

THE INTELLIGENCER.

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The City Refunding Scheme. In the Intelligencer's local columns this morning will be found some interesting matter with reference to the proposition of Receiver Forney to reorganize the city indebtedness.

The Intelligencer directs the attention, not alone of the citizens and taxpayers of Wheeling, but also of the citizens and taxpayers of the state of West Virginia, to the article referred to for some history which needs to be understood.

An extract is quoted from James G. Blaine's "Twenty Years in Congress," on this subject, which possibly few have read.

In connection with the refunding scheme our readers will find the article referred to of more than ordinary interest.

The Race Question in the South. In view of recent utterances on remedies for the race question, which seem to be disturbing some of the southern states, the problem is being discussed by the conservative press in a way which brings out some important suggestions.

Reference has been made of late to the fact that Hobson City, Ala., has decided to try the experiment of being the only exclusively colored town in the country, and the general opinion is that the experiment will be watched with interest, because it is regarded as a test of the capacity of the negroes to govern themselves well.

The experiment revives the discussion of Booker Washington's plan. Washington's idea is that the problem will be, or can be worked out through education. He differs, as is generally known, from theorists who desire to give the colored men professional training, to make scholars of them in Latin, Greek, mathematics and about everything except practical knowledge which is even better qualified for general life, and thus limiting the number of the educated ones to a small percentage, who would be obliged to depend on their own people for support.

That is not the sort of education Booker Washington proposes. He very sensibly insists that the education of the colored man should be on industrial and moral lines, which will fit him for the battles of life and the duties that fall to him, if he would fill such places as he is fitted to fill.

In a somewhat lengthy editorial on this subject, the Louisville Courier Journal, Henry Watterson's paper, says of Bishop Turner's plan:

The scheme is utterly and hopelessly impracticable. The deportation could only take place by the consent of the negroes, and the majority would refuse to go. Those who went would soon be coming back as fast as they could carry out such a scheme on a large scale would derange the labor system of the south, temporarily, cost a vast sum of money and result in utter failure. Of the serious nature of the negro problem, there can be no doubt. But it must work itself out, as many another problem has done under the operation of broad, general influences, which may be modified or expedited in

their operation, but can not be altogether controlled by any artificial expedients. The Louisville contemporary takes a practical view of the situation, and agrees with the contention that, until the work gets well on, the colored race seems somewhat dependent on the supervision and assistance of the white men. The two examples of abandonment to its own devices are now being witnessed in the republics of San Domingo and Haiti. However, our owned colored people are differently situated and naturally the assistance of the white men will be sought. There are thousands, especially in the north, who will give their encouragement for the general good of the country, and for the final settlement of the main problem.

A Sneer at the President. Between two very lengthy and villainously abusive editorials about President McKinley, the Register stops long enough to take breath and utter the following: "President McKinley, in a speech at the Catholic Summer School in New York, declared that whenever the flag is assailed, 'it will be carried to a triumphant peace.' 'Chops and crated sauce, gentlemen of the jury,' cried Sergeant Buzarf, in the celebrated case of Bardell vs. Pickwick."

This is a refined piece of wit, and is quite a relief from the abusive language in the two other articles. There is no diagram explaining its point, because nobody but those who have the most deeply perceptive minds reads the Register, and every man who took the paragraph with his breakfast felt better after his meal.

Just what the point is, however, should be explained for the benefit of those who have not been trained up to read the Register every day. Laying aside the joke feature, was not the President correct when he said that tribute to the flag? Does not the history of the country furnish many precedents to warrant the President of the United States to say that whenever the stars and stripes are assailed it will be carried to a triumphant peace?

When, in the career of the United States, has it been otherwise? What has happened from the day that the British surrendered at Yorktown to the day that Spain surrendered within the year that that proves that "when the American flag was assailed it was carried to a triumphant peace?"

Does the Register desire to intimidate, by its able and comprehensive humor, comment, that the President does not expect to triumph peace will prevail in the Philippines? We admit that it would not be likely were the United States to forsake its obligations, reject its treaty responsibilities, and leave the Philippine Islands in a state of anarchy, for that is just what the Atkinsonian press may say about it.

The President appealed to the loyal heart of Americans when he declared that whenever the American flag is assailed it is carried to triumph peace, for that is just what will be done, as was done when a previous administration ordered it hauled down in Hawaii—it has always been done, and always will be, cost what it may. It is very small business to sneer at that sentiment.

Bryan's Political Suicide. There seems no doubt that Bryan has materially weakened his strength by declaring at Des Moines, Iowa, when he has heretofore said the Democracy must not do, place the silver issue in the background. It is recalled that Bryan came into prominence through his defense, in 1896, of the free coinage plank in the Chicago platform; that secured him the nomination, and he is not a logical candidate now on any other issue.

Bryan made a phenomenal and unexpected run on that platform, when we come to consider the circumstances of the country being largely against him. All his strength was in the advocacy of the silver plank, for that was the sole issue. The Democrats who have faithfully followed him since that campaign, and up to the present, have done so because he was an unwavering champion of free coinage, and for no other real reason.

Now, if the Nebraskan may be taken at his word, when he ceases to be that special champion, particularly so soon following his assurances that the issue must not be retired, he ceases to be the candidate that the majority of the Democracy desires. He is logically out of it.

So much for Mr. Bryan. As to the other issues—those which may be called "emergency questions," proposed by the "big leaders to satisfy the craving for a substitute for the sixteen to one theory—there are a number of Democrats who are even better qualified for general life, and thus limiting the number of the educated ones to a small percentage, who would be obliged to depend on their own people for support.

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The mistake of capturing towns and abandoning them for lack of garrison troops will not be a feature of Secretary Root's management. Otis's estimate of the number of troops needed does not govern the secretary, who proposes to be on the safe side. Vigorous work cannot be delayed, despite the protests of the hand that opposes aggression.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS. More congressmen wear out than rust out. Some men marry for love—with money considerations except at home. One doesn't have to be great in order to be misunderstood.

When you set a bad example it is very apt to hatch mischief. It is easier to go without a hair-cut than it is to write poetry.

The life work of the reformer seems to be to exhaust himself at home. Strange to say, it is the conversation with no point, to that bore quickest. When a man is wrapped up in himself he uses the only envelope nature provided.

The self-made man put in more than eight hours a day while working at the job. It's poor policy for a business man to wait for the sheriff to attend to his advertising.

The colored recruit arms himself with a razor when he enlists for a campaign expedition. The average man spends less time in trying to do his duty than he does in inventing excuses for not doing it.

It is just as easy to tell the truth as it is to tell a lie, but somehow people seem to prefer the lie at least to the truth. The individual who sits down and waits for fame to visit him will find himself among the left-over baggage after the express train has come and gone.—Chicago Daily News.

There must have been a hot time in the "innards" of the editor of the Berriville Courier last week. He says: "Last Friday two well attended dances occurred in the village of Berriville. The copedhead is a dangerous reptile with no sense of honor and scarcely the instinct of self preservation. The rattlesnake is a gentleman compared with him.—Charleston Gazette.

RELECTIONS OF A BACHELOR. Every woman is a good actress until she goes on the stage. There is one thing a woman never can understand, and that is herself. When the devil had his choice as to instruments he first picked jealousy.

If there weren't any bad men to be horrible examples, probably there wouldn't be any good women to be shining examples. When a man can make a woman believe that she can't help falling for him, she feels she has to marry him, so that she can turn the current on whenever she feels like it.—New York Press.

A Tenant's Misfortune. A very subdued-looking boy of about thirteen years, with a long scratch on his nose and an air of general dejection, came to his teacher in a rural board school and handed her a note before taking his seat, and became deeply absorbed in his book.

The note read as follows: "Miss R.—Please excuse James for not being here yesterday. He played a trick on you, but you don't need to lick him for it, as the boy he played a trick on, an' he fell out, an' the boy licked him, an' a man they checked caught him, an' they put him in the hospital, an' they hung on to licked him also. Then his pa licked him, an' I had to give him another for checkin' me for telling his pa, so you need not lick him until next time. I think he feels he better keep in school hereafter."—Tit-Bits.

Why It Didn't Suit Her. Chicago Times-Herald: "No," said the widow of the waiter, addressing the tombstone man: "I will not accept this monument. I do not care to advertise my poor, dear Henry's business over his grave."

"Why, madam," the man asked, "What's wrong with the stone? It's one of the best we have in stock for the price."

"I don't care," she declared. "I won't have it, with that lamb or top under it and words, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

"That's all right," the man said, "but you'll have to take an order for a mutton chop."

Letting it Out. "Did the postman leave any letters, Mary?" the mistress asked, on returning from a visit one afternoon.

"Nothing but a post-card, ma'am." "Who is it from, Mary?"

"It's from my girl, I'd read it, ma'am," asked the girl, with an injured air.

"Perhaps not. But any one who sends me a message on a post-card is either stupid or impertinent."

"You'll excuse me, ma'am," returned the girl loftily, "but that's a nice way to be talking about your own mother!"—Sydney Journal.

Cynthia's Got a Bean! There's a bean on at our house I think. My sister and a dancin' from mornin' up to night.

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STATE PRESS GLEANINGS. A snake story that is somewhat old, but is vouched for by reliable authority as true, comes from Spring Hill.

Just above the mouth of Davis creek is the home of Captain Richard Cobb, and near it a school was kept. On the right side of the railroad is a somewhat rugged cliff and for years past copperheads have been entirely too numerous in that vicinity to suit the convenience of the residents there.

Last spring, about the time the violets began to bloom, some boys in the vicinity saw a rattlesnake return, rolling down the hill and when it struck the railroad the discovery was made that it was composed of snakes and every snake a copperhead.

The boys made a vallant attack and killed twenty-nine of the reptiles. It is not known how many escaped. They were not of the size, but were large enough to look out for themselves and to be decidedly dangerous in any community where they might take up their abode.

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AS TO "FAVORITE SONS." What is There in "A Favorite Son" to Disqualify Him for Good Service? New York Tribune: The retirement of General Alger from the cabinet has revived in certain quarters the criticism directed a year ago against the appointment of "favorite sons."

It has never been able to satisfy itself, for instance, either that the administration of the war department was as brilliant as the one whose someone else could not or would not have done better in his place. But this charge of having ordered or procured the appointment of a string of favorites and ignoramus over the heads of men who knew their business, we must characterize as wholly unfounded.

It bespeaks an ignorance of the facts as to the nature of the office of the officers who were appointed, and a failure to take into account the fact that the officers who were appointed were not of the same grade as the officers who were displaced.

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