Stockton Mail.

But it is in order to ask if the man nominated by the fusion of two parties, whereby there is a division of offices and spoils, does not become the servant of two masters also, with no true allegiance to either? Do you get any better government by electing alternately on the same ticket a Democrat and a Republican? Do leopards change their spots by the process of election on a bi-partisan ticket? A great deal depends upon who "runs" a party a candidate represents. A partisan candidate may be infinitely better for a city if the party behind him is really representative of the body of citizens supposed to compose it.

The Board of Supervisors failed to comply with the request made that a delegation of citizens be appointed by the board to attend the Pure Food Congress in San Francisco on the 30th inst. Why the board neglected so reasonable a request is inexplicable. But this failure should not leave Sacramento unrepresented in that important convocation. The City Trustees to-night should name delegates to represent the city. The Mayor has been requested to select delegates also, and the Chamber of Commerce should select for the county at large. If these authorities do not act, Sacramento will be conspicuous at this very important convention of representative citizens by being the only large and important county that takes no interest in the matter of securing pure food for the people, and the elimination from traffic in this State of spurious food, adulterations, poisonous substitutes, deleterious reinforcements and gross imitations.

The Healdsburg "Enterprise," one of the good papers of our interior exchanges, has entered upon its twenty-first volume, thus attaining its majority. The "Enterprise" is a clean, energetic and fearless paper. To say as much of it is simple justice. To note the passage of these natal day anniversaries in journalistic life is at once a courtesy and a duty; it is of the amenities of newspaper work, does no one harm, and is conservative of good fellowship. When we cannot speak well of a contemporary on these occasions, we can at least keep silence. Wherefore we are pleased to hail and greet our old friend the "Enterprise" on its anniversary, and wish it many more of useful years in the lap of the bountiful Russian River Valley.

Her Memory. Edith—This joke dates from Pharaoh's time. Humorist—How careless I was to submit it to you, when I might have known you would remember it.—Golden Penny.

Subject to Delay. Stutterson—Come up for t-t-two or three hours to-night. Buttonson—Why? Stutterson—I want to have a t-t-ten minutes' t-t-talk with y-y-you.—New York Journal.

SEND THE WEEKLY UNION TO YOUR friends in the East.

FRANK A. VANDERLIP, Private Secretary to the New Secretary of the Treasury.

Frank A. Vanderlip, the Private Secretary of the new Secretary of the Treasury, is a native of Illinois, 33 years of age, and was educated at the University of that State. As a boy he lived on a farm and later worked in Hoyt's machine shop in Aurora, afterward becoming associated with McDermold & Co., in the Bank of Chicago Heights.



For a year he was financial editor of the Chicago "Tribune." Previous to this he was manager of the Investors' Agency. He studied political economy and history at the University of Chicago under Professor Von Holtz and other leading economic educators. Vanderlip is considered an authority on financial questions, a knowledge which will be of service to him in his confidential relations with his chief.

BASEBALL YESTERDAY. The Capitol Club's Team Defeated by the Alkalis.

The Capitol Baseball Club played its initial game yesterday. Their opponents were the Alkali team, which is an organization of three or four years' standing. Though they were defeated, by the boys from the State offices are by no means discouraged, the score being 12 to 11, which is considered by them a very good showing for a club which has been organized and playing but ten days.

The game took place on the grounds at Fifteenth and C streets, seven innings being played. The following is the personnel of the teams:

- Alkali. Powers, Catcher; Vassell, Eaker, Pitcher; McManus, Barnes, First base; Cunningham, Joy, Second base; Just, O'Brien, Third base; Morley, Bridgford, Shortstop; Prieske, Martin, Left field; Crocker, Duhan, Center field; Gray, Watkins, Right field; McClue, Umpire—Colonel George Dallas.

The Capitol Baseball Club has requested the "Record-Union" to deny the report appearing in yesterday's paper to the effect that they were defeated by the "Hub" team on Saturday. They have not yet had the pleasure of crossing bats with any such team, and until yesterday have engaged with no organized team.

They hope to be accorded a place in the local league, and will doubtless add much interest to the proposed series of games if recognized.

HE EXEMPLIFIED. Hooks and Undercuts—The Girls Were Curious.

It was the night after the little excitement down at Carson and a befuddled and befuddled circle of young women were gathered around the big grate fire in Beckwith's library, entertaining three imaculate young men who were religiously avoiding everything in the line of conversation except books, theaters, "Oh, say, now!" and diluted remarks supposed to be most acceptable to gentle feminine ears.

The girl in the pink waist started it. She abruptly broke in on Howell Van Rensselaer Gibson's account of his new golf suit, which he told me was a left-hand uppercut is it?

"W-w-hat?" stammered Howell. Then there was an avalanche.

"And a hook—what is a hook, do tell me!" begged the girl in the green chiffon.

"And why does someone always ring a bell when one man is beating and say it's the end of the round?"

"And it said 'there was no damage done in the breakaway in the eighth clinch,'" excitedly chimed in the maiden with golden locks. "Now, where is the breakaway?"

"Fitz handled with terrific effect on Jim's jaw with his frightful left-hand hook," chanted the girl in the pink waist. "Is it anything like a hammock hook—and I thought they couldn't fight with anything but their gloves."

"I shouldn't like to fight with gloves," said the girl in green chiffon. "For I should be certain to spit them—suede is so horrid that way. But what is 'a left on the body' and 'a hot one in the ribs,' anyhow?"

"My dear Juliet!" gasped Howell feebly. The other two men had slid down among the cushions speechless, and their hands waved imply in the air.

"But we want to know," insisted the girls in stern chorus, and if any one had looked through the windows of the Beckwiths' library ten minutes after that time they would have seen a young man threatening an excited and interested young woman with an imitation of Fitz's famous hook while two other girls made wild and ineffectual elbow attempts to box and shrieked "Time!" and "Oh, stop now!" when things grew too congested, while two absolutely limp men writhed in speechless agonies of glee in their chairs.

Then when Howell, half an hour later sat down, breathless, warm, disheveled and miserable, those girls just floated into chairs, cool and sweet as ever, and said, "How interesting! It must be lots of fun!" and then devoted themselves to the other men whose collars were not melted and whose hair was not disarranged.—Chicago News.

ILL LUCK OF A CUBE THROWER. Man in a Restaurant Illustrates His Lack of Good Fortune.

A bicycle hung on a hook in a downtown basement restaurant. A saloon was in the same room. The patrons of the restaurant sat at the long counter and gazed at the bicycle. Finally the proprietor of the restaurant explained that the bicycle was to be raffled off. Tickets could be drawn from a pile he had, and they cost from 1 cent to \$1, being numbered from one to 100, and each ticket entitling its holder to a chance at the raffle, which was to be decided by the shaking of dice.

One gloomy individual who was just finishing a plate of sausage and a cup of coffee was asked if he didn't want to take a chance. He said: "I reckon I'm the unluckiest geezer that ever looked out of the brush. I've bought 1,000,000 tickets to raffles and lotteries

and never won yet. Say," addressing the proprietor, "I'll bet you the price of the lunch that if I draw a ticket it will be over 70."

"I'll go you," said the restaurant-keeper. The morose gentleman picked out an envelope containing a ticket and tore it open. The ticket was numbered ninety-six. "Sure," observed the mournful one, "right in the neck, only four higher tickets in the whole shootin' match."

The proprietor then offered to throw dice with him for the ticket, putting up another ticket against it. The man of the sorrowful countenance agreed, but said: "I'll lose sure."

The unlucky gentleman threw an ace full on lives. The proprietor threw an ace full on sixes.

"Beautiful," murmured the loser, "horse on me. Just topped me. You'll hit me harder next time."

The proprietor threw four fives. The unlucky man threw three sixes in the first two flops on the third flop one and then resolved itself into an ace. The other die was also an ace.

"Two more sixes upside down," said the unfortunate. "Oh, they get me a-comin' and a-goin'."

As he was going away he said to the proprietor: "There is just one way I could win this bike."

"How's that?" asked the restaurant-keeper.

"Buy all the tickets and shake against myself," was the melancholy man's answer.—Chicago Chronicle.

The Extermination of Big Game.

It is saddening from the point of view of the naturalist, to compare the statements of hunters regarding the game of the world fifty years ago, or even later, with those of the present day. All the great African hunters the same light of the world and buffalo and lion driven farther and farther north. Scarcely any rhinoceroses now but are almost extinct in the western half of South Africa. The giraffe is slowly disappearing from certain parts of Africa. Where, some years ago, herds of eight were so uncommon, it is said to be a rarity now to see herd more than twenty in number. Like most other really interesting wild animals, the ant-bear, or aardvark, is in danger of extermination. This South African animal feeds on the myriads of ants which infest the country and so has been for many years being exterminated by the farmers. But the Beech farmers find it more profitable to shoot him, sell his skin for 15 shillings and eat his flesh, which is not unlike pork in flavor.

The kangaroo in Australia is given no longer a lease of existence than fifty years. At one time there were millions of them, even in isolated spots, such as the remote parts of Queensland and the unsettled parts of Western Australia, though they are still to be found, they are by no means numerous. This remarkable animal owes its fate to its voracious appetite. When the summer found that each midwinter deer was as much as four or five sheep, he forthwith began to wage relentless war on the species, without taking any note of its possible market value, extermination being his only object. Now that the kangaroo has become a rarity, he is in demand, and his price is as high as ever in isolated spots, such as the remote parts of Queensland and the unsettled parts of Western Australia, though they are still to be found, they are by no means numerous. This remarkable animal owes its fate to its voracious appetite. 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