

WASHINGTON SENTINEL.

VOL. XXV.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1898

NO. 46

Washington Sentinel,

Published and Edited by

LOUIS SCHADE.

APPEARS EVERY SATURDAY.

TERMS

\$5.00 per year for single copy sent by mail to subscribers, payable in advance

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

First insertion, one inch, \$1.50; second insertion, 75 cents. Liberal deductions for annual advertisements. Special notices 25 cents a line.

Advertisements to insure insertion should be handed in not later than 12 o'clock noon on Thursday.

Office: No. 804 E Street, N W Washington, D. C.

Sample copies mailed upon application. Address LOUIS SCHADE, Washington, D. C.

The Victory in Asia.

The victory was complete and far reaching. All the advantages were against the Americans. The Spanish seem to have had the larger fleet. They were in their own harbor, under their forts, the battle site of their own choosing, the resources of the city at their command. They had their lines of retreat. The Americans were thousands of miles from their base—the nearest port that of Hong Kong, which was virtually sealed by the proclamation of neutrality. A repulse would have thrown them upon the questionable hospitality of China or Japan, given measureless moral strength to Spain and compelled our abandonment of Asia.

Fought under so many disadvantages, as a mere battle this will be remembered as among the most brilliant of naval victories. It reflects the highest credit upon Commodore Dewey, his officers and men. It was as exact as a mathematical problem. There was that perfect courage which so often commands success. There was fine seamanship—knowing what to do and how to do it. Aiming at the enemy's heart, the blow was delivered home. There was no manoeuvring to draw the enemy into the open sea as at Trafalgar; no strategy, no subterfuge. Dewey showed the Farragut training. Farragut sailed straight into Mobile. In spite of torpedoes and mines he moved upon his mark, smashed his way over every obstacle and did his work. Dewey, under more exacting circumstances, followed his illustrious master. In the event of a repulse Farragut could have fallen back upon havens nearby. There was nothing for Dewey but unwelcome ports or the open sea. It was victory or disaster. This superb sailor challenged the alternative and won.

The Causes at Manila.

The Liberal newspaper at Madrid demands of the Cortes that it "insist on having light thrown upon the causes of the Manila disaster." It, it says, it "were certain that the destruction of our Philippine squadron and the glorious death of its crews were attributable solely to war's vicissitudes," it would weep but not despair. "Unfortunately," it continues, "we have not this consoling certitude. Unfortunately we are all depressed with a presentiment that the disaster of last Sunday will be repeated in other places owing to the same causes."

A consideration of the causes, obvious in this country, in England and wherever else the facts are known and recognized, justifies the presentiment.

The Spanish fleet was destroyed by reason of the superior knowledge and skill of the American commander, the greater intelligence and better training of the American officers and crews, and the superior construction, armament and equipment of the American ships.

We had not only better ships and better guns, but better men behind the guns.

And this superiority will be manifest whenever and wherever the ships of the two nations meet in battle—not to so great an extent as at Manila, perhaps, but yet sufficient to decide the issue. It is the twentieth century (the Americans are always a little ahead of the times) against the eighteenth century. Progress will beat decadence in every field.

The foreboding of the Madrid paper that "the disaster of Sunday will be repeated in other places owing to the same causes" is quite certain to be justified by events.

West Pointers Take Back.

Dissatisfaction to no small degree prevails at the present moment throughout the ranks of the West Pointers on the army roster. It is an open secret and open talk that in the appointment of officers ordered to the front, those in command of regiments and to all prominent places, the West Pointers have been completely set aside. Every officer of the army now in prominence is an appointment from civil life.

In corroboration of this fact the following list is given: Gen. Nelson A. Miles, Commander in Chief of the army, is a civil appointment; Colonel Humphrey, Quartermaster General, is a civil appointment; Inspector General Breckinridge, Adjutant General Corbin, Adjutant General Sanger, are all civil appointments. Major Generals Shafter, Otis, Wade and Merriam are civil appointments.

As an offset to this it will be borne in mind that at the close of the rebellion, every officer of prominence was a West Pointer; witness the roll call of Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Thomas, Meade, Ayres and a long list of names familiar to the American people.

On the Confederate side were General Joseph E. Johnston, General Robert E. Lee, General Jackson, General Wheeler and General Longstreet, all West Pointers.

Another cause of comment is the treatment of General Merritt, whose unpopularity with the present Administration is well known to be due to the fact that during the war of the rebellion he was the man to approve the findings of the court martial against Hon. Russell A. Alger, now Secretary of War.

General Merritt is the ranking cavalry officer and to him should have been given the command at Chickamauga. Instead of this General Brooke is the man—General Brooke, of the infantry—while to General Shafter, another civil appointment, has been given command of the army of invasion in Cuba.

Virtue that is Worse than Vice.

That sort of virtue which is more revolting than the vice which it seeks to correct had a shocking manifestation at East Hampton, Conn., on Sunday night. A married woman who is said to have neglected her husband and children and whose conjugal morals were believed to be below the East Hampton standard, was seized by a party of men while she strolled abroad in her best raiment with a male companion. The regulators of conduct tied the escort to a tree and made him an enforced spectator of the improving ceremonies that ensued. The woman was stripped naked and tarred and feathered. Then permission was given her to make a frenzied run to her home, a mile distant, her only covering being such garments as she could carry in her hands.

Were this woman, put to such shame and torture, twenty times as guilty as that other woman brought before a plying judge more than eighteen centuries ago, she would still be incomparably the moral superior of the male figures of East Hampton who so maltreated her and imputed their barbarity unto themselves as righteousness. Cruelty, brutality and cowardice deserve a heavier penalty than the law will provide should these virtuous miscreants be detected and arrested. Cat-o'-nine tails is needed for such backs as theirs, for with each welt raised by the enlightening thongs there might penetrate to the East Hampton consciousness a perception of the useful truth that there are more kinds of sin, more kinds of depravity, more kinds of baseness than one.

Let us hope that these loathsome Connecticut brutes will be hunted down and exposed and jailed. They are Weylers in little, and unfit for civilized society and normal human association.

Empty Hopes of the Queen Regent.

"Not one foot of our territory, not one stone of our fortresses," said Thiers, with characteristic braggadocio, when treating with Bismarck for a peace of which the Prussian had the absolute power to dictate the conditions.

Everybody knows the sequel. France had the oratorical fervor—Germany took Alsace and Lorraine.

To-day the Queen Regent of Spain, in the face of impending calamity to her nation which her Government is powerless to avert, sounds a note of defiance. The United States is not prepared for war, she says. Our soldiers fight

without any animating spirit of national enthusiasm. Spain is ready to do all and care all in defense of national honor. This and more to the same effect the hapless Queen who guards the baby occupant of a tottering throne says in the face of sweeping national disaster.

On the day the Bastille fell King Louis could think of nothing of importance to note in his diary except the fruits of his day's hunting of the stag. Perhaps the interview with the Queen Regent will go down to history with that famous illustration of the blindness of monarchs to the vital facts of the hour.

The Calibre of Cannon.

All modern armies have reduced the calibre of their rifles and their field cannon. It looks now as if all modern navies have equal reason for reducing the extreme calibre of their cannon.

Commodore Schley calls attention to the fact, demonstrated at Manila, that in action the 8 inch gun is more effective than guns of greater calibre. It does all the damage desired. It pierces any armor that any ship can float under. It can be fired much more rapidly than any 10, 12 or 13 inch gun. It requires fewer men and less machinery to operate it. And finally it costs less to make and less to fire, while its endurance is greater.

Even the 6 inch gun does its work. We have guns of that calibre in the defences of New York harbor that have penetrated twice or thrice the thickness of armor that any ship carries. And the gun that sends a shell inside a ship and explodes it there is amply sufficient for all purposes of war.

In great fortifications and even on naval vessels the 12 and 13 inch guns will doubtless continue to be used somewhat. But the 5 and 6 and 8 inch guns seem destined to be the main reliance.

In the long struggle between ordnance and armament the guns have clearly had the best of it.

A Popular Loan.

If the Senate agrees to that feature of the war revenue bill, says the Boston Post, providing for a new loan, as passed by the House, it will be the most distinctly popular loan ever offered in this country.

By issuing bonds of as low denomination as \$25, subscription will be within the reach of the great mass of the people, and the money for national defense will be furnished, not as a speculation by syndicates and bankers, but as a patriotic loan from the people themselves.

For a great many reasons, this would be the most desirable way of placing a war loan. The majority of our people undoubtedly would become bondholders, and the government would be so much strengthened on the financial side by the direct personal interest of its creditors, the people. And as United States bonds have a way of appreciating in value, the profit from the inevitable advance would go where it would do the most good, directly into the pockets of the people.

Making a New Precedent.

The question that we shall do with the Philippines is one that does not urgently demand a present solution. One thing is certain. We must not restore them to Spain. Any people once torn from the grasp of that brutal and bloody nation must never be returned to them.

We shall settle the future of the Philippines according to our mature view of the general welfare, especially of our own, and most especially of that of our Pacific coast, long neglected, but now rising to tremendous importance in the affairs of the world. We have a vast Pacific empire, which in time will be the greatest domain upon the world's greatest ocean.

We must safeguard it by every means in our power. The disposition we make of the Philippines will be a matter of vital importance to that mighty Western domain of ours, and it demands careful and leisurely consideration.

IS NOT the anxiety of "the powers" to know what we intend doing with the Philippines just a trifle premature? Would it not be advisable to wait until the Manila cable service is restored before deciding what we are going to do with the islands? We have dispossessed the fox, but are we sure we have caught the hare?

Curiosity of Longevity.

If Maffens, the historian of the Indies, can be believed, one Nicolas de Cogna, a native of Bengal, lived to the astonishing age of three hundred and seventy years. Although this story is confirmed by Lopez Casteguedo, who at the time of Cogna's death, in 1556, was historiographer royal of Portugal, and although it is altogether the best proved instance of so great longevity, its correctness has been somewhat doubted. But whether or not Cogna or his friends mistook the time of his birth by a century or two, there is no denying him the distinction of having reached the greatest age of which we have anything like reliable data. He is described as a man of great simplicity of habit, and of very easy and quiet manners; though wholly illiterate, he was possessed of a memory so remarkable that he could recite the minutest details relating to most of even the daily events of two and a half centuries.

He is said to have had many wives during his long life, and it is related that the color of his hair and beard changed several times from black to grey and from grey to black.

The next greatest instance of longevity known to us is that of Peter Zocron, a French peasant, whose death is recorded on January 25, 1724, at the remarkable age of one hundred and eighty-three years. Immediately succeeding Zocron is the instance of Louisa Truxo. This person was a negress, of Tucomia, in South America, who, in October, 1780, had reached the age of one hundred and seventy-five years, and was living in so good a degree of health that she promised many years in addition.

However extraordinary these facts, a family by the name of Kovin, which resided about 1730 in Tunirax, France, furnished three particulars, each of which is without a known parallel. First, the combined ages of the parents amounted to three hundred and thirty-eight years, the father, John Rovin, being one hundred and seventy-four, and the mother, Sarah, being one hundred and sixty-four. Second, they had been married one hundred and forty-seven years, and what is nearly as extraordinary, "they lived throughout this very long period in much peace and contentment." Third, at the time of their death they had three children living, the youngest of whom was one hundred and sixteen years old.

England next enters the list, and furnishes three remarkable instances of long life in Henry Jenkins, Thomas Parr, and Lady Acton. The first, a native of Yorkshire, lived to the age of one hundred and sixty-nine years, and once gave evidence in a court of justice on a circumstance which had happened one hundred and forty years before. In his time three queens and one king were beheaded, a Spanish and a Scottish king were seated on the throne of England, and a score of revolutions had spent their fury and wrought their effects. Jenkins died in 1670 at Ellerton. * * * Lady Acton, an Englishwoman of quiet manners and even temper, was the widow of John Francis Edward Acton. She was born in 1736, and her death was announced by the London Times, was at the very mature age of one hundred and thirty-seven years.

Cuba's Riches and Resources.

Few persons have any conception of the vast riches and resources of Cuba. When the war is ended and good government is established upon that island many avenues will be opened for making money. New industries will spring up, and those that have been paralyzed for the past two years will be resumed with renewed vigor. No country presents such a variety of promising opportunities.

The tobacco industry, which has been stayed so long, will be resumed once more, and smokers will again revel in the fragrant weed of Cuba. The famous Havana tobacco is produced on the extreme west end of the southern coast, on a strip of land called the Vuelta Abajo. This strip is only about twenty miles wide and eighty miles long, extending from Rio Hondo to Cuyagueta and the River Mantua. Next in value to the Havana tobacco is that which is grown from an area of 54 miles, called the Mayari. While these two tracts produce the finest qualities of tobacco, that which is grown in other parts of the island equals, and in most instances excels, tobacco grown in any other country.

The silk industry has a great future before it in Cuba. While it has never attained much prominence, authorities claim that it is the ideal country in which to grow the silkworm. The mulberry tree, in which the silk worm flourishes so well, grows to perfection there. For several years silk has been produced profitably in certain parts of Mexico, whose climate is similar to that of Cuba.

So far little has been done to develop the mineral resources of Cuba, though it abounds in them. Gold is to be found in small quantities in many of the rivers, and silver, iron, copper and quicksilver have been mined, though not profitably. Asphalt, in all its various forms, from the liquid to the crystal, can be found in many parts of the island. This will be one of the largest industries there within a short time. In some places petroleum runs out of the rents in the rocks, and abundant springs of it are to be found in the eastern part. Mineral springs, scattered all over the island, possess splendid medicinal qualities.

The future of the lumber trade is particularly bright. Some of the finest such woods are to be found in the forests, and the quebrera hacha (the axe breaker), which, for the manufacture of fine furniture, is unexcelled. It was from the lumber of the forests of Cuba that the famous marquetry work in the apartments of the Escorial was made by Philip II. The accessibility of the forests from the shipping ports will give a decided advantage over countries like Sao Domingo.

About 200 harbors can be developed on the coast of Cuba and this will give it an advantage for shipping facilities that no other country possesses.

Although production of sugar from the cane is not so profitable as in the past, and many doubt whether it will be able to compete with the low prices of beet root sugar, there will always be certain productions of the sugar cane that can never be substituted. The peculiar soil of Cuba is specially adapted for growing sugar cane, and it does not require anything like the amount of cultivation there that it does in other countries.

Almost everything that the planter needs in the way of food can be raised on his plantation. Coffee, another product that has not been grown much for some years, will doubtless be made profitable under civilization. The quantity of cocoa that can be grown on an acre of ground is something wonderful. The lowlands are particularly adapted to the production of rice. Corn, sugo, yuca, indigo and cotton are among some of the other products. All of the fruits to be found in tropical climates grow in Cuba and furnish the inhabitants with every delicacy in this line.

SUGAR EATING NATIONS.—The sugar crop of the world amounts in a normal year to about 8,000,000 tons, of which the larger part, about 4,500,000 tons, comes from beets and the balance, 3,500,000 tons, from sugar cane. Of the latter, the largest proportion comes from the West Indies and a large amount from the island of Java. Among the countries producing beet sugar, Germany comes first, with about one-third of the world's crop; then Austria, with almost as much; and then France, Russia, and Belgium and Holland together, with substantially the same quantity. In respect of the production of beet sugar in the United States, there has been a vast increase since the establishment of the McKinley tariff in 1890. The year previous the American product was 2,800 tons. Two years later it was 22,000 tons. Four years later it was 20,000 tons. Last year it was 43,000 tons, and the product is on the increase. The McKinley tariff established between July 1, 1891, and July 1, 1905, a bounty to be paid by the United States Government to sugar producers, with a view of stimulating the industry and compensating those engaged in it for the changes made in the duty upon imported sugar.

Among scientists the opinion has been general that a moderate amount of sugar, like a moderate amount of salt, should enter into the dietary of the people of each nation; but it is only when the figures of the consumption of sugar are examined that it is seen that the quantity consumed varies radically, and it is a curious fact that in those countries in which the maritime spirit—the spirit of navigation, commerce, travel and colonization—is strong there is a very considerable consumption of sugar per capita; whereas in those countries in which these qualities are not predominant among the inhabitants the consumption is smaller. In England, first among the maritime nations of the world, the consumption of sugar is 86 lbs. a year for each inhabitant. In Denmark it is 45, in Holland 31, in France 30, and in Norway and Sweden 25, whereas in Russia it is only 10, in Italy 7, in Turkey 7, in Greece 6, and in Servia 4. The consumption of sugar seems to have very little connection with or relation to the production of sugar; for in Austria, the sugar product of which is large, the average consumption is only 19 pounds, while in Switzerland, in which there is no production to speak of, it is 14. And another curious phase of the matter is that there is a great disparity in the consumption of sugar in the tea drinking countries, England and Russia. The large amount of sugar consumed in France is attributed in part to the fact that the French confectioners and candy makers, and more especially those doing business in the city of Paris, use in their trade enormous quantities of sugar in a year, adding abnormally to the average consumption of sugar in the French Republic.

This story is told in Boston of Col. T. W. Higginson. He was traveling in the South a few years after the war, and chanced to fall into talk with an old farmer who had engaged a number of old soldiers to help in the haying. "You see over there where those four men are working?" asked the farmer. "Well, all of 'em fought in the war. One of 'em was a private, one of 'em was a corporal, one of 'em was a major, and that man 'way there in the corner was a colonel." "Are they good men?" asked Higginson. "Well," said the farmer, "that private's a first class man, and the corporal's pretty good, too." "But how about the major and the colonel?" "The major's so-so," said the farmer. "But the colonel?" "Well, I don't want to say nothin' against any man who was a colonel in the war," said the farmer, "but I've made up my mind I won't hire no brigadier general."

OUR FOREIGN NEWS.

Translated and Selected from leading European papers for the SENTINEL.

ENGLAND.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN

Times—London, April 20.

In view of the recent development of warlike feeling at Madrid, it cannot be supposed that delay on the American side would do any good, hence it is better that what the President has to do should be done quickly. It is, however, surprising to learn that he alone in Washington, with the exception of Archbishop Ireland, still believes in the possibility of peace. A peaceful solution would doubtless still be possible if both Governments were sincerely desirous to avoid war. But, however rightly Mr. Goldwin Smith may have gauged the feelings of the American people when he says that they have been hurried into a situation which they had no real wish to occupy, it is quite plain that Congress means war, and it is less evident that the Spanish people too in the mood to which they have been brought up, are quite unable to give dispassionate consideration to any issue but war. It is quite conceivable that both nations will in the long run have reason to regret the decision at which both have arrived. Had Spain been able to consider her real interests with coolness a few months, or even a few weeks, ago, she could have found a way out of her difficulties which would not have derogated at all from her dignity, however it might have offended vested interests. Had the American people enjoyed the advantage of more calm and statesmanlike guidance than has been found in Congress they might with patience and courtesy have secured for the Cubans an emancipation much more to the Cuban mind than any that is likely to result from the defeat of Spain. * * *

That regret is none the less keen because this alkive and its Government have been alike powerless to avert the mischief which both deplore. It is rarely useful, and it is always serious, to interfere in other people's quarrels, while in this case both parties are particularly sensitive. Mr. Baifour last night explained the very modest part played by Her Majesty's Government in joining with other Powers to make a friendly representation in favor of peace. * * *

That the sympathy with the United States which is the general attitude of this country is fully appreciated in America is proved by the gratifying change of tone in treating of English affairs, as well as by such striking incidents as the proposal to pay the sum due under the Behring arbitration made by none other than Mr. Lodge, hitherto found among our detractors.

THE NON-ALCOHOLIC CRAZE
Daily Telegraph—London, April 19.
Total abstainers are understood to be divided into two classes, according to whether they are incurable sufferers from the non-alcoholic craze or occasionally enjoy lucid intervals. Those of the latter class are content with abstaining rigidly from alcohol as a beverage, but are willing to take or administer it in extreme emergencies as a medicine. The former class consists of the suicidal and homicidal lunatics who hold that death by collapse, whether for themselves or others, is preferable to touching the life saving but accursed thing. As a specimen of criminal folly it is impossible to beat; but for sheer unmitigated fatuity of the harmless order, for pure intellectual idiocy unadulterated with any ingredient of moral perversity and involving no danger to human life or offence against public policy, the American Women's Temperance Union "trumps in" an easy winner. For these ladies have conscientiously convinced themselves that it is sinful not only to imbibe alcohol, but to fling it against the side of a ship of war. At the recent "christening" of the new American battleship Kentucky they were so indiscreet as to "beat" but for sheer unmitigated fatuity of the harmless order, for pure intellectual idiocy unadulterated with any ingredient of moral perversity and involving no danger to human life or offence against public policy, the American Women's Temperance Union "trumps in" an easy winner. For these ladies have conscientiously convinced themselves that it is sinful not only to imbibe alcohol, but to fling it against the side of a ship of war. 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