

The Call

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 1898

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 Address All Communications to W. S. LEAKE, Manager.
PUBLICATION OFFICE.....Market and Third Sts., S. F.
 Telephone Main 1368.
EDITORIAL ROOMS.....217 to 221 Stevenson Street
 Telephone Main 1374.

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL (DAILY AND SUNDAY) is served by carriers in this city and surrounding towns for 15 cents a week. By mail \$6 per year; per month 65 cents.

THE WEEKLY CALL.....One year, by mail, \$1.50

OAKLAND OFFICE.....905 Broadway

NEW YORK OFFICE.....Room 188, World Building
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AMUSEMENTS
 Columbia—"On Probation"
 Alcazar—"The Merchant of Venice"
 Morosco—"Ordeal of Two Sisters"
 Orpheum—"La Gioconda"
 Orpheum—Vaudeville
 The Chutes—Zoo, Vandeville and Cannon, the 613-pound Man.
 Alhambra, Edgely and Jones streets—Vaudeville. Opening Saturday, September 5.
 Olympia—Corner Mason and Eddy streets—Specialties.
 Mechanics' Pavilion—"The Irish Fair."
 Soto's Baths—Swimming.
 Recreation Park—Baseball this afternoon.
 Courtyard—At Union Courtyard.
 State Fair—Sacramento, September 5.

THE PEACE COMMISSION.

WHILE the reports may have been true that the President found much difficulty in his efforts to get strong representative men to serve on the Peace Commission, it is certain he succeeded in the task. We may have some reason to complain because no representative of the Pacific Coast was appointed, but the nation at large will be well satisfied to leave the settlement of the issues arising out of the war to such men as Secretary Day, Senators Frye and Davis, Justice White and Ambassador Reid. Strong as the commission is it will have no strength to spare when it comes to grapple with the Spanish officials in the field of diplomacy and undertakes the task of bringing the controversy to a speedy conclusion. It is Spanish nature under all circumstances to do nothing to-day that can be postponed until tomorrow, and in the present emergency the natural tendency to delay will be augmented by a thousand motives of pride, exasperation and the hope that by prolonging the talk something may occur which will redound to the benefit of Spain and impel us to grant some of her many claims.

Statements recently made by Sagasta show the policy the Spanish representatives will pursue when the commission assembles. "The peace question," said the Spanish Premier, "is at present very complicated. The Paris conference will settle the Philippine question, and will also arrange commercial treaties by which Spanish goods may obtain tariff advantages in Cuba and Porto Rico in exchange for similar advantages given to the Americans in the Philippines." As if there were not enough impudence displayed in this cool assumption that Spain has either the right or the power to arrange tariffs in the Philippines in exchange for favors granted in the West Indies, Sagasta went on to say that while Spain will surrender Cuba and Porto Rico it will claim all Governmental property in the islands, including national buildings of all kinds, and will insist in having a voice in the settlement of such civil and criminal cases as are now pending in the courts. Spain, it is further announced, will stand firm against assuming the payment of any part of the Cuban debt. Finally she will maintain that the Philippines are still legally her possessions because the surrender of Manila did not take place until after the protocol of peace was signed.

It will be readily seen that if the American Commissioners consent to discuss these propositions the end of the conference will not occur during the few years that are left of this century. The Commissioners in debating such a multitude of claims through the slow processes of diplomacy will remain in Paris to see the exposition of 1900 and still remain there when it closes. Negotiation on such a basis will be as long drawn out as that of a European concert, and the results will probably be as ineffective.

Fortunately the American Commissioners are men who are not likely to give much consideration to these Spanish claims. The Philippines, as well as Cuba and Porto Rico, are in our hands. The Government property is ours as much as the soil of the country in which the property stands. It is for us to offer terms and for Spain to accept the offer or renew the fight. So far from being a complicated problem, as Sagasta asserts, the making of this peace is one of the simplest problems ever submitted to diplomats.

Several instigators of a prize-fight in New York have been arrested because one of the principals happened to get killed in the ring. For some reason this course is taken after each similar event, the law apparently deeming it a necessity to make a bluff of caring how many pugilists die with their gloves on.

A. J. Drexel, the Philadelphia banker, is to have a \$1,000,000 yacht, to which he has a perfect right, and for which he will doubtless pay cash. But it is to be built abroad, and there is no reason why it should not have been built in this country.

The Spanish paper which says that England wishes the United States to annex the Philippines so as to have them for a British base of operations against France and Russia would better guess again.

When the Democratic section of the fusion platform refers to the good deeds of all the Democratic successors to Jefferson in the Presidency does it include Grover Cleveland?

It is demonstrated that California is a citrus belt from Siskiyou to San Diego. It is all one State, one climate and one orange, and the fusionists are not going to suck it, either.

Perhaps it would be wise for Alger to keep the volunteers in service until the differences between himself and the rest of the War Department have been settled.

Germans are charging that American flour is adulterated with meal. If it is, the trade will be lost to this country, and serve the dishonest speculators rightly.

If England and China really open hostilities the latter will learn to regard the affair with Japan as a mere incident.

DR. SANGRADO MAGUIRE.

UNTIL he became a candidate for Governor Judge Maguire had but one remedy for all the evils of society, and that was the single tax. Sangrado bled for all disease, and Maguire proposed, by bleeding the land-owner, to abolish crime, poverty and all unrighteousness without regard to any moral change in the personal character of men.

On account of the single tax he bolted the Democratic party in 1886, and for that he kicked and defied Hastings, Ferral and McCoppin in succession as Democratic candidates in his Congressional district. In each of these bolts against the Democratic ticket he was aided and abetted by his next friend, Barry, who is now the Democratic candidate to succeed him in Congress. In addition to all these bolts and betrayals of Democracy, in 1887 he by letter permanently withdrew from the Democratic party because it would not endorse the single tax. For that he was cursed and quit it, remarking, as he left, that it was a rather nasty party any way, with which no honest man or gentleman could safely associate. Now, as he found the Democratic party unfit to stay with in 1887 because it did not endorse the single tax, why does he go back to it now? Has it endorsed the single tax by indorsing him?

Until now in everything Judge Maguire has written or said the single tax appears as inevitably as the head of Charles I in the essays of Mr. Dick. He left his seat in Congress to make long single-tax campaigns in Delaware and boasted that he had broken down the Democratic party of that State by raising the single tax issue. He lately addressed the single-taxers of the State of Washington, saying the single tax is the sole issue worthy the support of a good citizen. No longer ago than the 18th of last February (see Congressional Record, Vol. 31, No. 54), discussing the bankruptcy bill, he said: "In the course of my remarks on the floor to-day I referred briefly to the causes of bankruptcy in the United States, and expressed the opinion that legislation for the relief of ruined merchants and others who are carrying on the wealth-producing and wealth-distributing enterprises of our country is a poor substitute for legislation that would remove the great universal cause of nearly all the unmerited distress and bankruptcy among our people." Then quoting Henry George on effects of the single tax, he said: "Socialists, Populists and charity-mongers, the people who would apply little remedies for a great evil, are all barking up the wrong tree. The Upas of our civilization is our treatment of land. It is that which is converting even the march of invention into a blight. There is but one cure for business depression, there is no other: that is the single tax."

If these were his convictions only seven months ago, is he honest in becoming the candidate of three parties which fuse upon the single proposition that the free coinage of silver is the one cure for business depression?

Fusion here and everywhere is upon free silver as the panacea, but seven months ago Judge Maguire said there was but one remedy, and that not free silver, but the single tax. If that were true then why is it not true now? If free coinage of silver then were the remedy for business depression, why did he say the single tax was?

Does Judge Maguire believe in free coinage of silver? Does he believe it will cause the economic reform declared to be its purpose by Mr. Bryan, Congressman Towne, Coin Harvey and its other proponents? If he does so believe his single-tax theory is a myth and sham. If his single-tax theory is true then free silver is a lie and a sham.

Is there anything honest in this free silver fusion on a candidate who denies that there is any remedy for business depression except the single tax, and by that denial repudiates free silver?

THE WAR DEPARTMENT SCANDALS.

WHETHER true or false, the many reports of mismanagement on the part of the War Department have now reached proportions of such magnitude that neither the administration nor Congress can afford to ignore them. What at first were but little more than mutterings coming from obscure sources have grown to the clamors arising from all sides. Dispatches from the East team with statements of blunders or worse, committed in the conduct of the war, and some of these are of a nature that compel attention even from persons most skeptical of general rumors.

As the matter stands the complaints concerning the ill usage of the troops at the front and at the various camps established in the Eastern States have been made the basis of sensational attacks upon the Secretary of War and the commanding general. The result has been that the whole subject is involved in such a mass of self-evident exaggerations that the fair-minded citizen cannot distinguish what is true from what is false, and finds it difficult to decide whether the evils were caused by wrongdoing or were the inevitable outcome of an effort to hasten the war to a swift conclusion instead of proceeding slowly and taking ample time for preparation.

In this condition of affairs the public should be on guard against the attempts that are being made in certain quarters to array one set of officials against another. It will be remembered that the yellow journals not long ago endeavored to place Sampson and Schley in conflict, and at one time went so far as to assert that the two heroes were personally antagonistic. A similar attempt is now being made to array General Miles against the Secretary of War and to provoke them to mutual recrimination.

Up to this time all these efforts to embroil high officials in the scandal have failed. To a reporter who asked him what answer he had to make to certain statements said to have been given out by Miles Secretary Alger replied: "I have seen what was in the papers about General Miles' reported utterances, his demand for an investigation, and charges about withheld or garbled messages, and I will say frankly I don't believe a word of it. I don't believe he ever said it."

The answer was in every respect proper. If Miles has charges to make they should be formulated and submitted in an official report. It is certainly not credible that he has made grave complaints reflecting upon the War Department to irresponsible persons and sent them out in a form easily subject to the exaggerations and misrepresentations of every one who repeats them.

That much suffering among the troops has resulted from the insufficiency of the supplies furnished them may be accepted as fully proved, but that the amount of the suffering and the degree of insufficiency of supplies have been grossly exaggerated is beyond question. What is needed now, therefore, is an investigation that will separate the truth from the falsehood and make clear the real condition of things. It will then be possible to determine whether the War Department has been mismanaged or whether it has done the best that could have been done in making ready a volunteer army and hurrying it to the front in order to close the war before the yellow fever season began in the West Indies. Such an investigation is imperative, and the sooner it is begun the better.

Of course Major McLaughlin will be chairman of the Republican State Central Committee. There is no one else who would exactly fill the bill.

DEATH ACCORDING TO FICTION.

THE death of Rev. A. P. Dodge of Georgia was sufficiently different from the ordinary style of shuffling off to merit notice. Mr. Dodge, aside from being a minister of the gospel, was very rich, and could afford to indulge his foibles. Among these was the preservation of the body of his first wife. The lady had left her tenement of clay some fifteen years before, and stipulated that it should be preserved until he had left his own, at which time the two should be buried side by side. Mr. Dodge not only agreed to this, but got a new wife to help him watch over the first.

Suddenly the minister was told by his physician that there remained to him of life a period not much over fifteen minutes. Dodge was not rattled. Indeed, he did not seem to care particularly. Instead of growing maudlin or preternaturally pious he ordered glasses and wine, and upon their arrival proposed a toast to the long life and prosperity of all present. Then he sank back on his pillow and his soul took flight to regions where human judgment may not follow.

This is not the style of death which is expected from the truly good, and certainly not the sort in which a minister of the gospel is supposed to indulge. It breaks clear away from old traditions and follows the pattern laid down in recent fiction of which "Quo Vadis" is a sample. We hope Dodge will rest well and that the bones of Mrs. Dodge No. 1, having found a grave after all these years, will enjoy the same boon. As to No. 2, she is entitled to double condolences. May the fortune left by the two deceased bring to her a measure of comfort.

THE WAR AS A PUBLIC BLESSING.

ALL the world has by this time recognized that our war with Spain has resulted in a benefit to humanity. Even the Spaniards themselves doubtless perceive in their lucid intervals a distinct profit in getting rid of colonies that were a source of corruption in their politics and the cause of wars that entailed heavy taxation upon their people. As for the other nations of Europe they are so well aware of the benefits growing out of our victories and conquests that they are devising ways and means of getting a share of them and getting it early.

There is then no question of the good resulting from the war, as it affects the larger destinies of mankind and the development of industry and commerce. These larger issues, however, by no means include all the benefits flowing from the victories we have achieved. There are some of a minor nature of sufficient importance to attract attention and merit notice. Two of these are reported from New York, and may be cited as examples of the whole group.

The first is the development of a genuine patriotism in a class of people who have been in the past more or less indifferent to their duties to the nation. Colonel John Jacob Astor, it appears, affords a striking illustration of this. It is reported that while serving in the army he saw the need of the Government for money, and learned by companionship with his comrades in the field how hard is the struggle for existence among a large proportion of his fellow-citizens. He thereupon determined that hereafter he would pay the full measure of taxes upon his estate, and since his return home has ordered his agents to go over the list of his holdings, properly appraise them and make a return, which it is said will result in largely increasing his taxes.

A more curious benefit is reported by a New York physician, who asserts that a large number of persons who would have died during the depressing heat of the summer, under ordinary conditions, managed to gain strength and live by reason of the animating with which they were inspired by the outbreak of war and the glorious victories that followed. Patriotic ardor was the medicine that roused them and bore them safely through the crisis of disease. According to this authority more people were saved by the war than were killed in its battles, and as a vitalizer and health-preserver the hundred days of hostilities were more efficacious than any nerve tonic on the market.

A question whether it was worth while to go to war to attain these minor benefits is not pertinent to the issue. Of course it would not be expedient as a general rule to whip a foreign nation every time we wished to make an Astor pay his taxes, nor to call out 200,000 volunteers and set all the brass bands of the country playing patriotic airs for the purpose of bracing up the languid invalids of the sweltering East. It would be cheaper to let the big man dodge taxes as usual and to help the sick by sending them to spend the summer in California, where the air is always invigorating, and where, according to Edison, the waters endow the human liver with so much vitality that after death of the man the liver has to be killed with a club.

Nevertheless these minor benefits are worth adding to the sum total of what has been gained by our "pleasantness" with Spain. A new thrill of life spiritual and physical has been felt in New York, and in the rest of the country as well. Let us therefore rejoice and cheer ourselves on this delightful day of rest by indulging the hope that these good effects will be as lasting as those produced in the world of politics and government.

Members of the Federal Court have no need for personal worry over the circumstance that the Government building here is not to be built in accord with their ideas. At the rate the structure progresses it will not be occupied until the present generation shall have passed away, and gray-haired jurists, as yet unborn, be wearing the gowns of office.

Ex-Secretary Sherman may be old and out of political life, but he occasionally makes remarks to which the country is ready to listen. In his objections to the way American soldiers have been treated there is not the slightest evidence of dotage.

It appears that the American soldier killed recently in the streets of Cavite brought his own fate upon himself by discharging a revolver when there was not the slightest occasion for doing so. There is no profit in getting too gay.

Americans will not tolerate abuse of American soldiers. The country pays to have them properly cared for, and if they do not get the care the responsible persons may expect a large dose of trouble.

Two young shoplifters have been dismissed with a reprimand. There was no doubt as to their guilt, but they did not claim to be victims of kleptomania, and naturally the court felt kindly toward them.

Admiral Sampson may attend the peace jubilee at Omaha, and he would be certain of a hearty greeting. Sampson knows a thing or two about the best modern methods of creating peace.

There does not seem to be ground for the positive statement that no more troops are to be sent to Manila. Aguinaldo's old followers may yet have to have some sense knocked into them.

Anarchy is said to be prevalent in Porto Rico, which is now virtually a part of the United States. There might be such a thing as undue haste in calling our soldiers home.

WITH ENTIRE FRANKNESS.

By HENRY JAMES.

To say again against a woman is never a pleasing task; but when a woman descends from her high estate to become an unholy and unclean wanton, polluting her environment with the utter foulness of a total and irredeemable depravity, her sex no longer protects her. To permit it to do so would be a wrong to others. I do not refer to the outcast, for misfortune may have been her lot, and charity extends to her a hand, knowing her to be no worse than some to whom is permitted still to wear the cloak of respectability. I refer particularly to that wretched and despicable creature, Margaret L. Shepherd, who parades her own infamy for money, and while doing so professes to be a reformer. In her chosen task she slanders women the hem of whose skirt she is not fit to touch, and in telling of the lewdness of Sisters of Charity, one of whom she professes to have been, lies with a venom unequalled, and shows a blackness of heart never exceeded by the betrayer of innocence. Lost to all shame, dead to the impulses which stir womanhood and purity, her words are the words of the abandoned. A slanderer, a liar, a mischief-maker, she deserves the scorn of men, the loathing of women. I can write this fairly because all the traditions of my youth were of the severest type of Protestantism. In the town where I was reared there was no Catholic church, and as a boy I had no idea that a Catholic looked and acted like any one else. It was my boyish notion that Catholics were of a separate type. But later in life there came to me a knowledge that Catholics and Protestants serve one Master, only through different form, are touched by kindred emotions, are under the same flag, love the same country and the same God. I have learned to revere the unselfish devotion of the Sisters, their courage, their kindness and their whiteness of soul and I abhor such vermin as this Shepherd, a tawdry strumpet, unfit to associate with decency and beyond the desire of reform. That she can find profit in selling her wares is a reproach to our civilization.

E. B. P.: You mistake my purpose entirely if you think I would criticize an article with intent to cause the writer pain. To demonstrate my sincerity, the article in question shall be passed over without a word of comment.

A woman 32 years of age, the mother of eight children, has killed herself rather than become the mother of the ninth. I do not blame her overmuch, and yet her course seems a little hard as to the eight already born. She should have paused to reflect that the youngsters were not to blame.

Doctors surely ought to know more than ordinary people about the rules of health, and probably do, but the knowledge does not seem to do them any good. I have noticed with surprise that they die as readily as though the art of healing had never been practiced. Within the last few months there have been lost to San Francisco by death, Doctors Stanton, Lovelace and Morse, all young men, all physicians of standing, and the last at least of eminence in the medical and surgical world. To me it is inexplicable that men should study to cure disease, and live so as to promote it, and become its early victims. The three mentioned had hardly passed half the allotted span of life.

Readers will bear with a few words about the Republican convention, or surrogates, that feel they must elect this time the Democratic pop-pop, and returned with a deep and abiding disgust for the outfit, which was neither Democratic, Republican, Populist nor a wholesome combination. It named a ticket which is destined to be licked, partly because it deserves this fate and partly that the Republicans have been shrewd enough to put up a better one. But neither gathering had special reason to feel proud of itself. I had expected at the latter to hear many good speeches, and to get spellbound, but out of the dozens delivered there were not above four appealing to any emotion save ennui, and one of these was delivered by General Barnes, and kindly filled in an interval which Reuben Lloyd had created by lingering over lunch. Another was the address of Davis in nomination of Gage. It was finished, scholarly, incisive, giving evidence of nicety in preparation of phrases; in construction and delivery the work of an elocutionist, not an orator. The best speech of a delegate was that of T. B. Hutchinson in behalf of Judge Buckley, the Judge subsequently going down to honorable defeat. I must also add to the remarks of Van Duzer and the witty monologue of Matlock. Otherwise the talk was not only commonplace, but most of it without excuse, the speakers merely desiring to place themselves on exhibition. As to detail of the convention, it was so completely covered by the exhaustive reports of the Call that nothing remains simply to lead up to the status of Sacramento as a convention city.

Sacramento was the very essence of hospitality. The citizens had decorated the Pavilion to a place of beauty and charm. The weather was not severely hot, for Sacramento, and much of the perspiration shed was due either to the flow of oratory or to the receipt of the same. Nights were cool and under their somnolent influence the crickets reposed and permitted visitors to sleep when there happened to be leisure for an experience so commonplace. But if Sacramento is to continue to be a convention city it must provide hotel facilities. I do not see why it cannot have as good a hotel as Los Angeles, San Jose, Santa Cruz or other Californian towns. Why should Fresno and San Rafael excel it in this respect? Never having been in Milpitas, I do not know how it compares with Sacramento, but am willing to bet against the superiority of the capital. People familiar with Sacramento for twenty-five years say hotel accommodations were better at the beginning of that period than they are now. People do not go to a convention expecting the comforts of a Colorado or a Del Monte. They go inspired by a high and holy patriotism and to get in the way of a possible stroke of lightning. But a bed is a necessity, and the patriot who gets something to eat, together with service not distinctly promotive of pro-

family. Delegates to both conventions this year swore long and loudly that they would not again submit to the imposition constituted by a fifth-class caravansary and a first-class rate. Were the matter left to me I would select any other town in the State, provided it had as many as fifteen thousand inhabitants, rather than go another time to Sacramento. This is said in all kindness to the people there. They are not directly to blame, and yet the subject is one for them to agitate as a measure of self-protection. Some day a hungry legislator rising, caloric, from the table to which a haughty waiter has declined to bring his order, will introduce a resolution, or something, to remove the capital to some other town, naturally choosing one with a bluff such as scared Sacramento a few years ago. And the city is in even greater danger of losing its conventions than the seat of government.

"An American." You seem to be a vicious sort of an idiot. Please waste no more postage on me.

Among the recommendations of Mr. Curry for the office of Secretary of State is the fact that the Examiner opposes him. I can never divorce myself from the notion that any person or thing which has won the disapprobation of Andy Lawrence is, to that extent, admirable.

Phil Francis of Stockton had the temerity to jump on the band of Visalia and was promptly hit over the head with a loaded lyre. I hope for his own sake he will now consent to be good. There are but few who have dallied with that bard and come out of it unscathed.

Professor Charles Elliot Norton has been talking again. As a humble American citizen, I wish he would stop. It is not pleasing to know that a man eminent in educational circles, having access to the ear of youth, and influence great enough so that his words find their way into print, should have every element of the traitor save the redeeming one of courage to take up arms against his country, whose patriotism he flouts, whose achievements he belittles and whose purposes he impugns. Next to the thieving contractors who robbed the soldiers and the thieving officials who despoiled them of what the hands of charity had lovingly bestowed, the war with Spain has developed no character quite so despicable as that of the Norton individual. He deserves perpetual exile, and I am sorry there is not a statute that mete out to him that which he deserves.

There is a Democratic tendency to slobber over Gavin McNab because he declined a Congressional nomination. Men who will do a thing like this "for the sake of principle" are not to be found every day in the week," proclaims one admirer. To those who do not, like myself, abhor slang, here is afforded an opportunity to cry "rats." There was no principle involved in the declination. There was the fact so palpable that Gavin saw it, that, if he accepted the nomination he would get the worst beating ever given an aspirant. So he declined. I am willing to give him credit for horse sense, but nothing more. He had no more chance of election in the Fourth than he has of being snatched to heaven in a flaming chariot by reason of the quality of purity he has projected into politics.

The present is a little early for indulgence in acute analysis of the circumstances of which Mrs. Botkin is the central figure. To accept the theodicy of guilt and use the facts thus far developed, to sustain this is an easy and yet a senseless thing to do. The case in its present aspect is one of the most tragic. The exploitation of it is certain to lay bare domestic secrets, the revelation of which means ruined reputations and shadows never to pass away. Yet, as damaging as appearances are, I take it there is no justice in the hasty assumption that Mrs. Botkin is a murderer. Accidents will happen, and long series of coincidences, forming an almost perfect chain, will at the last be overthrown. I do not see why the possibility of accident should have been overlooked. Candy is not always pure. A gentleman in this town, who sells chemicals, one day got an order from a candy manufacturer for a chemical which had the power to stain a bright yellow, but was a deadly poison. Thinking there must be a mistake, he communicated with the head of the candy house, who informed him that it was the poison that was wanted, that by using it a quarter of a cent per pound could be saved in the manufacture of candy. My friend declined to fill the order, but there is no reason to suppose that all other dealers refused. If manufacturers use poison even in infinitesimal quantity the likelihood of their slaughtering an occasional customer must be recognized. But to make a technical fight for Mrs. Botkin, or to advance the absurd plea of insanity, would be an error. If a gift deliberately poisoned was sent to Mrs. Dunning the sender is sane enough to merit any punishment the law may prescribe for the most unforgivable form of assassination.

Despite the valorous achievements of the American army, out of the clamor of accusation against the War Department there is likely to come a definite demonstration that some one in the War Department has been negligent, that the brave soldiers have undergone unnecessary hardships, and that some of them have been driven to their graves by the criminal brutality of those superior in authority. I hope the investigation will be so thorough that the guilty shall all be punished, even if the head of the department be involved. I never ran across any particular reason for having confidence in Alger, and never had any, but that he is guilty of cruel wrongs against the troops, wrongs profitable to himself and his friends, is simply beyond belief. However, the charges are so direct that unless he insist upon an investigation there will remain a cloud upon his reputation so long as his reputation survives, and he does not need this. But while one shrinks from crediting the rumors there is evidence that on board ships bearing sick and wounded delicately furnished by the Red Cross of just such emergencies were sold to the sufferers. This is too bad to be fittingly characterized. The guilty men should

have swung from the yardarm. As they escaped this they should at least be exposed, branded as murderers and thieves and be dismissed in disgrace from the positions they dishonor.

It would pain me to call the attention of the Examiner to certain of its shortcomings, save that I do so in the spirit of kindness. I am grieved to be obliged to state that the reputation of the Examiner for honesty has been impaired. It is regarded as occupying the moral plane on which are to be found the confidence man and the picker of pockets. Now there is an opportunity to demonstrate that it has a shred of conscience left, that it is once in a while ashamed of its indecency. Of late the sheet has been advertising of late on a pyrotechnic show, has begged patronage for it on the ground that a portion of the proceeds were to go to the Maine monument. This is the same monument for which solicitors have been promised a rake-off of 10 per cent on all sums collected. The offer was not publicly made, for, despite rumor to the contrary, Hearst has a moiety of modesty left and does not propose to let the world know how he loves himself. The pyrotechnics have been and gone. I suggest that there be an open accounting of receipts and a statement as to what share is to go to the Hearst monument. The people who were begged in the name of patriotic charity to attend have a right to know all about it. If the information withheld a suspicion will surely arise that a new bunko scheme of a few months ago has been sprung on them. I have heard that the tournament was an arduous swindle, and labor under the sorrow of believing the information correct. While assured that my personal opinion is not by the temporary and empty head of the concern held of high value, I can assure him that there are others taking my view. Has the public been done up once more? Probably, yes. To overthrow the contention requires only that a few figures be produced, duly sworn to by somebody not connected with the Examiner office.

As nearly as I am able to judge, ex-Marshall Creed of Sausalito is a bully and a coward, as bad a citizen as he was official. He is a big fellow, running mostly to paunch, and right in the forefront of that protuberance should be deposited a kick. Creed has just whipped a reporter of half his own weight for having told the truth about him. Had the reporter been two-thirds the Creed avoirdupois this would never have happened. I hope the overgrown swaggerer will soon run against a man of sufficient size to mix up with him and teach him a lesson in manners.

It is a strange circumstance and verges on distressfulness that in the effort to advocate a movement entirely proper and commendable I am certain to run counter to the ideas prevailing in the Home of Peace. To state that, in this home is the editorial den of the Examiner is hardly necessary. There love abides, and there Andrew, putting on a halo and a frown, directs the destinies of the world. Sometimes the destinies fly the track, but no matter. It seems to me that when General Shafter returns to this city he should get a reception that with red fire, noisy with bands and with shouting, that the people should all be out to welcome the hero of Santiago. But I know the Examiner will not agree. The unpleasant duty of bouncing the Examiner's representatives from Cuba became next to the yellow fever they were the most malign things there fell to Shafter. That he performed the duty quickly and well is of record. Of course a wave of rancor invaded the Home of Peace and some traces of it remain. Nevertheless, sympathizing as they do with the recalled residents of San Francisco, I confess to a liking for Shafter and a degree of pride in his achievements. I think the Examiner can be induced to permit the giving to the general of a reception, and even that it will later go so far as to claim entire credit for the affair.

HUMORS OF SCHOOL EXAMINATION.

It appears that at an elementary examination in English which was lately held in a school near New York two sentences were given out to be corrected by the younger scholars. The first sentence was to be corrected as to its subject matter, and the second sentence as to its syntax. These were the sentences: "The hen has three legs." "Who done it?"

When the papers were handed in it was found that one of the examinees had apparently written the first sentence as follows: "The hen didn't done it; God done it."—Bookman.

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