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SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1896.

The Chaplain's Prayer.

Yesterday, there was woven into the prayer of the chaplain, in the house of representatives, an invocation from which, at its close, the members could not withhold applause; the prayer was that struggling Cuba might have success in her battle for independence.

Whatever construction may be put upon these words at Madrid we devoutly venture the suggestion that the throne addressed by the venerable chaplain will not construe his prayer as an unfriendly act. Lucky it is that the house chaplain's prayers do not have to go to Senator Sherman's committee on foreign relations to be reported back before their formal utterance. There may be a providence in the applause that followed the prayer, unusual as that sequel was; it may be that John Sherman, hearing of the applause, will feel divinely guided to do what he ought to have done before now—he ought, in obedience to the manifest will of the American people, to have brought to the attention of the senate a report in favor of the recognition of the Cuban patriots as belligerents.

Our belief is that retribution will follow if this country fails in its duty respecting the insurgents. Cuba is tropically rich—there is no estimating the island's resources were they developed under an enlightened policy. Spain is poor; Madrid is too benighted to know how to make her West Indian possessions valuable. Diplomacy has it that Spain's scheme is to sell Cuba to England. What a plight this country would be in were that bargain to be consummated. Instead of being in position to urge the Monroe doctrine against that event in a way that would commend our conduct to the good will of other nations, we would be looked upon as pursuing the contemptible policy of the dog in the manger.

Do One of Two Things.

We have a seven-story suspicion that Thomas Henry Carter has been talking with the Standard's special correspondent in Washington. In view of the ungentle reference in this morning's special dispatch to the presence of Governor Rickards in Washington, we fancy it must have been Carter; Hartman doesn't care one way or the other and Mantle is ill.

The idea conveyed in the dispatch is that Montana's delegation in congress is of the opinion that the governor's visit to Washington is not worth while. Of course the courtesies due the governor at the hands of the members from Montana were lavishly shown. They dined him and wi— no, not that exactly; they didn't wine him, because the governor is waiting for Missouri-dam water and does not wine. At any rate, they entertained Governor Rickards at lunch. At the same time the Standard's correspondent got the notion—and no little bird ever brought it to him—that this state's representatives in congress have full faith in their ability to handle at Washington all the business that properly comes up there in relation to Montana, and they do not see why the governor should put in an appearance.

These republican elbowings do not interest us. What the people of Montana are thirsting for is a crusade against the Crees. They belong across the border but, when it comes to the forbidden pursuit of game, they rush into Northern Montana, hunting where no law-abiding citizens of Montana dare to tread—unless it be Judge DeWitt and Judge Buck. What Montana demands is something Venezuelesque on her own hook. We want the Rickards doctrine enforced so emphatically that every last dirty Cree will understand that we regard his presence this side of the line as an unfriendly act. We want the bloody Britishers to understand that they must keep their tan-colored property out of our front yard; otherwise we propose to have Kaiser William and his grandmother and old Krueger and Abdul Hamid and the whole band of them understand that the miserable Crees must croak.

It isn't such a forbidding piece of work; all that is wanted for leadership in this glorious undertaking is "any good man." Whether it be Paul or Apollos or Ezra or Thomas cuts no figure—we almost believe that Thompson, of Butte would do. Now, if Senator Carter objects to Mr. Rickards' presence, why doesn't he "hump himself," as they say in the reading room of the Helena club? Why does he not rise in his place in the senate, stop the wheels of government and say, in the phrase of an oration that was pronounced several years before the Cleveland administration was born: "Mr. president, friends and fellow citizens—I come not here to be shut off under the rules. You know too well the story of our game laws. We are Monroe-doctrine people. The bright sun rises over the Great Northern railroad and lights a race of Indians." We are compelled to remark that what comes next in this classic quotation escapes us at this moment. It has something to do with what happens when the sun sets. Mr. Carter can find the full text in any book of speeches designed for use in the public schools.

It is our firm faith that with these burning words Senator Carter could fire the senate's heart. Probably the effort would inspire the federal army to rise as one man, or as two or three men, and swipe the Crees. Of course, Senator Carter might not make a hit of these proportions. If, however, he happened to do it, he would be solid for a second term—the Lord knows how otherwise he is going to get it. But if the plan we have outlined is not adapted to Senator Carter's widely-recognized modesty, then it seems to us best that, at least, he should abstain from disgruntled commentary on the governor's presence at the seat of government. Manifestly it would be more patriotic and more to the terror of the Crees were Mr. Carter to secure for the governor audiences at the war department, at the white house and at the British embassy. We venture to say that if he is let loose on them, Governor John Ezra Rickards, of Montana, can argue Daniel S. Lamont to a standstill and talk Sir J. Pauncefote, G. C. M. G. K. C. B. Esq., out of the District of Columbia.

Governor Rickards is on the ground. He has been ill; he is not exactly in training. Nevertheless, all Montana is prepared to back him against all comers of the Cree kind. If the members of the Montana delegation feel there is danger that the governor is not making wages, board and sleeping-car fare, out of that nettle let him pluck the flower safety. In other words, turn him loose, and then if there is any back-talk, lay it on A. J. Davidson—he too is there not making wages. We say, give the old man a chance; and so perish all Crees!

The Expert Craze.

The next man who comes along this way professing to be a mining expert in quest of big mining deals will need, however honest his purpose, to be supported with credentials signed, sealed and delivered according to law. Within three days the dispatches have dealt with two rascals whose good address has made it possible for them to dupe several pretty clever people and whose pretensions have been of the most lofty sort—they have professed to speak for millions and they have persuaded others to take stock in their professions.

Lawrence Daly, the rascal who professed to be an owner in the Anaconda properties and to represent the Rothschilds, played his game with ease in Kansas City. Of course, he was caught, but the report of the proceedings in the courts, which the Standard quotes on the ninth page this morning from the Kansas City Journal, is an entertaining statement of the facility with which this confidence man worked his victims. Daly is held for the action of the grand jury. Evidently he expects to add to his record in Deer Lodge prison a term in some Missouri jail; and he accepts the situation, arch crook that he is, like a philosopher. This fellow may not know so very much about mining, but in the art and science of getting into prison he is an expert.

The second of the alleged millionaire mining operators is the fellow whose recent adventures are told on one of this morning's Butte pages. He operated in Butte, Helena and Tacoma. He is what our friend, Gen. C. S. Warren, would call a mighty smooth duck. He fooled 'em, all along the line, and he did it in a manner that does distinguished credit to his eminent rascality.

The right way to deal with these fellows who have a weakness so pronounced for mining would be to sentence them to a term at hard labor in the bottom of some well-watered prospect hole back of Butte.

Two Views of It.

Cecil Rhodes retires, but he said at Kimberley a few days ago that, so far from being out of politics, his political career has just begun. He professes that he will yet do good work for South Africa. He is in a position to do it; the question is whether he regards his prompting of Dr. Jameson's recent raid into the Transvaal as a sample of good work.

In the opinion of Cecil Rhodes the Jameson escapade was all right. In an interview with him which was wired to New York four or five days ago, he asserts that seventy thousand new arrivals are in the Transvaal against fourteen thousand of the old population. He predicts that the new population will soon be a half million, and probably he is right about that. He is doubtless right also when he says that many Americans are included in the Transvaal population; probable it is, too, that the policy of the Krueger government is too conservative to fit some of the needs of the new blood.

This all may be true. But the whole of it does not lead to the conclusion that other nations should clap their hands at the spectacle of one of Great Britain's petty larceny land-grabs. "England," says Rhodes, "is the only great power in South Africa. She is now threatened with German interference, which she is bound to resent and resist. In this she should have America's sympathy." That again may be true, yet we doubt it. Admit that England is the only great power in South Africa; if Germany gets a grip on something in that region there will be two great powers in South Africa.

What of that? What's the odds to the United States? Who among Americans is concerned, except the wanderers from this country who are there? It has been often said of late that, as a rule, the Americans at Johannesburg do not get on too well with the English. But suppose that to be untrue; suppose, on the contrary, that these Americans do not fancy the presence of anything German in South Africa. That is their affair. If they do not like it let them come home; the same civil rights are assured to them here that the rest of us enjoy.

That's about the size of it. England finds herself compelled constantly to chase around the world for the protection of subjects who cannot make a living at home. That is all right for England; this broad republic doesn't have to.

There is a suspicion that Governor Morton is sawing more air than wood.

England's flying squadron cannot fly very close to the United States without flying into the face of public opinion.

Confidence operators have struck a rich lead in the mining expert business.

"Congratulations to Senator Foraker of Ohio. Notice what a melodious sound it has compared with Senator Brice," says the Salt Lake Tribune. Speaking of melodious sounds, how does Brown strike you?

In announcing his engagement to Mrs. Dimmick, Mr. Harrison does not wish it understood that he is making any engagements that will interfere with any demands made upon him by the St. Louis convention.

New York's green goods men found the national democratic committee too hard a proposition.

Prince Goluchowsky, of Vienna, is said to be much gratified at the position taken by the kaiser in the Transvaal matter. Prince Goldarnwhisky is yet to be heard from.

The time is now approaching when all three parties must point with pride and view with alarm.

Though of opposite politics, Mr. Harrison is patriotic enough to give his unreserved commendation to Mr. Cleveland's grand-sweet-song message.

If Poet Laureate Austin had only tried his "Jameson's Ride" on a dog he might have escaped any severer criticism than cruelty to animals.

Along with the rice and old shoes Mr. Harrison would thank the republican party to throw its nomination after him for luck.

Utah's election of Cannon to the senate is provoking too many gun plays among the editors of the country.

Instead of calling for a special grand jury, the best thing for the Helena city council to do is to adopt a closure rule.

Kaiser Wilhelm ought to make room in his cabinet for Mr. George Francis Train.

If Benjamin Harrison goes back to Washington it is entirely possible that Baby McKee may find himself supplanted as the reigning favorite in the white house nursery.

Lewis and Clarke's special grand jury should search the codes to see what penalty, if any, attaches to lying in the first degree.

Now that Alderman Edwards, of Helena, has stopped, the Cubans are the only people who are doing any fighting outside of their mouths.

Mrs. Dimmick has given Mr. Harrison's candidacy for a second term of matrimony her unqualified endorsement.

Sarah Bernhardt arrived in New York Monday, but still the city lost the democratic convention. All of New York's arguments were too thin.

The national league baseball managers will not overlook certain good dates in St. Louis and Chicago.

If the Cubans can hold the situation down until April, they are confidently expecting decisive aid from General Yellow Jack.

The Montana delegation at Washington seems to think that Governor Rickards does not adhere closely enough to the doctrine of home rule.

The third-term movement appears to have moved itself off the face of the earth.

Governor Matthews, of Indiana, and Secretary of State Olney will now please step up and negotiate with the Chicago hotel proprietors. Come early and avoid the rush.

PROMINENT OR PECULIAR.

Rev. Thomas Alexander, a Presbyterian minister, long resident in Chelsea, and well known as a brother Scot, was most anxious to meet Carlyle, but had no opportunity of getting an introduction to him. One day on the king's road he saw Carlyle coming in his direction, and took advantage of the opportunity by going up to the sage and saying: "Thomas Carlyle, I believe?" Carlyle's reply was: "Tom Alexander I know!" They became good friends and later Mr. Alexander wrote to Carlyle for a subscription toward a school building fund and Carlyle wrote back a refusal in doggerel, whereupon Mr. Alexander replied that if he did not send him £5 he would sell his poetry to a collector or publish it. The £5 was at once forthcoming.

SONGS OF THE SEASON.

"When I get the lay of the land," he said,
"In the lecture field, things then
Will come my way." And so they did,
But he got the lay of the hen.
—Kansas City Journal.

In the architect we victim see
Of life's perplexing plan;
For, though he be free from guile may be,
He's a designing man.
—Peoria Herald.

This life has its ups and downs—
There's a good deal of truth in a lump;
But you always go up most amazingly slow
And you always come down with a bump.
—Washington Star.

The brazen calling of the cocks at dawn
From farm to town—from town to farm—
Rings the round earth in mirth of morn,
And scatters darkness with the day's alarm.

Awake, ye sleepers! Night is passed!
The fields are aching for the plow!
The world is waiting—nay, at last,
My Moll steps forth to milk the cow!
—The Lark.

Wild wind blowing from the north—
Chilly, Chilly, Chilly!
(Bring my "Ode to Icebergs" forth—
Kill my "To a Lily.")

From the arctic lands afar
Comes the blizzard blowing.
(Seal my "Rose Song" in that jar;
Guess I'll write on "Snowing.")

Fate has strangest things in store—
Never gives us warning.
(Kindly close that gusty door;
Coal won't last till morning.)
—Atlanta Constitution.

To-morrow is too far away!
A bed of spice the garden is,
Nor bud nor blossom that we miss;
The roses tremble on the stem,
The violets and anemones;
Why should we wait to gather them?
Their bloom and balm are ours to-day;
To-morrow—who can say?

To-morrow is too far away!
Why should we slight the joy complete,
The flower open at our feet?
For us to-day the robin sings,
His curved flight the swallow wings,
For us the happy moments stay;
Stay yet, nor leave us all too fleet!
For life is sweet, and youth is sweet,
And love—ah, love is sweet to-day;
To-morrow—who can say?
—Ina Coolbrith.

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