

# NOTE AND COMMENT ABOUT NEWSPAPERS AND THEIR MAKERS

THE last Confederate veteran disappeared from the Senate and House press galleries with the death of Col. Enoch Cuthbert, of the "Richmond Dispatch," who passed away this week. "Cuth" now sleeps in sacred Hollywood, at Richmond, and the gray is no longer represented in the press list of the Congressional Directory. Some years ago Confederate veterans were comparatively numerous in the gallery, but the civil war is getting to be a long way in the past, and now the last one has gone. Colonel Cuthbert was a gallant officer in Robert E. Lee's noble army, and after the war served for many years as the representative of the "New York Herald" in the Southern States, with headquarters at the capital city of the Lost Cause. He came to Washington about twelve years ago, and was very popular among his professional associates. He had, however, been mostly ill for more than a year, although he managed to keep at his duties until a very few days before his death. He knew that his recovery was impossible, but he bore himself like the brave man and good soldier he was. His funeral was attended by a large number of his newspaper friends.

The passing of Colonel Cuthbert serves also to call attention to the fact that there remain but three Union soldiers in the press galleries. They are Major John M. Carson, Capt. E. W. Brady, and L. D. Sale. Captain Brady graduated from West Point after the close of the war. Major J. J. Dickerson, of the "Missouri Volunteer," and now of the "New York Tribune" staff, is the only Spanish-American war soldier, who labors with the press boys of the Senate and House.

Charles A. Hamilton was born in Merle, England, and is a citizen of New York. But for twenty years he has been one of the most prominent figures on the New York press. He is one of the few correspondents whose heart still clings to the old row street, where he has abided these eighteen years. Mr. Hamilton is one of the many great men that have made East Aurora famous. His first American habitat was that charming Erie county hamlet, now sadly Hubbardized. It was in that place that he first entered the newspaper profession, establishing the "East Aurora Times," which flourished and fell, but in falling furnished that liberal education which used to be regarded as essential to the

making of a good newspaper man. He experienced the spirit and the letter of the classic lines:

"Man's a vapor  
Full of woes;  
Starts a paper,  
Up he goes!"

From East Aurora to Buffalo the walking is good, and the London-born and East Aurora-educated "journalist" next appeared in Buffalo as a reporter on the "Times," of that city, which paper he has represented here for many years. He has a formidable string of New York newspapers, running from Brooklyn, by way of Troy, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo, clear across the Empire State. He is the oldest New York correspondent here in point of service, and has always been a conspicuous member of the fraternity. He was very active in the old Press Club, and was the originator of the famous entertainment given by that organization at Alburgh's, which eclipsed anything ever given here and approached anything ever given anywhere else. Mr. Hamilton has served on the Press Committee of Congress, and is ever at the front—and properly so—in all newspaper concerns. That he is a good correspondent goes without saying. That he is an excellent writer is also true. He has long served most papers that he has so long served most know. That he is a good fellow all the

boys know; and that he is one of the best dialect story tellers in existence, everyone that ever heard him will swear. He is also a Britisher born, who sympathizes deeply with the Boers, and a Republican who has lived here two decades without ever having accepted, asked for, or wanted, a political job!

Henry Conquest Clarke, who has just been advanced to the position of Superintendent of the Rural Free Delivery Service of these United States, has had more kinds of experience, and more of each and every kind, than any newspaper man here—in or out of active newspaper work. This is a rather extravagant statement, but it is a true one. Mr. Clarke is a newspaper man by heredity. His father was for many years proprietor of one of the most prosperous and influential papers in the English Midlands, in which the then young man got his first good grilling in the business. He is still many years this side the sea, and his work is not yet yellow, but Mr. Clarke is old enough to have reported meetings of the Charlists in the noted agitation of 1835-6. He early acquired what was then known as the photographic art, and was admitted to the reporters' galleries of the House

of Commons before the American civil war. And that was quite a while ago, fair str.

Mr. Clarke was ever of an adventurous spirit, and he tried the experiment of coming to this country in the trying times of the late unpleasantness, and he has been here most of the time ever since. Mainly employed in the newspaper business for the last forty years, he has, nevertheless, had political connections, which the late Mr. Dickens might speak of as "human warious." He has been at different times the Washington correspondent of the "New York Herald," the "Chicago Tribune," "Chicago Chronicle," "New York Star," "New York Recorder," and "New York Times"—a political melange indeed. To have served each and all of these and have done it well illustrates Mr. Clarke's professional ability better than many words can describe. He also for many years held highly responsible positions with the old United Press. Mr. Clarke is regarded among newspaper men as an encyclopedia of information and an unbridled edition of reliability. This latter qualification for any service he was private secretary to the famous Gen. Jim B. Steedman, of Ohio, and the late Gen. J. M. Fullerton, of Missouri, appointed by President Johnson

a commission to investigate affairs in the Southern States in connection with the Freedmen's Bureau and afterward private secretary to Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau, commanding the Department of New Orleans, and to Benjamin F. Flanders, ex-governor of Louisiana and mayor of New Orleans, and to William Pitt Kellogg, governor and Senator from Louisiana.

Some of his experiences in the latter capacity could be used in making books, for he was executive clerk of the commission in the trying, troublous times of 1876 and after, when Samuel J. Tilden either was or was not elected President. It will be remembered that Louisiana's vote was of some importance in the 1875 result, and Mr. Clarke had something to say about Louisiana. What it was is now unimportant. The curious and inquiring person is referred to the Democratic campaign books of the period. Whatever Mr. Clarke did, however, you would better bet he did well. Later he returned to Washington as a correspondent, and incidentally served as private secretary to Perry Belmont, former chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Relations and United States minister to Spain. Some five years ago he was appointed special agent of the then experimental rural free delivery service, which has now grown to enormous proportions.

## CURRENT NEWS AND GOSSIP IN THE CAMERA CIRCLES OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

By CHARLES F. FAIRMAN.

SOMEWHAT novel competitive photographic exhibition has recently been opened in Berlin. It is an exhibition in which each exhibitor is required to use a camera of German manufacture, and in the production of the picture exhibited use materials exclusively of German products. With these restrictions it does not seem that the exhibitor must also be of German parentage so there is some opportunity of amateurs of other than the German born getting into the exhibition.

A peculiar idea is now being experimented with. It is the "Red Cure" for sea-sickness. The theory is advanced that by the wearing of glasses of a ruby tint, or by occupying a room in which the windows are glazed with ruby glass this annoying trouble may be wholly avoided. In the future we may expect that the ocean steamers will be fitted up with dark-rooms lighted with ruby glass, and that at the first symptoms of sea-sickness the patient will resort to the dark-room and commence experimenting in photography, and thus come immune from all the dangers of sea-sickness.

One of the annoyances of having your plates fogged after they have been exposed and returned to the plate box,

may be avoided if the use of white paper placed between the plates is discontinued. The use of white paper especially if it has recently been exposed to the light, amounts to the placing in the box of an indefinite amount of actinic light, and this cannot fail to have a fogging effect on the plates.

Mr. J. Marshall Little, of the Capital Camera Club, has recently returned from an enjoyable outing on the Massachusetts coast, where he secured a number of interesting views typical of the scenery in that section. Mr. Little is now regretting that he did not take a larger camera with him, as the photographic possibilities far exceeded his expectations, and his "kodak" negatives, while interesting, are not so suitable for the basis of work for exhibition purposes as negatives made with a larger camera, and made with more attention to composition than is usually given to small work with a "kodak." During his absence Mr. Little had occasion to visit the quarters of the New York Camera Club, and the Boston Camera Club, and as a result of his inspection reports that the facilities afforded the members of our local club for portrait work are far better than the accommodations in either of the club quarters referred to. In the Boston Camera Club the studio light consists of a top light which, on account of its height, is not adapted for making portraits of the best character. The studio of the New York Camera Club consists of a separate room built on the roof of the club building, difficult of access and extremely hot during the summer season. Neither of these clubs have the advantages of rooms especially constructed for the home of a camera club, but notwithstanding all the drawbacks of inconvenient quarters the clubs are prosperous and contain many members who have achieved more than a local reputation in the ranks of prominent amateurs in the country.

The truth of the saying that "it is the unexpected that always happens" is fully appreciated by everyone who has ever experimented with photography. A club member who is well supplied with abundant means to satisfy his taste for experimenting with photography has recently purchased another expensive lens, one of the kind that is highly recommended for unusual speed and of which much ought to be expected. The purchaser was in great haste to test the speed of this new marvel in lens making and made several negatives at home in the parlor, and secured, as he thought, an unusual fine lighting for the model who was posing for him. As soon as possible he commenced the development of the negatives, and was greatly surprised to find them undetermined. Different methods of development and different developers were tried, but the results were the same, undetermined negatives, and so badly undetermined that prints could not be made of a satisfactory character. As usual the first thought was to blame the lens, and compare it unfavorably with other lenses which he had used with the best of results. After some little thought on the subject and while he was seriously thinking of returning the lens to the

manufacturer, the thought came to him that there might be something radically wrong with the light that he had been using, and upon examination he found that the window shades were of a decidedly yellow tint, and that in screening of the light to avoid harsh contrasts he had practically changed the character of the light to one that would always have been a safe light to develop plates by, and now the only wonder is that he succeeded in securing anything upon a plate exposed under such circumstances. It is proper to add that the lens has not been returned, and that the lesson on the different values of light has been well learned.

At one of the recent informal meetings of the club, when the members discuss things both old and new and relate their trials and successes, the question of the frittling of plates during development in hot weather was freely discussed. Nearly every member had a different formula for the preparation of a fixing bath to prevent the emulsion sliding from the plate, and strange to say, some formulas that had been tried and approved by some members had been used by others with the result of badly mottled and sometimes defective negatives that could only be attributed to the fixing bath. It seems that in this, what is one man's meat is another man's poison, but those who remember that the films should be given the usual preparatory bath of glycerin, and that in placing them on the cylinder they should be placed film side out.

The California Camera Club (San Francisco) is now on the lookout for new quarters. For some years the club has been located in the Academy of Science Building, and its accommodations have been conceded to be the best of any camera club in the country, but this progressive organization will hardly be satisfied with what was considered magnificent accommodations a few years since. It seems somewhat strange that the model camera club of the country should be located in San Francisco, yet this is the case, and its success when compared with the success of other clubs is almost phenomenal. The club was organized in 1896, and maintains a monthly illustrated lecture course which is considered one of the popular monthly events of the city. It also maintains a monthly print exhibition and an annual exhibition that ranks well with the national exhibitions of the country. In addition to this the frequent outings of the club help to keep up the interest of the members in photographic work to an extent which seems to be unknown in this section of the country. The last outing participated in by some thirty members included a trip to the Yosemite Valley, and at the way outing to Monterey over 100 members joined the party. The San Francisco Club has the largest membership of any club in the country, and numbers more than 400 on its roll. We must however, take one thing into consideration, and that is that the climate of California is particularly adapted to photograph work, and that extremes of heat and cold are not known there, and for this reason it is possible to keep at work under these conditions as long as the enthusiasm and the pocketbook lend their support.

An instance of the tardy recognition that comes to some people is furnished by the award of the progress medal of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain to Joseph Wilson Swan, for his discovery in the perfection of the carbon process. Mr. Swan patented his process in 1861, and after the lapse of thirty-eight years the coveted medal has been awarded to him. The carbon process is not better today than it has been for many years, but for a long time it was severely handicapped on account of its being a patented process, and no one could make use of it without purchasing a right for its use in the territory in which the photographer lived. When the patents expired the work became

more generally known and correspondingly appreciated, and at last the Royal Photographic Society has done what in justice it should have done many years ago.

The postponement of the coronation ceremonies was a serious loss to many photographers of Great Britain, who had made extensive preparations to make complete records of the event, which happens so seldom in that country. One firm had made arrangements for fifteen biographs, which were distributed along the line of march. The greatest enterprise, however, was shown by a photographer in Paris, who had constructed an imitation Westminster Abbey, and had initiated a lot of people in the forms of the coronation ceremonies, with the intention of making biograph negatives illustrating the coronation ceremonies, and exhibiting the pictures at Paris on the very night of the coronation. This is on the same principle of the photographer who fitted up a battlefield on the Bois du Bonlogne and made a large number of biograph views illustrating scenes in South Africa during the Boer war.

The Photographic Club of Baltimore city has arranged for the photographic print contest as a celebration of its eighteenth anniversary, which will occur during the coming fall, and has extended the invitation to compete to all the photographers residing in Maryland. The prizes will be fitted and awarded by a jury consisting of one photographer from Philadelphia, one from Washington, and one from the city of Baltimore.

## MEN OF THE WEEK--FIGURES OF PROMINENCE IN THE NEWS OF THE DAY--MAKERS OF HISTORY

lived through the good offices of the southern viceroys, and through him the Secretary received in cipher the response which gave the first official news to the world that the foreign representatives were alive.

In the diplomatic negotiations which effected a termination of the Boxer revolt Minister Wu played a prominent part, making representations to this Government which were decidedly beneficial in results to his country. The minister has zealously fought to obtain a liberal interpretation of the Chinese exclusion laws, and his notes opposing the application of these laws to the Philippines are described as model documents. One high official described Wu as "the cleverest minister in Washington."

Mr. Wu will leave here with one task undone which he had set his heart upon accomplishing. This relates to the suppression of highbidding in the United States. The minister has made representations looking to the negotiation of a treaty which would enable his government to get possession of highbidders, but no action has been taken. He has repeatedly stated that the position of Chinese in the United States would be greatly improved by strict observance of law and order, and his attitude has undoubtedly produced good results.

Mr. Wu has made it known that upon his return to his native land he will write a book, in which he will record his impressions of America and Americans. The volume will be for circulation in the United States.

**RANKS NEXT TO ADMIRAL DEWEY.**

Secretary of the Navy Moody has at last decided that Rear Admiral Henry C. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, is entitled to sit on the right hand of Admiral Dewey at the meetings of the general board. This brings to a close the long and momentous contest for the supremacy between Admiral Taylor and Rear Admiral Bradford.

Admiral Dewey held that Admiral Taylor was his senior. He will now be called on to decide whether he cares to continue as a member of the board.

**The Turkish Minister.**

The name of Chekib Bey, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to this country from Turkey, has been strongly brought before the attention of the public during the past week by the publicity given his peculiar and somewhat embarrassing position here in Washington. Chekib Bey, although the accredited representative from the Sublime Porte to the United States, has had his credentials as minister withheld by his country, and has been unable to secure an official recognition from the Department of State.

This neglect can have no other origin, in the opinion of State Department officials, than in the desire of the Sublime Porte to show its displeasure for the course pursued by Secretary Hay in compelling payment of the indemnity demanded as compensation for outrages upon American missionaries and others during the Armenian troubles of 1894.

The circumstances which led to this condition of affairs were somewhat peculiar. Two days after the departure of President McKinley from Canton, Turkey's representative reached Washington. Of course, the President could not give official recognition to Mr. Bey while away from the Capital, and the tragedy at Buffalo necessitated a change in the credentials. These were returned to Turkey, making, of course, an additional delay, with the result that, while to all intents and purposes Turkey has an official representative here, he is, as a matter of fact, simply a private citizen.

The position of the Sultan's representative here has caused that gentleman considerable embarrassment. He has been permitted by the State Department officials to communicate with them on official subjects, and they have answered notes which he has presented, but the attentions which he receives at the hands of those officials are more in the nature of courtesy than right.

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**His Mind and Body Still Active.**

Mr. Albion Winegar Tourgee, United States consul at Bordeaux, France, has written an interesting letter home in regard to his recent "Report on Pates de fole gras." At the time his report was made public here it occasioned considerable discussion, even being termed "a considerable come-down in his old age."

Mr. Tourgee took up the remarks made concerning himself and the telegrams matter, and stated that he wished to assure his friends that although not so young as he was fifty years ago, he is still in possession of most of his faculties, and in quite as good physical condition as at any time since departing the right of way with a Confederate shell at the first battle of Bull Run.

Mr. Tourgee has been stationed at Bordeaux, France, since 1897. He was born at Williamsfield, Ashland county, Ohio, May 2, 1838, the son of a farmer of modest means. On his father's side his ancestors were Huguenots, who came to America near the middle of the seventeenth century and located in Rhode Island. The Winegars, his mother's ancestors, were Swiss Protestants, who emigrated about the same time. A large part of his education was received at the University of Rochester, N. Y.

At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted in the Union army and participated in the first battle of Bull Run, where he was badly wounded. Although he had not completed his course at the university at the time of his leaving there, he was awarded his diploma, a testimony to his high standing. During the war he was captured in Tennessee, and was for quite a while a prisoner in the famous old Libby Prison at Richmond.

At the close of the conflict he settled at Greensboro, N. C., where he was later elected judge of the superior court of the State. During his incumbency of that position scores of bands of outlaws and assassins, known collectively by the term of "Ku-Klux-Klan" were formed and created all sorts of depredations in his territory. Throughout the entire period of strife caused by these secret organizations, however, he remained calm, and continued his work without the slightest deviation from his usual course, despite the earnest and persistent entreaties of his friends.

Subsequently he made a name for himself as the editor of various large dailies throughout the country, and as an author, his book, "A Fool's Errand,"

gave him much of his fame. The list of books written by him is quite extensive, and all of them made more or less a pronounced hit. He was married in 1857 to Miss Emma L. Kilbourne, of Connecticut.

**Mr. Whitney's Pet Sport.**

William C. Whitney, after balancing his accounts last year, found himself to be \$500,000 loser through the sport of racing. A pretty large sum, is it not? Enough to insure a poor man and his relations a comfortable living without work.

So far from being blamed, there is a considerable population—the attaches of Mr. Whitney's stables—that look upon him as the essence of benevolence and humanity. Whenever their patron wins a race they all share in a largesse. One day last summer a bookmaker went up to Trainer Rogers at the Saratoga track just after Mr. Whitney had won a stake of \$11,000 and remarked, half interrogatively: "The old man made out well in that race, didn't he?"

"What do you mean?" laughed the trainer. "That's only a drop in the bucket for Mr. Whitney, and the bucket leaks, at that. Why, he is so pleased over winning this race that he'll give away twice \$11,000 to the stable employees. Each one will get anywhere from \$2 to \$25. To win a stake here doesn't mean anything."

The entire community about a race-track rejoices when the Whitney outfit arrives, for money is certain to be circulated freely, and tricksters that set up a worthless horse so that he will win one race, hoping that Mr. Whitney will take the bait off their hands, are always waiting about the stalls. As an example of the racing king's generosity, it is related that upon winning the English Derby last year he ordered a certain hotel proprietor at Sheephead Bay to give everyone who entered a bottle of champagne. You may be sure the news spread quickly, and it was not long before the boniface had to call upon his neighbors for supplies. The bill that Mr. Whitney's secretary received amounted to \$5,000. It was paid—Alasoo!

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**Senator Platt's Birthday.**

Senator Thomas C. Platt, the New York State Republican leader, celebrated his sixty-ninth birthday last Tuesday at his summer headquarters at Manhattan Beach.

The occasion was made a memorable one, not only for the Senator, but for his legion of friends. Everything possible was done to make the day a red-letter day in his career. Hundreds of congratulatory letters and telegrams poured into the Senator's office throughout the entire day, and in the evening a host of callers banded together and sought out the gentleman in his summer lair. They invaded his quarters and proceeded to exercise every means at their command to make Mr. Platt one of the happiest men in the Empire State.

**Rear Admiral TAYLOR.**

Taylor and Rear Admiral Royal B. Bradford chief of the Bureau of Equipment.

Mr. Moody holds that Admiral Bradford's claim to seniority over Admiral Taylor on the general board and as bureau chief of the Navy Department cannot be sustained, for the reason that Bradford's rank as rear admiral dates merely from his second commission as chief of the Equipment Bureau, while Taylor's rank as a rear admiral dates from his actual commissioning in that grade, in February, 1901, ten months before the date of Bradford's second commission.

According to the Secretary's decision, an officer appointed as a chief of a bureau for the first time today would rank a bureau chief whose term of four years expiring tomorrow would be immediately renewed.

Admiral Bradford has not attended the meetings of the general board since

Bradford's first commission as rear admiral expired with his first term of office in December, 1901, and although he was immediately reappointed as chief of the Equipment Bureau with that rank, his last commission must be regarded as the date of his appointment.

Mr. Hanna maintained, therefore, that as Admiral Taylor's commission dates from February, 1901, and Admiral Bradford's from December, 1901, Taylor is the senior.

Mr. Moody was at first disposed to regard the question as trivial, but he later came to believe that it was of great importance to the navy, involving the relative standing of officers holding higher rank by virtue of being chiefs of bureaus and officers who attain similar rank in the regular course of promotion.

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