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 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1899.

We suppose Mayor McKisson of Cleveland can comfort himself with the reflection that the "good die young."

The people of Cleveland now have the promise from Mayor-elect Farley, of something seldom seen on this mundane sphere, viz., a democratic business administration.

AGUINALDO probably intends to make a few century runs eastward and get around to capture Manila from the "blind side." He may imagine there is nobody on guard.

THE Filipinos are now doing to perfection the act of a certain Irish soldier during the war of the rebellion, who said that if he should get into a tight place he would advance backward until the coast was clear.

THE present sad and mournful condition of the roads will be measurably forgotten in a few days when we see the street sprinkler going up and down our streets. We forget our former adversity when prosperity comes.

A manufacturer at Three Oaks, Ind., has agreed to pay into the village treasury as much money as the town would receive from the saloons, if the town will vote out the saloons. This we understand has been done with satisfactory results.

A good way to prevent legislative senatorial deadlocks is to amend the constitution so that the people may do that little business of electing Senators, by voting for them on the same ballot sheet on which they vote for Congressmen. Try it.

THE probable effect of Bryan's recent letter to Perry Belmont will be to emphasize the coolness already existing between the gold wing and the silver wing of the party, and tend to widen the gulf between them until it broadens into disaster to the entire out-fit next year. We give them fair warning, but some folks will be headstrong in spite of all you may say.

THE claims for spoliation of property belonging to non-combatants in Cuba, during the late war, are assuming enormous proportions already, and the music has only just begun. Uncle Sam is getting to be quite prodigal of his spending money, but we opine that many of these claims will suffer the fate of the bulk of spring poetry and be consigned to the waste basket.

In adjusting Cuban affairs, Uncle Sam was wise enough to promise to deal with the people only. This supercedes any recognition of governmental authority on the island, such as the debating society which recently deposed Gomez "in their minds." Uncle Sam will attend strictly to his business in Cuba, and will do it according to contract, and will have the co-operation of every sensible Cuban.

WE learn from Youngstown, one of the brightest cities in Ohio, that a steel firm there are in need of 250 more men than they already have, and are as yet unable to get them. All the available men in town who want to work have been secured. We also learn that similar conditions prevail elsewhere. This is on the principle of "the office seeking the man" in a way with which we are heartily in accord.

W. J. BRYAN's explanation of his refusal to accept the invitation of Perry Belmont to dine with him and make a speech, has the merit of frankness to say the least. We sincerely hope that the democracy will not get into a family row before the time for their national convention, as it might endanger their chances before the people and make themselves appear ridiculous in the eyes of—well, say the republican party.

THE United States is ever to the front. On the commission of arbitration to settle differences between Great Britain and Venezuela, have been appointed Justices Fuller and Brewer of the Supreme Court. This commission will convene in Paris in May and will continue in session doubtless about six months. Besides these noted jurists, Ex-President Harrison and Ex-Secretary of the navy, Tracy are principal counsel for Venezuela in the contention.

THE Sunday-school workers and Christian people of Marion, Ohio, are planning largely for the 40th Annual Convention of the Ohio State Sunday-school Association to be held there during the week of June 5th. Each county is entitled to a representation consisting of its county association officers and ten chosen delegates. This state association is interdenominational, helpful to us all. It is the organized Sunday-school force of the state. It directly organizes no individual schools, but it organizes the Sunday-school hosts of counties and townships, and through conventions brings them in touch with the most practical and advanced methods and teaching. The Ohio Sunday-school Worker, of Toledo edited by Marion Lawrence, General Secretary is the official paper of the state association.

By a recent enactment of the North Carolina legislature, 100,000 negroes of that state are practically disfranchised. This may work a great deal of trouble before it is brought up against the constitution of the United States and knocked out, as it certainly will be; but in the meantime many of those smart fellows who worked this iniquity, will be howling about the course of the administration in "depriving of their liberty" a few thousands of beathen Filipinos. Verily, "consistency, thou art a jewel."

ACCORDING to Attorney General Griggs, the gigantic trusts which have formed and are now forming throughout the country are not under jurisdiction of the federal courts, except in instances where they interfere with interstate commerce. He gives it as his opinion that state legislatures can deal with them most effectually. If this true, it would be a wise plan for the legislative bodies of the various states to look after the matter this winter, while they have nothing else to do. We mention this matter because the combinations of capital are becoming very annoying to small manufacturers, who have a right to "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."

ON GOOD ROADS.

Catechism adapted to conditions in Lorain county on the good roads question.

- Q. What class of people would be most benefited by good roads?
 A. The farmers.
 Q. Why would the farmers be benefited more than other people?
 A. Because they make more use of the roads than other people.
 Q. If bonds were issued to raise money to build roads, what proportion of the expense would have to be paid by the farmers?
 A. Less than one half, because the taxable property of Lorain county is about \$20,000,000, and more than half of this amount is inside of city and village corporations, which are obliged to build their own roads.
 Q. Then why should the farmers "kick," and claim that it is a scheme of town people to oppress the farmers?
 A. There is no reason why they should, unless they are misinformed as to the real situation. The towns provide their own roads, within their corporate limits, and besides would pay more than half the cost of good roads throughout the county.
 Q. Then is there any reasonable ground for objecting by farmers to an issue of county bonds for such purposes?
 A. None whatever.

JOHN BROWN AND HIS PERSONALITY.

THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON'S "Cheerful Yesterdays," a book of delightful reminiscences, has this concerning the impression made by Mr. Brown in an interview by appointment in Boston, March 1858.

"I saw before me a man, whose mere appearance and bearing refuted in advance some of the strange perversions, which have found their way into many books, and which have often wholly missed the type to which he belonged. In his thin, worn, resolute face there were the signs of fire which might wear him out, and practically did so, but nothing of pettiness or baseness; and his talk was calm, persuasive, and coherent. He was simply a high-minded, unselfish, belated Covenanter; a man whom Sir Walter Scott might have drawn, but whom Nicolay and Hay, for instance have utterly failed to delineate.

To describe him in their words "clean but coarse" is coarse; is curiously wide of the mark; he had no more of coarseness than was to be found in Habakkuk Muckelwirth or in George Eliot's Adam Bede; he had, on the contrary, that religious elevation which is itself a kind of refinement,—the quality one may see expressed in many a venerable Quaker face at yearly meeting.

Coarseness absolutely repelled him; he had little humor, and none of the humorist's temptation towards questionable conversation.

Again to call him "ambitious to irritation" in the words of the same authors, is equally wide of the mark. I never could find in him a trace of ambition."

He had been a surveyor and knew the Alleghenies like a book. He would have liberated slaves in families and groups by paths familiar to him. All this he explained to Mr. Higginson and others plainly and calmly and there was nothing in it that we his friends in Boston, Theodore Parker, Dr. Howe, Stevens Sanborn and myself considered either objectionable or impracticable. M. H. N.

CUTTING THE CABLES.

UNDER FIRE AT CIENFUEGOS DANGEROUS WORK.

One of the Bravest Deeds of the War—Lieutenant Hobson Sinking the Merrimac was Heptate—But Only One of Many Instances of Heroism.

When Lieutenant Hobson and his men sank the Merrimac in the channel of Santiago Harbor, the deed was almost everywhere hailed as the bravest of the war. This was as it should have been, but to our mind a deed equally brave was that represented in our illustration taken from the current issue of Harper's Magazine, "Cutting the Cables at Cienfuegos." The illustration was drawn by R. F. Zogbaum for the third part of the "History of the Spanish-American War," by the Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, Senator from Massachusetts, who in this installment of a most notable history discusses "The Blockade of Cuba and the Pursuit of Cervera," gives an admirable description from an historical point of view, of the operations around San Juan, of Guantanamo Bay, of the bottling up of Cervera's fleet, and of Hobson and the Merrimac.

The gallant work of the men who under a galling fire cut the cables at Cienfuegos has been in the main lost sight of by reason of the more important and decisive battles, a brief resume of it will certainly not be out of place.

The same day that the Winslow, the Hudson, and the Wilmington were having their action at Cardenas, far away on the southern coast of Cuba another



fight was taking place, in the progress of the work of separating the great island from the rest of the world. On the night of May 10, Captain McCalla of the Marblehead called for volunteers to protect the cable-cutters in their work. The roll was soon filled, and the next morning the steam-launches of the Marblehead and Nashville, towing the two sailing-launches under command of Lieutenants Winslow and Anderson, started into the harbor of Cienfuegos about quarter before seven. They carried a squad of marines picked for proficiency as marksmen, and a machine-gun in the bow of each boat. The Nashville and Marblehead then opened fire on the Spanish batteries, and under cover of this, and that of the steam launches, the crews of the other boats went to work. It was a perilous business, but the sailors grappled and cut successfully the two cables they had been ordered to destroy. They also found a small cable, but the grapple fouled the bottom and was lost. Meantime the Spanish fire grew hotter and hotter, pouring out from the batteries and machine-guns, and the boats began to suffer. The well-directed fire from the rifles of the marines and from the 1-pounders kept the Spaniards from reaching the switch-house which controlled the sub-marine torpedoes, but launches could not contend with batteries at close range, and when the work for which they came, and which had all been performed under a heavy fire, was done, they withdrew to the ships. Nine men, including Lieutenant Winslow, had been wounded, some seriously, and three as was reported later, mortally. It was a very gallant exploit, coolly and thoroughly carried through, under a galling fire, and it succeeded in its purpose of hampering and blocking in the enemy at the important port of Cienfuegos, which was the road to Havana from the southern coast. It was another twist in the coil which the United States was tightening about Cuba.

While Americans lead the world in inventive genius they do not monopolize the inventive faculty. U. S. consul Higgins, at Dundee, Scotland, has written the department of state that on a farm near that town a machine for milking cows has been successfully used for two years.

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