

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH. BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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UP-TOWN OFFICE, BROAD-STREET PHARMACY, 519 EAST BROAD STREET. MANCHESTER OFFICE, 1203 HULL STREET.

FRIDAY,.....JANUARY 21, 1898.

CUBA AND CONGRESS.

On Wednesday in the United States House of Representatives there was another outburst of jingoism over the Cuban question. The Cuban enthusiasts took advantage of the contention advanced in certain quarters that the Havana riots proved that autonomy was doomed to failure, and introduced one of two resolutions looking, respectively, to interference by this government in the conflict in some manner, shape, or form. As a consequence another Cuban-problem debate was precipitated.

The whole business was out of order in the sense of being untimely and unwise, if not in a parliamentary sense. The Havana riots have not proved that autonomy is destined to fail. While we are free to admit that the prospects of the Cuban insurgents accepting the new programme do not appear particularly bright, it should be remembered that one instance of rioting against a movement does not demonstrate futility of the movement any more than one swallow makes a summer. Again, the position of those who claim that when the true inspiration of the rioting shall have been thoroughly understood, the cause of autonomy will be helped rather than hurt, is not entirely illogical.

But, taking even the gloomiest possible view of the outlook for autonomy, we are not justified in rushing into the breach at present by jingoistic explosions, oratorical demonstrations calculated to irritate Spain, or otherwise. The present administration inherited a conservative Cuban policy from a Democratic administration. There is much in the record of Mr. Cleveland's last term as President which we have nothing in common. With the present administration we have still less in common. Events so far have, however, justified Mr. Cleveland's general course touching the Cuban complication, and shown that he was wise in appointing General Fitzhugh Lee to be Consul-General at Havana. They have also justified President McKinley in accepting that course as a legacy, and in continuing in the position of Consul-General one whom Mr. Pitt (Republican), chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, aptly referred to as an official of ability and experience, who could be relied upon to guard our honor at Havana.

Nor is that all. Since the McKinley Administration came in Spain has made important concessions to public sentiment in this country in respect of the Cuban issue, among these being the offer of autonomy and a pledge to conduct the struggle against the insurgents heretofore on more humane lines. We are morally bound to grant "a reasonable time" for a test of the new programme, and all things considered, it is absurd to say that that reasonable time has elapsed. We have every evidence we could ask that the Sagasta ministry is keeping faith in respect of the concessions it has made and the change of policy it has inaugurated. The feeling that has been stirred up, both in Cuba and in Spain, against the ministry, and Blanco, its representative at Havana, and which found expression in the Havana riots, presents not the least convincing proof of the sincerity of Sagasta and his colleagues. Until it shall have been decided beyond question that the autonomy plan is a failure, or Spain shall have abandoned her more humane war programme, the United States cannot change their present Cuban policy for a more aggressive one without incurring deservedly the charge of acting in bad faith.

We do not maintain that the time will not come when the United States will have to act vigorously in the matter of bringing the struggle in Cuba to an end. We do not maintain that the occasion will not present itself in which we would be fully justified in so acting. But to anticipate that time and that occasion by such proceedings as took place in Congress on Wednesday is unjust to Spain, harmful to the business of the country, and a condemnation of the administration which, as much as we antagonize its general policies, we must say it does not merit.

As the case now stands, Congress could not in the interest of all concerned do better than leave it in the hands of the President and our Consul-General at Havana, who not only understand each other thoroughly, but understand the situation in its bearing on the future as well as the present more thoroughly than it is possible for Congress to understand it.

The leading article in the Medical Register for January is on "Embalming and Toxicology," and was written

by William H. Taylor, M. D., Professor of General Chemistry, Toxicology, and Medical Jurisprudence, Medical College of Virginia; Virginia State Chemist, and Coroner of the city of Richmond. The article is interesting, scientific, and humorous. It recounts many important facts of value to embalmers, shows how embalming may nullify the results of chemical analyses made in searching for poison in the bodies of victims of poisoners, and relates some of the doctor's experiences as an expert witness. In elaborating this last-named feature of the article the doctor pays his respects to his friends the lawyers.

NOMINATING SENATORS.

It can hardly be gainsaid that the report of the Committee on Resolutions favoring primary elections for the nomination of senators would have been adopted by our Roanoke convention, but for the argument made there that the question was a new one and had not been sufficiently considered. As it was, the vote taken there proves that the proposition has a vast deal of popular strength. Now, certainly, it cannot be contended that our voters "have not had time to consider the question." The subject has been discussed from one end of Virginia to the other, and Mr. Reddy has drafted a bill, which, if passed, will permit any party in this State to make use of the regular officers of election to give expression to the preferences of its voters as to candidates for the United States Senate. Thus, the question of expense, which was a stumbling-block in the way of so many members of the Roanoke convention, will be disposed of. Thus, too, our people will be able to vote at the primary when they go to the polls to vote for members of the General Assembly.

As revised by him, Mr. Reddy's bill proposes that the qualifications of voters of each party shall be such as each party prescribes. In Richmond, we Democrats would adopt the provision with respect to qualifications that has always obtained here, and confine the voting to whites only.

Possibly a legal question might be raised as to whether officers acting under the commissions of the State would have any right to enforce rules that made a seeming discrimination on account of color; but lawyers who have looked into the matter inform us that they do not fear any trouble from that direction.

Mr. Reddy's bill provides that a senatorial primary may be ordered for any party upon the petition of 100 voters belonging to that party in a county, and 500 belonging to that party in a city. This would give "local-option" to each community. The practical result would be a primary over the whole State, we think; but if any county or city did not wish to instruct its legislators by means of a primary, it would not have to do so. This local-option feature probably has more advantages than disadvantages. It makes it easy to set the machinery in motion and is simple in operation. Moreover, and what is far more important, it recognizes the propriety of no legislator's being instructed by other constituents than his own. But one of the disadvantages of the system would be that a primary might be ordered in one part of a State senatorial district and not in another. For instance, Richmond and Henrico form one senatorial district, yet a primary might be held in Richmond, and not in Henrico. In that case, our two senators would not be instructed. True, Richmond's vote would guide them to some extent, but it would not be necessarily conclusive. We suggest to Mr. Reddy to see what can be done to mend that fault.

It appears to the Dispatch that Mr. Reddy has displayed both skill and ability in furnishing the groundwork for a practicable senatorial primary-election system. And now, if all who profess to be in favor of such a primary will but aid him in perfecting the details of the bill, our people may have an inexpensive and highly satisfactory law.

LEGISLATORS' PAY. If our Delegates and Senators wish to impress upon the country their sincerity as to the expediency of our government and reducing taxation, let them make a cut in their own salaries. Let them give us fewer lawmakers and these with salaries reduced.—The Stuart Enterprise.

Of old, the pay of a legislator was \$5 per day. Annual sessions were then held and the sessions were not limited as to length. Now, we have biennial sessions of limited length and the pay is \$4 a day. In no other department of the State Government has so great a reduction of expenses been made, and we do not believe the interest of the public would be served by a further "cut."

When it is considered that a member is necessarily absent from his home and his usual employment for several months, and that he has been obliged to present expenses to pay whilst here, the present allowance is very small. Reduced to net cash, we do not believe it amounts to an average per member of more than \$1 a day. Surely, this is not an extravagant rate of payment for the services of men who are expected to do the work of our Senators and Delegates in our General Assembly.

The Retrenchment Committee will make careful inquiry into the expenses of the two houses, as well as of the other branches of our State Government, but we do not believe the public expects it to recommend that any cut be made in members' pay.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you give me some information relative to the following case? A owns real estate assessed at \$10,000. He sells this real estate to B, taking \$1,000 in notes for \$10,000, the deed of trust and taking a deed of trust. When those notes go on record the State receives a tax of \$10 for each. B is assessed with \$10,000 of real estate and pays taxes on it. Under the new law, A lists his \$10,000 of notes and pays taxes on them. Is not that a double tax on the same property?

Now, again: A desires to borrow \$10,000 and C lends it to him, taking his notes for \$10,000, and also B's notes, together with a transfer of the deed of trust as collateral. Now, as A still owes B's notes, he must continue to pay taxes on them. C has A's notes for \$10,000 and has to list them and pay taxes, and also has to list B's notes, because he holds them as collateral. Would not this transaction make five taxes?

PROPERTY-OWNER. Norfolk, Va. It has always seemed so to us, though we believe the courts hold that it is not. 2. When notes or bonds are used as a collateral, the custom is to transfer them to the lender. Therefore, we should think they would be returnable for taxation by the lender, not by the borrower. However, we know that there is a difference of opinion upon this question.

STREET CROSSINGS.

Richmond made a sorry mistake when, for the sake of smooth roadways for horses and vehicles, the old-time street crossings were abandoned. The change has been for the better for the horses and wagons, and for the worse for men, women, and children.

The present plan was introduced here from cities that have plenty of street-sweepers, and where every street crossing is swept every morning, rain or shine. But here, where our street-cleaning force is small, and where the crossings are swept at irregular intervals, the plan does not work well. Far from it. Take yesterday for example. The crossings on Main and Broad streets should have been clearly swept by 7 A. M.; but that was not the case, hundreds of wet feet and muddied dresses attest. Our merchants, especially, have a right to complain of this treatment upon the part of the city. It is injurious to their business. It is also discredit to Richmond.

Notwithstanding the fact that this matter has been the subject of frequent complaint for many years past, our merchants have exhibited a sweetness of temper that is very beautiful in them, but which, alas! does not bring about the needed reform. They ought to meet, organize, and appoint a committee to wait upon the City Council and demand of it that the old crossings be restored—or that means be provided by which the present superficial crossings shall be swept early every morning; certainly every morning after a rain or snow. In no other way that we know of can a remedy be secured. And there can be no better time for the inauguration of this movement than the present. In the first place, the annual budget is now soon to be made up by the Finance Committee; in the next, the city election will soon take place, and the probability is that members would give more heed now to the views of their constituents than later on.

We are tempted to say something about the condition of our sidewalks, also; but we refrain. One thing at a time is our motto. And the likelihood is that if the City Council could be induced to consider the crossing question, it would follow up that by action as to the sidewalks.

The New York Sun says that it seems at first sight a paradox that the history of tobacco can have a distinct relation to the history of liberty, but Mr. Fiske, in his "Old Virginia and Her Neighbors," finds a kernel of truth in Mr. Moncreux Conway's assertion that "a true history of tobacco would be the history of English and American freedom." It was, in truth, says the Sun, tobacco that planted an English nation in Virginia, and made a corporation in London so rich and powerful that it became a formidable seminary of sedition; it was the desire to monopolize the tobacco trade that induced Charles II. to recognize the House of Burgesses; discontent with the Navigation act and with its effect upon the tobacco trade was quoted among the causes of Bacon's rebellion; and so on, down to the eve of independence, when Patrick Henry won his first triumph in the famous Parson's Cause, in which the price of tobacco furnished the bone of contention, the Indian weed has been strangely implicated with the history of political freedom. "Mr. Fiske says further that when we reflect upon the splendid part played by Virginia in winning American independence and bringing into existence the political framework of our Federal republic, and when we recall that, of the five founders of this nation who were foremost in constructive work, all but Hamilton were Virginians, it becomes interesting to go back and study the social features of the community in which such leaders of men were produced."

It is being pointed out to those who are apparently so anxious for this country to go to war that we are in no condition to fight any nation whatsoever, either on land or on sea. It is to be hoped the information will have its due effect.

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In the General Assembly, like charity, begin at home. If the meagre salaries of the superintendents of schools are to be cut down one half, when it would save nothing to the State Treasury, why should not the salaries of the members of the General Assembly be cut down in the same proportion, when it would save \$25,000 per session to the treasury, and be a relief to the tax-payers to that extent? And the support of a bill cutting down the one will come with bad grace from a member of the General Assembly who is unwilling to cut down the other. GEORGE T. CLARKE, Surry, Va.

NEPHEW OF TYLER'S DEAD.

Was Born and Spent His Entire Life in a Historic Home. KNOXVILLE, TENN., January 20.—William Tyler, nephew of John Tyler, once President of the United States, has just died at Conkling, Washington county. He was 85 years old. He was born and spent his entire life in a house once owned by John Sevier. It is the building in which the raid on Kings mountain was planned.

The Taxes in Surry.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: I see in the Dispatch of to-day a letter from Mr. A. P. Bohannon, Treasurer of Surry county, that I was in error as to the statement published in your paper on the 15th instant. I wrote to Mr. Bohannon to get the amount of the county levy, and I suppose I must have misconstrued his letter. Mr. Bohannon is thoroughly reliable, and whatever he states is doubtless true. I still maintain the county levy could be greatly reduced. No one rejoices more than I do that I am in error. A POOR TAX-PAYER.

Wedded in Pulaski.

PULASKI, VA., January 20.—(Special.) Mr. M. R. Petzold, a druggist of Danville, Va., wed yesterday Miss Jessie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Corey, of this place. The marriage took place at the home of Mr. Corey at half-past 12 o'clock, and the ceremony was performed by Dr. Jones, of the Presbyterian church. A select company witnessed the event, and enjoyed a delightful repast served in beautiful style just after the ceremony. Many beautiful presents were sent the bride.

Like a Woman.

(Chicago News.) Matter: Why have you continually stared at that couple across the way for the last half-hour? Helen: Oh, I was merely watching their actions. They were only married yesterday.

Not Much Choice.

(Chicago Tribune.) "I don't know which is worse," muttered young Blunderbush at the reception, retreating to a corner and wiping his perspiring brow. "I believe I would rather be run over by a train than to step on one!"

He Blamed Himself.

(Puck.) "Yes, a wheelman ran me down; but I suppose it was my own fault." "How?" "Well, I ought to have known enough to let a woman have her own way."

One of the Few.

(Somerville Journal.) Ned: That Miss Nickerson is a pretty good sort of a girl, isn't she? Jack: First rate. You can always depend on her. Why she even does her fair share of the work on a tandem bicycle.

No Sign.

(Harper's Bazar.) Frances (aged 6, who loves her Kitty): Are you happy, mamma? Mamma: Yes, dear, aren't you? Frances (listening): I don't hear you purr!

The Real Dangler.

(Chicago News.) She: Don't you think it is dangerous to eat mushrooms? He: Not a bit of danger in it. The danger is in eating toadstools.

His Objection.

(Trained Motherhood.) "Why, Teddy, dear, what is the matter? Don't you like oranges?" "Yes, Mrs. Birchum, but the handles are so hot!"

A Domestic Contrast.

(Success.) At her easel, brush in hand, Clad in silk attire, Paints the "sunset" in vague and grand, (Clumsy clouds of fire.) Flaxen hair in shining sheaves; Pink and pearly skin; Fingers which, like lily leaves, Neither toil nor spin; At her belt a sunflower bound, Dangles on the table, her hand, Playing and panels all around, "That's aesthetic Mabel!"

In the Kitchen, fork in hand, Clad in coarse attire, Dishing oysters, fried and panned, From a blazing fire; Dusty hair in frizzy knots; Worn and withered skin; Fingers which, like lily nuts, Baking-board, one side aground; Wash-tub on the other; Pots and skillets all around, "That is Mabel's mother!"

Shadow of Herself

Stomach was Too Weak to Retain Food

A Complete Cure Effected by Hood's Sarsaparilla

Now Enjoying the Best of Health, With Digestion Perfect.

"My mother was subject to sick headaches and indigestion for over a year. She was unable to stand for any length of time, and was obliged to stay in a dark room as she could not bear the light. She had no appetite whatever and her stomach was so weak she could not retain what food she did eat. She also had severe pains in her head. She suffered so much that she became but the shadow of herself. One day I happened to read a testimonial about Hood's Sarsaparilla. It sounded so truthful

I persuaded her to try this medicine. Before finishing the first bottle there was an improvement in her condition. She no longer threw up her food and her headache was not so severe. She took in all four bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and several boxes of Hood's Pills and regained her weight. She is now enjoying the best of health. Her digestion is good and she can eat almost anything she wishes. She is 32 years old and says she feels as well as when she was 16. Hood's Sarsaparilla made a complete cure in her case."

MISS MARY MASCARIE, Ironton, Ohio. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best-tasting and True Hood's. Prepared only by C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic, easy to operate. 25c.

THE TRADING-STAMP MATTER.

A Card from Mr. George Med. Blake, Alexandria Merchants Moving. (Communicated.) To the Editor of the Dispatch:

The following letter from Colonel G. William Ramsey, commander of R. E. Lee Camp, No. 2, of the city of Alexandria, will explain itself: Colonel Ramsey is one of Alexandria's most substantial gentlemen.

My Dear Sir,—Your letter and telegram received. The change of time of meeting of the committee to Friday renders it out of my power to meet them, since being a member of the Advisory Council of the Grand Camp I expect to be in Lynchburg at that time. I have turned the paper over to two other gentlemen who feel an interest in such matters, and am sure that many more names will be added to it. I, personally, am physically unable to take it around as I would like to do. You already have received nearly all the better class of merchants on King street, including several names of those who use the stamps. These two gentlemen and myself would have been in Richmond on Saturday, had the committee met then. Whether or not my not being able to go with them will act as a damper I cannot say, but I think it probable that they will come. Upon inquiring at the City Treasurer's office, I found that the number of dealers paying the State dues this year would likely exceed two hundred. Where Mr. Barley gets the other two hundred I will leave to you to ascertain from him. Of course, his statement was only his opinion, and worth only as much as any other's. It is only that the opinion of a good many more of us are exactly the contrary. In fact, I do not hesitate to say that the contrary is really the case, and that a great majority are opposed to the whole trading-stamp business. From what several of those using the stamps say, I am sure that many who use them do so only for fear of losing trade to their neighbors. You are at liberty to use this letter in any manner you may deem best. Very truly yours,

G. WILLIAM RAMSEY.

Now Mr. Editor, Colonel Ramsey, member of the House of Delegates from Alexandria, stated on the floor of the House that the merchants of Richmond had sent a paid attorney (referring to myself) to Alexandria, and that the city was secured from end to end, and that out of 40 merchants doing business in Alexandria, forty would sign the petition to break up the trading-stamp people. The truth is, I went there and interviewed forty-nine merchants, and forty-five signed the petition asking the Legislature to pass the Murphy bill. Now Colonel Ramsey says that there are not 20 licenses issued in the city of Alexandria, including peanut-stands, junkshops, and saloons, who as yet have not been reached by the trading-stamp people. I can't see why Colonel Barley should take such great interest in the trading-stamp people, when he knows, or should know, that wherever the stamp people have put their feet, from California to Florida and from Maine to Texas, there has been discord and trouble in all lines of business. The scheme is being fought everywhere, and I believe I would rather be run over by a train than to step on one!

I don't know which is worse," muttered young Blunderbush at the reception, retreating to a corner and wiping his perspiring brow. "I believe I would rather be run over by a train than to step on one!"

He Blamed Himself. "Yes, a wheelman ran me down; but I suppose it was my own fault." "How?" "Well, I ought to have known enough to let a woman have her own way."

One of the Few.

Ned: That Miss Nickerson is a pretty good sort of a girl, isn't she? Jack: First rate. You can always depend on her. Why she even does her fair share of the work on a tandem bicycle.

No Sign.

At her easel, brush in hand, Clad in silk attire, Paints the "sunset" in vague and grand, (Clumsy clouds of fire.) Flaxen hair in shining sheaves; Pink and pearly skin; Fingers which, like lily leaves, Neither toil nor spin; At her belt a sunflower bound, Dangles on the table, her hand, Playing and panels all around, "That's aesthetic Mabel!"

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No Sign.

At her easel, brush in hand, Clad in silk attire, Paints the "sunset" in vague and grand, (Clumsy clouds of fire.) Flaxen hair in shining sheaves; Pink and pearly skin; Fingers which, like lily leaves, Neither toil nor spin; At her belt a sunflower bound, Dangles on the table, her hand, Playing and panels all around, "That's aesthetic Mabel!"

In the Kitchen, fork in hand, Clad in coarse attire, Dishing oysters, fried and panned, From a blazing fire; Dusty hair in frizzy knots; Worn and withered skin; Fingers which, like lily nuts, Baking-board, one side aground; Wash-tub on the other; Pots and skillets all around, "That is Mabel's mother!"

Shadow of Herself

Stomach was Too Weak to Retain Food

A Complete Cure Effected by Hood's Sarsaparilla

Now Enjoying the Best of Health, With Digestion Perfect.

"My mother was subject to sick headaches and indigestion for over a year. She was unable to stand for any length of time, and was obliged to stay in a dark room as she could not bear the light. She had no appetite whatever and her stomach was so weak she could not retain what food she did eat. She also had severe pains in her head. She suffered so much that she became but the shadow of herself. One day I happened to read a testimonial about Hood's Sarsaparilla. It sounded so truthful

I persuaded her to try this medicine. Before finishing the first bottle there was an improvement in her condition. She no longer threw up her food and her headache was not so severe. She took in all four bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and several boxes of Hood's Pills and regained her weight. She is now enjoying the best of health. Her digestion is good and she can eat almost anything she wishes. She is 32 years old and says she feels as well as when she was 16. Hood's Sarsaparilla made a complete cure in her case."

MISS MARY MASCARIE, Ironton, Ohio. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best-tasting and True Hood's. Prepared only by C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic, easy to operate. 25c.

An Overcoat

gives no warmth. It merely prevents the heat of the body from passing off. People with a poor circulation are cold, no matter how thick their clothes may be. They shiver under all their wraps. Bounding red blood keeps the internal fire glowing.

Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey,

prepared for medicinal and domestic use, is a wholesome stimulant for blood and nerve. It creates and preserves bodily heat. It acts on all the organs and protects the system from chills and depressed vitality. Contains nothing which does not make for health and energy.