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Weather Forecast. Northern California—Fair Sunday; cooler in the interior; variable winds; inland, fresh westerly winds along the coast.

A CRITIC ON THE EASTERN QUESTION. Benjamin Ide Wheeler has long been many years in Athens. He has resided many years in the Eastern question and Turkish, Russian and Grecian politics.

In a recent lengthy and able paper in the "Atlantic Monthly" Mr. Wheeler expresses the unqualified belief that the ultimate occupation of Constantinople by Russia is a foregone conclusion.

In this Mr. Wheeler concurs with the judgment that is prevalent upon this continent.

But the chief interest in Mr. Wheeler's paper centers about his estimate and the condition of Greece and the Greeks, who are a feeble folk—a mere remnant of ancient greatness among the great peoples of Europe; a little nation that sprang from the root of a grand old tree.

What is to be the fate of this tender shoot is a question of unusual interest, especially so when we read in the dispatches of the preparation the Turk is making to support the intention to wrest Thessaly from Greece and establishing over that province the rule of the Moslem.

According to Mr. Wheeler, the European politician, unmoved by sentiment, opposes the absorption of Crete by Greece, though it is essentially Grecian, since it would, by establishing a precedent, open the door for the annexation, for the same reasons, of Cyprus, Chios, Samos, Epirus and the coast of Macedonia.

Indeed, no one could tell where the end would be, and that "business arrangement," the "balance of power," would be in jeopardy.

Greece did not seek Crete, but necessity forced Crete to appeal to Greece, and the latter to heed the cry. Year by year the Grecian Government sheltered and fed the refugees driven out by the Turk, until it became too much for flesh and blood to bear.

Then came the crisis, the present war, and the triumph of the Turk. All this is the fault of the great Powers, not of Greece; for the Powers have been the guarantors of Turkish misgovernment.

It was not unreasonable in the Greek to believe, therefore, that the unchecked Turk would make him his next victim. It was the instinct of self-preservation, therefore, that drove Greece into the present war.

It was sentimental politics, but at the base was the sentiment of kinship of blood and kinship of faith.

and its sea also. "Greece is the waist of the hour glass, through which everything that has passed from the one greater to the other greater has been forced to go."

It is not possible to give the space necessary to follow the essayist's tracing of the activities of Occidentalism and Orientalism meeting on the shores of the Aegean. It is an absorbing and romantic study from the first wave of the Occidental tide to the present, when the forces of the latter are disintegrated or held in sham accord, and the question is who is to be the leader of the Occidentalism that will push out over Alexander's track?

Mr. Miller describes Turkey as an assemblage of peoples under absolute sway of the Sultan, with no sense of the right of self-government; thoroughly Oriental, with the idea that government is a power about and outside of and not within the people. It is a government of Orientalism, a geographical misfit on Occidental soil—a stranded wreck left high and dry beyond the sea wall by a receding tidal wave.

While it must be confessed that its recent triumphs apparently refute this conclusion of Mr. Wheeler's, we must believe that it is a power more apparent than real, and manifest now rather because of the permissive attitude of the great Powers than because of inherent strength.

Concerning the Armenians under Turkish sway, nearly a quarter of a million of whom are in Constantinople, Mr. Wheeler says that they are in race the Thracio-Phrygians of old. Indo-European, some of their descendants were defenders of ancient Troy. They preserve their distinctness in language, literature and religion, and in racial and national type. Occidentals hold that such a people have a right to govern themselves, but Turkey has not the sense to recognize this right of individuality and personality—to the Turk the Armenians are simply a plague spot on the empire.

The Armenians are not an easy people to get on with. They are distinguished by an energy, a busy-ness and a fondness for acquisition that are almost super-occidental. They are selfish, personally unattractive and strikingly lacking in traits of nobility and self-respect. The average Armenian is unquestionably of sharp intelligence so far as small things go. The saying is that it takes ten Jews to outwit one Greek, and ten Greeks to outwit one Armenian. He is unquestionably extremely irritating to the quietistic, reserved, fatalistic Turk. The two have little in common.

The Armenian is a persistent source of unrest. He is a "kicker." What men do with "kickers" in the Occidental scheme of things, is to vote them down. The Turk knows no other way than to club them down, cut their heads off, or sink them in the Sea of Marmora. He is applying the truncheon with patient zeal as occasion offers.

Crete, says Mr. Wheeler, the Turk regards as another plague-spot, though all the 50,000 Mussulmans there speak the Greek tongue. Concerning Greece and Crete then, Turkish theory offers no solution except utter subjugation or extermination. Similar conditions relate to the Macedonian coast sections and in Epirus, in both of which the Greek language prevails and the population is Greek.

So here is an unnatural situation that makes the postponement of a settlement only temporary. The great nations of Europe are united in keeping Greece from her own, because the Greeks must be reckoned with in the future settlement of the Eastern question; commercial interests around the Aegean Sea are largely in Greek hands; one-third the population of Constantinople is Greek; the Greek nation is bankrupt; its land offers no abundant promise of greatness; it is not suited to agriculture; it has neither water power nor minerals in plenty; nor coal supply. But its population is active, optimistic, restless, impulsive and half educated; abstemious and thrifty; they go abroad and accumulate wealth; profoundly patriotic, the traditions of their ancient glory never fade; thoroughly Occidental, they are also bitterly antagonistic to Orientalism and hate Turkey and the Turks. So the conflict is on, and will last to the death, because grounded in indelible difference of thought, mood and character.

If all the territory having predominance of Greek blood and speech was united in national unity, one would, says Mr. Wheeler, have a state 10,000,000 strong, a menace all around the Aegean if not control of the waterway to the Black Sea. Such a state by religion it would be an independent element intruding into European politics; a bar between Russia and the Mediterranean and between England and the East; a wedge between the Kaaba and the Lateral. The "balance of power" policy does not favor the creation of such a State.

Besides, any disturbance on the Aegean would create suspicion and dread. There is a long list of claims against Turkey, and each claimant opposes any preferred creditors being named. When a division is made they all want to be present. When Russia is ready to come to the Mediterranean she wants a sure path through the Aegean, and Crete lies where the waterways of Russia and England meet; the track from Gibraltar to the Suez Canal passes Crete, and England must maintain her route by the canal. Besides, England cannot be sure that Greece will never become the tool of Russia—they have the strong tie of a common faith.

Bulgaria is the rival of Greece among lesser States, and has a greedy eye for Macedonia, whose inland population is Slav. Both are interested in the fate of Constantinople. The Greek dreams of a political seat in that city. But Bulgaria has the solid push of Pan-slavism behind her, and turns her face to the rising sun while all the Balkan States except Roumania, accept the suzerainty of Russia.

This interposes a wall between Austria and the Aegean—where she wants a port and a right of way to it—and

makes the Austrian fear the re-opening of the Eastern question. To dislodge the Turk could bring her no good. Germany has no direct interest, but wishes to retain the friendship of Russia and thus stands between the millstones of France and the Empire of the Czar. So she trades for Russian favor and besides war menaces values, and the Greek debt was negotiated through Berlin bankers.

No other Power is competent to enter and take Constantinople but its destined possessor, Russia. She would have entered once but for England's interposition. But England's Armenian policy has collapsed, while Russia has made steady gain. Then, too, Russia's geographic claim is great, for the Bosphorus is her natural exit. With the Balkan States clustered about her, for she freed them, by diplomacy strengthened in all her movements; by commercial claim to go through the Bosphorus, she is all but ready, and bestrides Europe and Asia. She can place her back against the ice of the north with no enemy to menace her there, and by the swing of her hand grasp what she covets—she is simply biding her time.

Russia is the friend of the rival States—to alienate us from her, England—note how quick Russia was to offer us \$50,000,000 in gold when our treasury was threatened after President Cleveland's Venezuelan message. Then, too, the peoples of the East prefer the Russian to the Englishman, who is blunt and undiplomatic with them, while the Russian is sympathetic and understands the Oriental use of language.

As to England, if she is to hold India and Australia, Mr. Wheeler thinks, she must control the Suez Canal and its approaches. She is isolated politically, but is resolved to face all Europe if necessary, single handed, and so she has doubled her navy and will double her army within the next two years. She is preparing for the inevitable conflict to settle the question, "Who is to be the leader and champion of Occidentalism in the twentieth century—shall it be the Anglo-Saxon or the Slav?"

We have thus freely presented the salient points of Mr. Wheeler's very extended paper in the "Atlantic," because it seems to be the most exhaustive, lucid and reasonable of all essays of hundreds that have recently been submitted, but its full reading alone will expose its vigor, elegant diction and political wisdom.

CLEMENCEAU AND ROCHEFORT ON CUBA.

Both Clemenceau and Rochefort have expressed themselves in interviews and letters as of the judgment that Cuban independence will come about, and that, at no distant day. Clemenceau thinks that by natural force Cuba will gravitate toward and be absorbed by the United States. Rochefort contents himself with the thought that Cuba will be freed, and concerns himself less with the relation of the new condition to the United States.

These prominent French journalists are widely known as far-seeing men. One of them has passed through and had active part in a revolution, and the other had to do with it. One is a politician through and through, and is somewhat extravagant in his views and vain in his ambitions and hopes. For Rochefort has been given to socialist theories and to speculations upon alleged improvements upon the present scheme of civilization, which are not received with favor by the masses of men.

However, the views of these two French publicists are not without much value. They serve to show the trend of thought and the results of European observation concerning Cuba among a people not closely related to the island. In short, the expressions of M. Clemenceau, the journalist, and of publicist Rochefort indicate that a large element in Europe look upon the Spanish cause in Cuba as more than desperate; in fact, as lost.

This sentiment or conviction must give some force to the momentum with which the end of the struggle in the fated island is approaching. We may differ with M. Clemenceau in his thought that the United States will absorb Cuba. We do not believe that it is desirable or likely that it shall come to pass. But it is possible that this nation may, in defense of its own interest and in maintenance of a doctrine that is steadily broadening concerning control of territory on this side of the Atlantic, assert such protecting authority or benevolence over Cuba as will insure the peace of the island, its freedom from monarchical domination, and likewise from the internal dissensions and revolutionary tendencies of the peoples of the zone inhabited by the Cubans and the Latin States of South America.

Another folly! Lieutenant Peary has been granted five years furlough to go on another top foot errand in search for the spot where it is believed the magnetic needle will get up on end and do obeisance to the North Pole. For several weeks the Navy Department has refused to give Peary leave of absence, and had gone so far as to order him to active duty at Mare Island. Evidently the North Pole pull was too much for Secretary Long. That pull includes a whole block of scientists and theoretical geographers who keep safely out of danger and urge others to perilsously explore where exploration has no reference whatever to social advance or betterment of the world's conditions. After Peary shall have discovered that disputed spot, the North Pole, what then? How will it affect the world? It will add, we admit, to the sum of scientific knowledge. But is that outcome worth the risk? We doubt it.

If the story that comes from Havana is true, Consul-General Lee told Dr. Congosto, one of the chiefs of the Ruiz Investigation Commission, that he was a liar, and if the General did not have his arm drawn back for a face blow at that moment, we mistake the meaning of his language and the spirit of the man. Thereupon the doctor retracted what he had said, namely, that the passage of the Morgan resolution in the United States Senate was due to con-

spiracy of American Consuls in Cuba, to misrepresent facts and mislead this Government. We are rather sorry that Dr. Congosto retracted. The miserable delay would have been shortened, if he had adhered to his statement; a delay that is unjust to the Spanish as well as to the Cubans. We know now just as well as we will a month hence whether we are justified in recognizing the belligerency of the insurgents.

Here now comes China with her official representative swathed in gorgeous robes and with his fan bearers before him bears the Vice Regal Government of Spain in Cuba, and demands that the subjects of the "Brother of the Sun" be afforded protection and be compensated for losses and outrages due to the barbarity of Spanish commanders and soldiers towards the Chinese in Cuba. In case these demands are not acceded to, the Chinese official notified General Weyler's Government that China would recognize the independence of the Cuban rebels. This terrible threat has had due effect. The Spanish have crawled abjectly and offered to pay, to degrade the officers who offended, and to humbly apologize. Has it come to this, that China has set to the United States a brilliant example?

JOHN A. LOGAN, JR. Now the Subject of Comment in Military Circles.

John A. Logan, Jr., is much talked of at present on account of the outbreak between the McCook and Logan families. John A. Logan claiming the McCooks started the story that he appeared in an unauthorized uniform at the coronation of the Czar in Moscow. He brands the story as false, and demands an immediate retraction, and says if it is not given he will hold General A. D. McCook "personally responsible."



Mr. Logan is the son of the late John A. Logan. He is six feet tall and has an athletic figure. His hair and mustache are jet black, and he is said to resemble his famous father. He is 20 years of age, a graduate of West Point, and a regularly commissioned Captain in the army. He has a wife and two children.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.

SYLLABUS. (S. F., No. 753—In Bank—Filed May 27, 1897.)

In the matter of the estate of Euthanasia S. Meade, deceased. Motion to dismiss appeal denied.

A person whom the record shows to be a party aggrieved may appeal, although he has not previously appeared in the case.

(L. A., No. 210—Department Two—Filed May 27, 1897.)

San Luis Water Company, respondent; Alberto Estrada et al., appellants. Quere of title to waters. Affirmed, with modification.

A corporation is a creature of the law, having certain powers and duties of a natural person. It possesses properties enabling it to manage its affairs, to hold property without the perplexing intricacies, the hazardous and endless necessity of perpetual conveyances, for the purpose of transmitting it from hand to hand. It was chiefly for the purpose of clothing bodies of men in succession with these qualities and capacities that corporations were, invested and are in use. See Civil Code, Sec. 354.

An answer pleading a prior appropriation, but which fails to allege that the defendant is entitled as a riparian owner to any definite quantity of water, or what proportion of the waters of the stream he could reasonably exhaust for that purpose, is sufficient to raise an issue as to the extent of defendant's right as a mere riparian proprietor.

(Sac. No. 157—Department Two—Filed May 27, 1897.)

Reclamation District No. 551, respondent; Sol Runyon et al., P. J. Van Loben Sels, appellants. Validity of assessment levied for purposes of reclamation. Reversed.

The property owner is entitled to a hearing at one time or other upon the question of benefits. He is within his undoubted right in making any legal proof to show an unfair and illegal assessment whereby his lands were not benefited to the amount of the lien sought to be fixed upon them.

He Reads the Papers. Teacher—Tommy, what is the animal with two legs which neither runs nor walks? Tommy Smarthead—Guess it must be a messenger boy.—New York Tribune.

Spellbound. "Mrs. Dawson seems to have great influence with her husband." "Influence? Why, she can get that man to drink sarsaparilla tea."—Chicago Record.

Everything Went. Ned—What did you do after you had pledged your heart, your love and your faith? Ted—Pledged my watch to get the ring.—New York Journal.

To Be Sure. "Come, now, do you really believe he married her for love?" "To be sure. The kind of love that the Bible says is the root of all evil."—Boston Transcript.

It is estimated by competent authorities that 620,000 tons of water tumble over Niagara every minute, day and night. Christian Endeavor pins at Steinman's, 612 J street. Genuine home-made pies and cakes. Pacific Grove Bakery, 823 J. E. A. Bridgford, lawyer, Still building, Sacramento. Telephone red, 723. J. McMurry, importer of fine teas.

FLOWERS FOR DEAD HEROES.

Loving Hands Will Strew Their Graves To-Morrow.

Though Their Bones Molder Under the Sod, Their Memory is Still Green.

The Committee of the Grand Army has completed all the arrangements for the Memorial exercises and the proper observance of Decoration Day to-morrow, the members of the Posts and the Ladies of the Relief Corps and Ladies of the Grand Army working in harmony and paying attention to minor details.

It is expected that the programme will be fully equal to anything in former years. Flowers in profusion have been secured, and the graves of the men who fought for the Union will not lack for decoration to show that they and their services are not forgotten. As the day is a legal holiday, all the Government, State and county offices will be closed, and the banks will do no business. Sunday hours will also be observed at the Postoffice.

Many civic societies will take part in the parade and attend the memorial exercises at the cemetery. All the veterans at the railroad shops will have leave of absence in order that they may participate in the ceremonies.

The first division will be closed today and to-morrow in honor of Decoration Day and the exercises on Monday. It will thus be possible for the attaches of the Gallery to get needed rest and to take part in the observances.

George W. Ficks will be Marshal of the Day and will direct the parade. It will form on I street, the right resting on Tenth street. The line of march will be down Tenth street to J, down J to Sixth, thence to K and up K to Tenth, and thence to the cemetery.

The parade will be in two divisions, and will move promptly at 1:30 p. m. The first division will be preceded by an escort of police, followed by the Grand Marshal and staff. Then will come the Second Infantry Band, followed by Colonel Guthrie and staff, who will in turn be followed by Troop B, Captain John Cooke, and the Signal Corps, acting as escort for Companies E and G of the Second Regiment, will bring up the rear.

The second division will be composed of Sumner, Warren and Fair Oaks Posts, G. A. R., followed by the Women's Relief Corps and Edward Robie Circle, Ladies of the Grand Army.

The members of the civic societies, officials, school children and citizens in carriages will follow the second division.

PAPER THIEVES.

Two of Them Detected Stealing a Good Selling Article. During the past three weeks quite a number of subscribers of the "Record-Union" have made complaints at the business office that their papers were not delivered regularly.

As a matter of fact, the greatest care had been taken to have all patrons served promptly, and the route agent of the paper became convinced that the missing papers had been stolen by young "rounders," who afterward sold them on the street.

Acting on this belief, an extra force was put on the district in which the papers were reported missing, and while the usual district men made their rounds the extra men kept watch to see what became of the copies that had been delivered.

The suspicion of thievery proved a correct one, for the route boys had scarcely gone a block before the paper thieves followed them up, and deftly picked up and folded the papers left for the perusal of the subscribers.

The thieving had been done by two young men, or boys, aged about 18 or 19 years, named Charley Ray and Willie Petrie, and warrants were immediately sworn out for their arrest and placed in the hands of Officer Bagley.

The youngsters, however, were informed by their friends that they were under the ban, and young Petrie made the most of a bad matter and took the first through freight for Portland, Or., and thus dropped out of the game.

Bagley knew that Ray was still here, but though he kept careful lookout for him he was unable to locate him until yesterday, when he was found around the pool-stand at Agricultural Park. He was lodged in the City Prison, regardless of several attempts to give the officer the slip.

Young Ray will be arraigned in the Police Court on Tuesday next on a charge of petit larceny, and as the case against him is said to be strong he will no doubt become of use to the world by exercising his muscle on the county rock pile. During such time it is believed patrons of the "Record-Union" will be able to keep their files complete.



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