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HE PIONEERED BLAINE.

Amos Cummings Lets Light Into an Overlooked Corner.

How Judge Stewart, of Texas, Showed the Way to Commercial Reciprocity with Central America—A Modest Man Has Justice Done Him.

[COPYRIGHT, 1890.]

To the right of the Speaker, on the extreme edge of the Democratic side of the House, sits the tallest man in Congress. His face is pale and clean-shaven. His snowy hair is combed as Andrew Jackson combed his hair. His features and his face recall the face of that great and resolute man. The eyes are blue and the mouth firm. The man looks like a thinker. He rarely smiles. His movements are slow and deliberate. He wears the conventional frock coat, a white waistcoat, and dresses with neatness. His linen is faultless, and he wears a black silk watch-guard. He is not socially inclined, nor has he a convivial disposition. He seems retiring and reserved. You never hear him telling stories or retailing reminiscences. He listens with apparent interest to discussions in the House, but rarely rises unless necessary to elucidate a proposition befogged in debate. When he does speak, he commands attention. The friends of this usually quiet man esteem him for his real worth. He is Charles Stewart, of Houston, Tex. This is his eighth year in the House. He was born in Memphis, Tenn., and has lived in Texas since the year in which James K. Polk was elected President.

In the interest manifested in James G. Blaine's proposition for commercial reciprocity with the Central and South American Republics, Charles Stewart is overlooked. Yet he may be said to be the pioneer in that movement. Secretary Blaine has only amplified his views and given them a fresh color. Attention is concentrated upon them because he has used them at a critical moment in the history of his party. They would never have attracted so much attention, were it not that the McKinley tariff bill is before Congress. The Secretary has ambuscaded that bill with his North American reciprocity negotiations. He boldly takes issue with the Republican majority in the House, and is endeavoring to make it appear that reciprocity is the strongest kind of protection. His actions look like an effort to thwart the plans of his great rival in Maine, both men being prominent candidates for the Presidential succession.

However this may be, certain it is that Charles Stewart blazed the way for Blaine. It was done during Mr. Stewart's first term in Congress. He was a member of the committee on foreign affairs. Roaring Jim Belford,

THE TALLEST MAN IN THE HOUSE; HE NEVER SMILES.

of Colorado, had introduced "a bill to authorize the appointment of a special commissioner for promoting commercial intercourse with such countries of Central America as may be found to possess the most natural and available facilities for railway intercommunication with each other and the United States." Congressman Jordan, of Cincinnati, had introduced another bill entitled "a bill for the encouragement of closer commercial relationship, and in the interest of, and the perpetuation of, peace between the United States and the Republics of Mexico, Central and South America and the Empire of Brazil."

Both bills were referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Charles Stewart was chairman of the sub-committee charged with their consideration. He reported a substitute for the two bills and was authorized by the committee to report it to the House. This substitute was adopted. It led to the appointment of three commissioners, who were afterward sent to South America by President Arthur to obtain such information as would aid in the establishment of closer commercial relationship with our sister Republics.

In making his report, Charles Stewart called attention to the fact that the balance of trade was much against us in Central and South America. The total amount of our last annual imports from these countries was $84,857,000. Our exports to these countries for the same year aggregated in value $33,480,000. This showed a balance of trade against us of $51,377,000. Charles Stewart made tabular statements showing that the total value of the foreign commerce of these nations, including Mexico, with all the world each year was $752,918,000. The total commerce with the United States was only $142,282,000. The value of the exports of our sister Republics was $413,094,000. The United States received only $93,319,000 of these exports, and England got nearly all the rest. The sister Republics imported $338,824,000 worth of foreign goods. Only $48,908,000 worth came from the United States.

In his report the judge asserted that there ought to be no balance of trade against us in our commerce with these Republics. He earnestly recommended the adoption of some policy that would lead to commercial reciprocity. He pointed to the fact that for the year ending June 30, 1853, there was a balance of trade with Mexico in our favor amounting to $7,021,000. He laid it to our railroad communications with that country, and to the liberal and progressive spirit actuating the Mexican Government in encouraging American investments. Like results, he urged, could be obtained in the States of Central and South America by a similar process.

There was no insuperable obstacle to building a railroad from the United States to the Argentine Republic. He said that it would meet with but few natural obstacles in the way of its construction. The distance would not exceed 6,500 miles. It could be shortened to 6,000 miles by beginning construction at the City of Mexico, where it might connect with the railroads already built.

Charles Stewart alluded to other means and facilities whereby reciprocal commercial relations between these Republics and this country could be promoted. While there was no direct suggestion of the establishment of free trade between these Republics and the United States, the report foreshadowed it. It alluded to the fact that Great Britain had control of more than half of the foreign trade with these countries, while the United States had less than one-fifth of it. It did not, however, go so far as to say that with the balance of trade so heavily against us our sister Republics could not get what we owed them except through British brokers. Nor did it say that this was due to Great Britain's policy of free trade. He did not argue that if all the

HE BLAZED THE WAY FOR BLAINE.

other nations in the world pursued a protective policy, payment for their exports must necessarily pass through the hands of a free-trade nation.

This abridgement and analysis of Charles Stewart's report shows that Secretary Blaine's proposition is not new. It was made in a modest way, by a modest man from a modest committee to a modest House. The Secretary may have unconsciously drawn inspiration from it, or he may have evolved his ideas from his own brain. Possibly he learned nothing about it from Charles Stewart. Certain it is that the reciprocity doctrine has been promulgated by him at a time and in a manner when it would attract universal attention. Very few persons paid any attention to Charles Stewart's report. Not more than a score of members in the Forty-eighth Congress knew that he wrote it. Only a very few of his colleagues in the present Congress are aware of the fact.

Belford's and Jordan's bills were introduced not long after Hinton Rowen Helper had given vent to his scheme for a railroad from the Arctic circle to Terra del Fuego. The two bills were regarded as the result of Helper's project. The whole scheme was evidently regarded as chimerical. Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, was chairman of the committee on foreign affairs. Charles Stewart had been placed upon the committee by Speaker Carlisle. It was his first term in Congress. Few knew him. Governor Curtin manifestly had an appreciation of his worth, for he made him chairman of the sub-committee to which the two bills were referred. Another member of the sub-committee was William R. Cox, of North Carolina.

Nobody supposed that any thing would be done with the bills. When Charles Stewart made his report to the full committee, however, everybody was surprised. Its importance was recognized at once by Governor Curtin. He warmly complimented Mr. Stewart. William W. Eaton, of Connecticut, was at this time a member of the committee on foreign affairs. The report threw a

HE SAID IT WOULD MEET WITH BUT FEW NATURAL OBSTACLES.

flood of light upon his mind. He saw its importance and agreed with its conclusions. It was unanimously adopted by the committee. It threw Helper into ecstacies. He wrote Stewart that when the Arctic circle and Terra del Fuego were connected by rail the name of the first locomotive running over the road should be "Texas," and the name of the first palace car "Charles Stewart."

Charles Stewart is no longer a member of the committee on foreign affairs. In the following Congress he was transferred to the committee on rivers and harbors. The transfer was made at his own request. He believed that he could serve the interests of his constituents better as a member of that committee than as a member of the committee on foreign affairs. The First Congressional district of Texas may have gained by the transfer, but the Nation at large was a loser. It will be a long time before the committee on foreign affairs makes a report more concise and more important.

AMOS J. CUMMINGS.

Johnny Comes Marching Home.

Five years ago little Johnny Hale, then a lad only eight years old, was stolen from his home, near Marion, Ind., by a band of gypsies. The distracted parents spent several years trying to find traces of their missing boy, but gave up the search, mourning him as dead. The lad became attached to his gypsy friends and followed them on their pilgrimage through the Western States. The other day a boy—none other than Johnny Hale—stopped at the residence of a farmer named Joseph Weikel, living near Elkhart. His clothes were ragged and he had the appearance of a boy tramp. He told Mr. Weikel that the gypsies with whom he had been making his home had maltreated him and that he had run away, hoping to find his way home to his father and mother. The parents at Marion were telegraphed, and the boy mourned for dead for five long years is to be restored to them.

Oddities of Language.

In a recent lecture a professor of languages, in commenting on the difficulties foreigners had to overcome before they could master our language, made mention of the following philological oddities. The letter c changes lover into clover, c makes a crow a crowd, k makes eyed keyed, g changes son into song, t transforms a pear into a pearl, s changes a hoe into a shoe, t makes bough bought, and w makes men women.

A Slight Difference.

A broker addresses a friend who is about to begin a letter:

"How can you say 'Honorable director' to a man who has done enough to send him to the gallows?"

"Well, what shall I say?"

"Oh, 'My dear confrere,' or any thing equally commonplace."—Judge.

Sunday Evening.

Mr. Bidget—Officer, I'm sure that saloon on the corner is open. Men have been going in there all day.

Officer McNab—Well, what av thot? Would yez have me breakin' th' door, too, by goin' in?—Puck.

A Rash Reply.

Husband—No, don't make me mad. When I get angry I am a wild beast.

Wife—Humph! You have never stopped being angry.—Texas Siftings.

On the Editor's Desk.

"Dry up," said the blotter to the ink. "I want to make an impression on you this time," replied the ink.—Munsey's Weekly.

STRICT SOBRIETY.

How Colonel Blowers Failed to Carry Out His Pledge.

COL. HARVEY BLOWERS promised his wife that he would never again drink a drop of intoxicating liquor. "Molly," said he, "from this time forward number me among your soberest acquaintances."

"Harvey, you have made me so many promises."

"Yes, dear, I know that."

"And each time you have broken them."

"That's very true, precious, but I will never do so again."

"How many times have you made such a promise?"

"Oh! never mind that. I have come to the conclusion that unless a man reforms he is gone."

"Well, Colonel, I will give you one more trial."

"Now you are talking. One more trial is all I want."

The next day, after the above-narrated conversation, the Colonel accidentally met an old friend. Had not the meeting been accidental it would not have

"OH! I'M WITH YOU."

occurred. The Colonel owed his friend. After a few moments of pleasant conversation the two men went into a saloon. The Colonel said that he would take seltzer. His friend looked at him in astonishment.

"I've stopped drinking," said the Colonel.

"The deuce you have!"

"Yes."

"Since when?"

"Well, I haven't taken a drink for several days."

"What's the matter?"

"Nothing, only I promised my wife that I would not drink again."

"That's all right, of course, but you are not that foolish, I hope."

"It is not foolishness, old boy. I must stop."

"When, just as you meet me? Take a little something."

"I don't want seltzer, that's a fact. Give me a little ginger ale."

"Oh, now here, Colonel, don't whip the old man around the stump."

"Well, confound it, give me a little whisky," said the Colonel.

A few moments later the friend said: "Won't you have something else, Colonel?"

"Nothing else, thank you."

"You can stand another whisky."

"Of course, I can stand another, but I don't want one."

"Well, bang it, let's take one anyway."

"All right, blamed if I care."

They drank. After about ten minutes had elapsed, the Colonel said:

"Suppose we try another one?"

"Can we stand it?"

"Stand it!" The Colonel laughed.

They took another one and seemed to stand it.

"Well, sir," said the Colonel, "do you know that a few drinks of whisky make a man of me? It's a fact. My memory is better, my mind becomes more acute. After I take a few drinks I can recall odd little scraps of poetry and little grabs of sentiment which had long been forgotten. Here, fill 'em up again."

They drank.

"I promised my wife that I would not drink again," said the Colonel.

"Well, you haven't drunk again," replied the friend. "You've drunk whisky."

"By George, that's a good joke," exclaimed the Colonel. "Haven't drunk again. Haw! haw! haw! Old fellow, you ought to start a humorous paper."

"I could run her and don't you forget it."

"Well, I should say so. Say, when I go home my wife will not know that I have taken a drop."

"Of course she won't. Suppose we try it again."

"Oh, I'm with you."

They drank.

"I don't see how these fellows around town can stand it to drink so much," said the Colonel. "I couldn't, I am sure. In fact I don't see why any man desires to throw himself away. Let's see, what remark was it that the Governor of North Carolina made to the—"

"Haw! haw! haw!" laughed the friend. "That's a good one. A little more of the same, please. Well," he continued when the drinks had been brought, "there's a ram go, as the Englishman says."

"A bloody rum go," added the Colonel. Then they leaned on the bar and laughed.

As the Colonel was going to dinner, he mused:

"I was never soberer in my life. Blamed if I don't believe that I am soberer than I was before I took a drink."

Dinner was not quite ready. The Colonel's wife was tacking down a carpet. The Colonel said that he would help her. She looked at him suspiciously. It hurt his feelings. He got down on his knees to work. His words were the words of sobriety—he thought. Pretty soon his wife, in attempting to arise, uttered a shriek. He had tacked her skirts to the floor. Then he began to blubber. It was no use, he said, for a man to try to be anybody. Everybody was working against him. He would go away and never come back again. His wife kissed him and he blubbered afresh. The Colonel, like many another man, is a brute.—Opie Read, in Arkansaw Traveler.

Vagrant Sparrows.

The little English sparrows in New York have learned a new dodge since electric lights replaced gas in the city parks. When the current is turned off at dawn the bottoms of the globes are filled with thousands of insects which have been attracted by the light and killed. The sparrows come around after the globe has cooled off, slide down the carbons and devour the insects.

A Negro's Monster Head.

Abner Dorsett, a negro living at Hickory Mountain township, North Carolina, has the largest head of any person in the United States so far as heard from. It is thirty-two inches in diameter, and gives Abner a decided top-heavy appearance.

TO YOURSELF

It is surprising that people will use a common, ordinary pill when they can secure a valuable English one for the same money. Dr. Acker's English pills are a positive cure for sick-headache and all liver troubles. They are small, sweet, easily taken, and do not gripe.

OLD exchanges for sale at THE TIMES office; 20 cents per 100.

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Another child killed by the use of opiates given in the form of soothing syrup. Why mothers give their children such deadly poison is surprising when they can relieve the child of its peculiar troubles by using Dr. Acker's Baby Soother. It contains no opium or morphine. Sold by Budwell, Christian & Barbee.

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Is the complaint of thousands suffering from asthma, consumption, coughs, etc. Did you ever try Dr. Acker's English Remedy? It is the best preparation known for all lung troubles. Sold on a positive guarantee at 25c. and 50c. Sold by Budwell, Christian & Budwell.

Will not cure everything. A. B. C. Tonic and A. B. C. Alterative cure Blood Diseases only.

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A number of my lady customers have tried "Mother's Friend," and would not be without for many times its cost. They recommend it to all who are to become mothers. R. A. Payne, Druggist, Greenville, Ala. Write Bradfield Reg. Co., Atlanta, Ga., for particulars. By Budwell, Christian and Barbee.

IS LIFE WORTH LIVING?

Not if you go through the world a dyspeptic. Dr. Acker's Dyspepsia Tablets are a positive cure for the worst forms of dyspepsia, indigestion, flatulency and constipation. Guaranted and sold by Budwell, Christian & Barbee

Notice.

There will be a general meeting of stockholders of the Rivermont Company, held in the city of Lynchburg, Virginia, at Calisthenic Hall, on Thursday, September 25th, at 4 o'clock p. m. All stockholders are expected to be present in person or by proxy.

By order of the Board of Directors.
A. M. DOYLE, Acting Secretary.
an23&sep24

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Important.

The regular day and night sessions of the National Business College will be resumed Monday, September 8, in the new quarters, Moomaw Building, corner Campbell and Henry streets. This institution is much needed in our midst and the approaching long winter nights should find a large number of our young men and women, who are otherwise engaged during the day, avail themselves of the splendid facilities afforded here for a complete business education. Mechanical drawing, higher mathematics, and civil engineering will form prominent departments of the college this year. It

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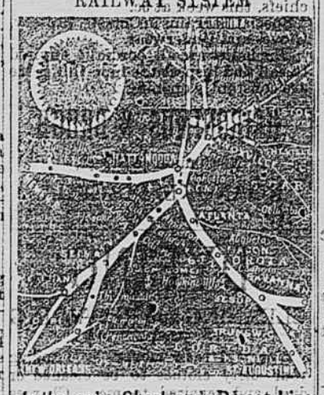

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20 PRIZES	OF 500 are		10,000
200 PRIZES	OF 200 are		40,000
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