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# THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, MARCH 14, 1898.


### The Cuban Situation.

No sooner did the new Spanish minister arrive in Washington than he started his type writer to work giving out "interviews" to the press concerning the Cuban situation. The tenor of his first effusion is praise for autonomy, which has proved such a miserable failure as a means of restoring peace on the island. All that Senor Bernabe says concerning the beauties of that "gold-brick" which the Spanish government offered the insurrectionists has been said before by his predecessor, and by sundry other Spanish statesmen and military commanders. It may be all right as a theory but it has not worked in practice.

Even the minister himself is forced to admit that "with an insurrection dragging to a close, there are difficulties in the way of a complete realization of plans so comprehensive as to embrace the entire internal machinery of Cuba." However, he is confident that if autonomy is given a chance it will eventually succeed. It would be interesting to know what Senor Bernabe regards as a "chance." The President of the United States has given about all the chance that Spain could reasonably desire, after three years of fighting and not one thing to show for it except a devastated country, a war debt of a half billion dollars, the starvation of many thousands of people, the sacrifice of a hundred and fifty thousand troops, and peace as far away, so far as Spanish attempts to bring it about are concerned, as it was in the beginning.

The coolness of the Spanish minister in referring to the insurrection as "drawing to a close," is refreshing truly. We have also heard that before, and have been hearing it daily from almost the outbreak of the rebellion. General Weyler's type writer announced it as glibly as does that of the Spanish minister. Autonomy is a failure, and this government knows it as well as does the government at Madrid and its accredited representative at Washington. That is why the United States government has ceased to regard it as an element in the situation, and inends to take a hand in the matter, after having given the Spanish government all the "chance" that it can reasonably expect.

Late dispatches from Washington inform us that there has been no modification of the President's intention to "obtain the recognition of Cuban independence and to establish peace through intervention," though he has not yet given up the hope that the Spanish government will come to see that some other method of bringing about the desired result may be effective. Whatever may be the finding in the Maine affair these two propositions, it is said, are to be carried out.

In the Maine affair, while hardly any doubt longer remains that the destruction of the battleship was by an external force, the United States must fix and establish the responsibility. This is the work of the board of inquiry and the President cannot act, nor does the public expect him to act, upon outside information or the theories advanced by speculators and yellow newspapers. Absolute grounds that can be sustained by official authority only will govern the President's acts. No other course would be just or sustained by international law. No other course would be in accordance with the American sense of right.

The whole matter is put in a few words by a Washington dispatch which says: "If it be shown by competent evidence that high Spanish officials were accessories to the wrecking of the Maine, it will indicate the first degree of culpability. If it be proved that petty officers plotted the destruction of the vessel, but that the responsible military authorities were not cognizant of the conspiracy, it would constitute the second degree. But if it be proved that irresponsible civilians were guilty of the offense the responsibility will be minimized." This is what the board of inquiry is now trying to determine. Whatever the result, it is not expected to change the President's intention to bring peace once more to Cuba, and, it is believed, on the basis of Cuban independence. The matter of course will be submitted to Congress.

This is the situation which Senor Bernabe must face, and he will understand it better after he remains in Washington awhile. His weak efforts to impress upon the public mind the beauties of autonomy have come too late. Autonomy as applied by Spain is not autonomy. It has proved a delusion and a snare. War is not necessarily an outcome of the situation, although it is one of the strong probabilities. Senor Bernabe's typewriter would be better employed discussion the important features that have grown out of the failure of autonomy, than in appealing for a continuance of a policy which the Spanish government has demonstrated its impotency to carry out.

### Mr. Rucker on the Chilton Matter.

A letter written by Attorney General Rucker, in reply to the criticisms of the state administration, and of him in particular, with reference to the treatment of the Chilton shortage, is very much to the point and gives ample reasons for the fact that the attorney general has not brought a criminal prosecution against Chilton; also for the collection of moneys from foreign corporations that had illegally paid their taxes to Chilton, who was not the proper officer to receive them. The letter, which will be found elsewhere, is addressed to the Charleston Gazette, the Democratic organ at the state capital, which paper has been unusually vicious in its criticisms of the administration's course, and has been impugning the motives of the governor and other state officers.

Mr. Rucker defends himself and the administration from the unjust charge, which implies about everything short of collusion with Mr. Chilton in the affair, and he shows clearly that under his construction of the law he is following out a proper course. He declares that his first duty is the collection of the money, and that there is no intention of forcing the corporations to pay their taxes twice; that on the payment of the Chilton shortage the money will be repaid, and that if the Chilton shortage is not recovered he will ask the legislature to refund the money. His duty now, however, is to hold the corporations responsible for the results of their own ignorance of the law. He must follow out the duty that is imposed upon him by the law.

Mr. Rucker points out that if an indictment is to be brought against Chilton, the duty belongs to the prosecuting attorney of Kanawha county. If criminal proceedings are necessary there is a time to take such action. The Gazette, in commenting on Mr. Rucker's letter, totally ignores the matter of the attorney general's action regarding the collection of the charter taxes from the corporations, and reiterates its absurd proposition that the administration is holding back the Chilton matter "until the campaign gets hot" and that then it will be "rushed;" it also thinks Chilton should be in the penitentiary, and criticises the administration because he is not there. The points concerning the matter made by Mr. Rucker are totally ignored.

Considering the unjust criticisms of the administration officers that appear in the Gazette, reiterated after Mr. Rucker's logical explanation, and the enthusiastic desire exhibited by the Gazette to see Chilton sent to the penitentiary, regardless of the circumstances surrounding the case which might make such an effort impossible, and considering also that the Gazette is the organ of the ambitions of a rival faction of the Democracy which has every reason to see the power of the Chiltons cut off, it seems that the Gazette, in resorting to unjust means and untruthful imputations against the state administration, is not moved altogether by an unselfish and patriotic desire to see justice vindicated.

The personal animus is well understood. The Gazette knows that the administration officers are taking the proper and legal course in the matter and will recover to the state treasury the money, or as much as possible, that is due it. There is more behind the Gazette's assaults than may be evident to the uninitiated.

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A man named George McCoy, who has been flooding the country with circulars announcing that he would transport people to the Klondike from Portland, Oregon, with 1,000 pounds of baggage, for the sum of $300 and was selling tickets to unsuspecting ones, has been arrested by the government authorities for using mails for fraudulent purposes. Prospective Klondikers should be careful, before dealing with men who offer them such cheap means for getting to the Klondike, to ascertain if they represent a bona fide transportation company.

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Admiral Sicard regards the voting of the appropriation of $50,000,000 for the national defense as a satisfactory measure of confidence, and remarks that a nation that can raise such a sum in a few hours for such a purpose is not a nation to be trifled with. It is a warning to all the world, he thinks, that the American government is powerful in its own strength and has the support of the entire people. It will make it comparatively easy to enforce any just demand we may have against Spain.

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The long overdue Paris reached port at last with nothing more serious the matter with her than a broken shaft. Her passengers and crew were all safe and well. In view of the fact that the Paris has been in trouble before there were grave fears for her safety, and her arrival lifted a cloud of anxiety from the minds of the friends of her 181 passengers.

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It is possible that the alleged quotation from Emperor William, of Germany, to the effect that as long as he is alive "the Yankees shall not take possession of Cuba," is another yellow journal "fake." The kaiser has said and done some very indiscreet things, but we are not prepared to believe that he ever uttered anything so assinine as that.

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A fresh outbreak of the Phillippine insurrectionists is giving Spain something to look after beside the crisis on this side of the Atlantic. It will not be surprising if the present state of affairs ends in her losing her oriental possessions as well as those in the Atlantic.

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Mark Twain is again happy, having paid the last dollar of the indebtedness which he asumed from a sense of honor. He hopes now to spend his old age in the home he had sacrificed, and all America will hope to see his ambition gratified.

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The Long Island inventor of an airship who proposes to fly across the ocean is wise to decide upon a trial trip to Washington first.

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Gladstone's St. Patrick's Day greeting to the Irish members of parliament is: "The cause of Ireland is in your own hands. With Ireland divided her cause is hopeless, but with Ireland one in mind and one in spirit her cause is irresistable." This is a great truth that is borne out by the history of the successful accomplishment of nearly all such movements as that which Ireland is engaged in. Unity is everything.

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

The colored girl baby is born to blush unseen.

Whitewashing a man's character doesn't wash it white.

When a man marries a mute wife he takes in a silent partner.

College men never graduate in a hurry; they do it by degrees.

Many a good resolution has been shattered by a single "smile."

It is difficult to count the beats in the heart of a great city.

The judge never sits on the jury, but he frequently does on the attorney.

It is a wise infant that goes to sleep when its mother begins to sing to it.

The banana peel is said to be an excellent substitute for ice—on the sidewalk.

An old bachelor says that marriage is a permanent injury resulting from falling in love.

History spends half its time in repeating itself and the other half in getting itself revised.

Some people think three or four times before speaking once, and then never say anything worth listening to.

In making a goose, nature requires a lot of quills, but a man can make a goose of himself with only one quill.—Chicago News.

### WHAT THE BACHELOR SAYS.

Love may be weakness, but it knows its business.

Probably Joan of Arc was burned to death because she wore clothes like a man.

A woman's real troubles never worry her half as much as the ones she gets up clubs about.

Whenever you accuse a girl of being jealous she says it is because you have no conception of her real feelings.

It's a hard strain on a man to have the minister come to supper the same day he had to get the clinkers out of the furnace.

When two girls tell each other about their engagements they always kiss each other, call each other "Dear" and then cry because they feel so happy.—New York Press.

### Gen. Grosvenor's Ready Wit.

Washington Post: Gen. Grosvenor's ready wit in debate has already become proverbial, and the only surprising thing about him is that never for a moment, when on his feet, can members find him napping. This was the case yesterday. "The grim old lion of Athens" was making a speech in behalf of the war claims, under consideration, and undertook to locate the blame for delayed payments where he thought it belonged—with the Democratic party. He began to read a column of statistics showing just how much money past congresses had voted towards the payment of this class of claims and, when he reached the Fifty-second congress, declared that the Democrats of that body voted to pay only $597.

Representative Richardson, of Tennessee, often called "Slim Jim," interposed an explanation. "Don't say the organization," said Mr. Richardson in correcting Gen. Grosvenor. "I was with you in that congress insisting that these claims should be paid."

"But you were not the organization," put in Gen. Grosvenor, at which the house was in an uproar of laughter, "but I hope some time in the providence of God you may be."

"Silver Dick" Bland, of Missouri, then took up the cudgel against Gen. Grosvenor, and in behalf of the Democrats of the Fifty-second congress. "Don't you think that the Democrats had many difficulties in that congress?" he asked aggressively.

"You always have difficulties," came back the answer quick as a flash. "You were born in difficulties," and "Silver Dick" walked back to his seat, enjoying the wit as much as any of the lawmakers.

### Past and Present.

"The lost and delicious leisure of the olden time."—Adam Bede.

Leisure is dead! ah, dear old Leisure!
Merciless hurry reins in his place,
Striving for gain is our only pleasure,
Gold is the prize of our life's mad race.

Sit and think!—at your peril you do it—
Scurry and bustle and bang and crash!
Wasting your time—that's the way they view it,
Everything's folly but gathering cash.

An hour at your dinner! 'tis shameful, shameful!
Twenty minutes is ample time—
Gobble it down, such dawdling is blameful,
You should be making an extra dime.

Oh, for the days of the sweet maid spinning,
Kettle humming on open hearth;
Ere all this artifice knew beginning,
Dear old days of our nation's birth.

Days when the slow old coaches, crawling,
Gave us a chance to enjoy the scene.
(Now we fly with a speed appalling,
Nothing we see but a blur of green.)

Fine old inns by the road inviting,
Smoked and soaked with an honest cheer,
None of your rooms all paint and whiting,
Chill and cold with electric glare.

Sweet old games in the candle's glimmer,
Corners dim where we loved to sit—
Brighter our lights, but our joys are dimmer,
Romance! ah, little is left of it.

Ghost yarn telling was grandpa's glory—
Ugh! the ghost was there at your back!—
Fancy telling that sort of story
To the tune of the radiator's crack!

Home delights one could revel deep in—
("Home!" 'twas the dearest word but one!)
Not just a skimpy box to sleep in,
After the daily task is done.

Good old parsons with good old sermons,
Slow, but sure in the narrow way—
None of your theological Herrmanns
Juggling the Word for a banker's pay.

What though the mail came but fortnightly,
Letters were letters in days of old;
Written lengthily, heartily, brightly,
None of your hasty scrawls and cold.

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Rush and bustle and bang and clatter!
Scurry and hustle and clang and crash!
Bow, ye slaves, to the god of Matter,
Everything's folly but gathering cash.
—New York Times.

### Sound Money Discussions.

Between now and the next presidential election there will be hosts of discussions of the questions of "sound money" and silver. However opinions may be divided on these points, there is but one public and professional opinion, and that is a favorable one, regarding the merits of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters as a remedy for and preventive of malaria, as well as a curative of kidney complaint, dyspepsia, constipation, liver trouble and rheumatism.

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CHILDREN and adults tortured by burns, scalds, injuries, eczema or skin diseases may secure instant relief by using DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. It is the great Pile remedy. Charles R. Goetze, Market and Twelfth streets; Chatham Sinclair, Forty-sixth and Jacob streets; A. E. Schecle, No. 607 Main street; Exley Bros., Penn and Zane streets; Bowle & Co., Bridgeport. 2

### If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle. m-w&f



### PASSING PLEASANTRIES.

Have you noticed how well "Dixie" and "Yankee Doodle" harmonize nowadays?—Rochester Democrat.

True art is to conceal art, but the woman who paints a velvet lambrequin hangs it on her parlor mantle.—Chicago Record.

"Why do you call your house The Blockhead?"

"Simply because it is the first in our row."—Boston Courier.

Flo (proudly)—Our minister doesn't jump at conclusions.

Jack (sadly)—I should say he doesn't. I never knew him to reach a conclusion in less than an hour.—Philadelphia Call.

"I think I shall have to discharge my office boy."

"What's the matter with him?"

"All there is for him to do at the office is to tear off the sheets once a month from the various calendars hanging on the wall, and when he tore them off on the first day of March he kicked because February was such a short month."—Chicago Tribune.

Some poet writes: "We are our fathers' fathers' sons." This makes us brothers to our own daddies, doesn't it?—Galveston News.

"What's the reason your baggage isn't here? Wasn't it checked?"

"That's just the trouble. It was checked by an attachment."—Harlem Life.

We like to see our brethren of the press turning out new words. It shows they are not hampered by any effete rules of grammar. The latest comes from the Florida Appeal, which fires "equilarity" at us.—Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser.

"When this town was organized," said the early settler of the little western town, "I was elected mayor by a majority of only one vote."

"Pretty close shave," said the newcomer.

"Oh, tollable. But there was only five votes in the town then."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"What did you think of that cigar I gave you yesterday.

"Not much. It cost me $4."

"How so?"

"Why, it gave my wife the idea that the gas was leaking somewhere, and she sent for a plumber."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Lenten Invocation.

Father—
In present meditations make us wise;
For folly lingers in the vestibule,
Wearing the mask of mirth—the cloak of joy,
And from the courtyard wings a battle-cry
That throbs with echoes of the patriot's song;
But groans of stricken men make the refrain
Swell to a solemn, sacrificial dirge—
O teach us wisdom in this hour of need!

In this our time of abstinence we ask
For strength to stem the scorching thirst for blood;
To curb the raging lust for hot revenge;
To keep in bounds a growing nation's greed!
Teach us the holiness of great restraint,
And all the hideous selfishness of war—
Amen!
—Chicago Record.





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