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anywhere in the world, I know these boys and know them well. I have lived with them for years. I have rubbed elbows with them for years. I know what they are thinking about. We started out with about one-third of our crews green, farmer boys from the west, and when we began our target practice in Magdalena Bay, two days after we entered that bay, we broke every record ever made in gun firing."

Those few words show the spirit that keeps the navy on the alert and makes the men ready for any emergency that calls for men to risk fortune, honor and life for native land. Some plan should be adopted to make all American boys that way, and prizes for excellence in any needed line would make most of them all that is needed.

Mr. Holman's Speech

THE SPEECH of Mr. Holman in the assembly on Monday, was a fierce arraignment, but it was deserved. The action of the House on the Cannon bill since its first introduction, was not the procedure of free men, not comparable to anything that was ever seen in any legislative body on earth.

It was a Punch and Judy show from the start, pulled off by a poorly concealed apostolic string. Cannot the high churchmen see that it is time to stop that work? Can they not see that if persisted in a little longer they will lose their hold upon their people? This is in the twentieth century; the school house is in full force; the electric lights are blazing; the wireless is carrying the messages of priestly oppression into every home and the old flag "full high advanced," is over all.

The constitution and laws of Utah, adopted and passed with the consent of these same priests forbid such work as they have been engaged in since before election; the laws of the republic and civilization forbid it, and the people who have so far been obedient are chafing under the tyranny as never before. The bent bow breaks at last, and the danger that stares these cruel priests in the face is that if they continue to dictate the policies of their people, they will not only be derided, but will lose their hold upon them altogether.

Last Taps on the Maine

THAT WAS a startlingly dramatic and pathetic picture that Admiral Sigsby drew of the last hour of the Maine. Taps were sounded, the signal for sleep and peace, and in half an hour the peace of the grave, the hush of eternity, had come to the fighting crew of that fighting ship, and with the crew, the great ship itself had found its grave. In a foreign port, the guest of a power which was supposed to be a protecting one, taps were sounded which meant sleep and peace; the echoes brought back the trumpet call to sleep, and then came the assassination of ship and crew. It is not much satisfaction that reparation was enforced, for that was nothing to the brave men in their final sleep in the ooze; the only real satisfaction is in the thought that the cruel arm of Spain was broken forever in her island possessions, and a long suffering people were

made free. In that thought, the sounding of the last taps on the Maine, which the echoes took up and carried far inland, was a promise of peace to the fair land, a promise that the pestilence should be driven away, a promise of schools, a promise of bread to the starving, a promise of that peace which comes when a people are free, and where every opportunity of a fair land is open to them all.

In that thought one can be reconciled to the sacrifice of the brave men and the brave ship, if such a sacrifice was necessary. If the people are not yet fitted to be free, that is no matter, the time was ripe to strike down their oppressors. And yet it was most pitiable. Had death come in battle, with trumpets sounding and great guns roaring, with the flag above them on which to fix their dying eyes, they would have passed on with smiles upon their faces; for they had consecrated their lives to that end, if necessary; but the foul assassin's blow to strike them in their sleep, that was infamous.

The last sound they heard was the signal for sleep and peace. Sweet be their sleep and may the soft mantle of everlasting peace wrap them round.

An Original Great American

IN CALLING up great names in this month in which so many illustrious Americans were born, one instinctively calls in review the names of men who have been potential forces in our country from the first. Among them one name stands out close to the head of the list. He was not born in February, but came very near it, on the 29th of January. Because he would not subscribe to any of the creeds of his day he has been discounted for almost six score years, but he surely was a master spirit among men. We refer to Thomas Paine. He was among the first to cry out for a declaration of independence and outlined what that declaration should contain. In 1775 he urged the creation of a navy and gave reasons which were unanswerable why the people on this side of the Atlantic should build ships. He pointed out that all the materials for ship-building were here in abundance, while other nations had to import most of theirs, and declared that if we were to accumulate more ships than were needed, other nations would be glad to purchase them "and by that means replace our paper money with gold and silver." He advised the giving of premiums to merchants, to build and employ in their service ships mounted with twenty, thirty, forty or fifty guns, and declared that most of Great Britain's fleet was worthless, that our country with a fifth of her ships could beat her at sea, for we would have but one coast to defend while she had provinces everywhere, and then would have to come across a stormy 3,000 miles to attack us. But he was greatest in urging independence. Here is one extract from his pen in 1775:

"When William the Conqueror subdued England, he gave them law at the point of the sword, and, until we consent that the seat of government in America be legally and authoritatively occupied we shall be in danger of having it filled by some fortunate ruffian who may treat us in the same manner, and then, where will be our freedom; where our property?"

As to religion, I hold it to be the indispensable duty of all governments to protect all conscientious professors thereof, and I know no other business which government hath to do therewith."

Just in the above we see the germs of all that materialized in the creation of our government.

The next year he joined the army, declaring that the people were strong enough to achieve their independence, that were they stronger, there would be danger of their splitting up into

separate governments, whereas a united whole was the only safe plan. Wherever we find his words in referring to the country and any of its needs, they not only ring true, but they are filled with a rare wisdom which often takes on the form of prophecy.

Moreover, many of the thoughts he gave expression to crystallized in the minds of the people and are cardinal principles of the Republic today.

Surely there were giants in those days.

Not a Restricted Field

REFERRING to Mr. Lincoln, the New York Sun says he was "trained politically in a narrow though important field, with rough associations and apparently unread in politics."

That is not quite fair. For thirty years before Mr. Lincoln became president Illinois had a multitude of the strongest men in the nation. There was Douglas, who held his own and led his party for years. There was Col. E. D. Baker, who made a splendid name as a soldier in the Mexican war, who was a fine lawyer and, we believe, the foremost orator of his day, who was always a close friend of Mr. Lincoln. There was Stephen Logan, whom a fine lawyer declared was the greatest lawyer he ever saw. There was Mr. Trumbull, who held a national fame as a lawyer and a statesman. There was General John Logan, who, while not a scholar, had no end of hard sense, who, by the force of his brain and his magnificent courage, won the stars of a major general in the great war. There was the war governor of Illinois, old Dick Yates, who had the levellest of heads. There was Col. Hardy, who went down at Buena Vista. It was in Illinois that Lovejoy was killed.

Illinois was filled with men who, like Lincoln, had come from the south. Political issues were fought fiercely in that state. From the time of the Mexican war to the time of Mr. Lincoln's election no state in the union understood the situation better than Illinois, or fought it out on stronger lines, and one of the greatest evidences of Mr. Lincoln's greatness is, that in that state, surrounded by such men, he naturally gravitated to the head.

Location makes a great difference with men. The assertion of Gilpin that when it came into its own, the Mississippi valley would dominate this country, was already in the minds of men and the great men of that day took on the largeness of their surroundings. In New York Mr. Lincoln might have been lost. As Punch said:

"His gaunt, gnarled hands, the unkempt, bristling hair,

His garb uncouth, his bearing ill at ease,

His lack of all we prize as debonaire,

Of power, or will to shine, of art to please—"

might have kept him in the background of New York City, but out on the prairie,

"He went about his work—such work as few Ever had laid on head and heart and hand— As one who knows where there's a task to do, Man's honest will must Heaven's good grace command."

And so, with all the strength of his brain, and careless of surroundings he went to Washington to do the work there and he did not go from a restricted field, rather he went from a field that had no fences around it, and he filled the duties that fell upon him there in his own quiet way, but with a prescience that those around him could not understand; he knew what he was doing and he had faith that it would come out right.