

The First Shot.

How the Civil War Began.

A few days before the first shot was fired at Fort Sumter, a Mr. Beers—a noted Abolitionist—made the remark, in my hearing, that the American people had no conscience on the slavery question, and would never strike a blow against the South, no matter what took place. Yet on the night of the day that shot was fired an uprising took place the like of which I have never seen and never expect to see again. The people went wild, and the armory, near which I was employed, was besieged by men waiting to be armed for the war. I shall never forget that day. As the practical foreman of a daily newspaper, I received all the letters from the Associated Press—the editor at that time having all he could do to write the editorials and look after the local matters. One of those letters contained a few sheets of manifold, paper, and on the top of the sheet marked "No. 1." I read these words: "Fort Sumter Fired into." I can see it now. I read it to the hands with the remark to one of the boys. "Go tell the editor I want him," and "Boys, hurry up and get out an extra!" What happened? In less than a minute only the editor and myself occupied the composing room, for the boys had all rushed out and bought up common American flags and were parading the street. Discipline was out of the question. My employer, Mr. Spooner was somewhat angered. It was one of the greatest importance that an extra should be gotten out quickly. As a last resort I went out in Orange street and asked the boys to get out the extra and then enlist if they felt so disposed. They marched back to the office, tied their flags to their cases; got out the paper, and then left a few of us to print it. All night the excitement lasted, and next day it was almost impossible to get out a decent paper.

Talk about excitement that was the night of nights. The people of the State after State awoke from their slumber, intense indignation took the place of peaceful passiveness; patriotism glowed in every eye; and a nation steeped in slavery shook itself for a supreme effort to array itself in the garb of freedom. Men by the hundreds went to the newspaper offices and demanded the exhibition of the American flag where not seen. One editor appeared at a window and declared that unfortunately he was not the owner of a flag. "Pelt him with stones!" was heard from all over. In about a minute he appeared with a paper flag that was worth about two cents. At the sight of which the people cheered themselves hoarse. I think it is due to that editor to say that—that in a few days thereafter he enlisted and went to the war.

For once the voice of the people was right. They yelled better than they knew. A wave of patriotism had struck them—not a love of human rights, nor even a disposition to do what was right toward the Negro race. Since the war I have had great confidence in the people when once aroused. Just before that time the Abolition vote had nearly died out. All kinds of compromises were being talked of, and even that awful decision that a Negro had no rights that a white man was bound to respect had been officially pronounced. But, with the firing into Fort Sumter, that decision had been set aside by the voice of the people.—G. H. Scott in New York Witness.

Gen. Harrison says that the Republican victory this fall has been so great "that language is parerized, and every illustration we have been wont to use as a type of disaster fails to serve in the face of this overwhelming repudiation of Democratic policies."

When his present American visit is concluded Conan Doyle will write an article for the Ladies' Home Journal on American women, telling "How Your Women Impressed Me."

Elections by Machinery.

The only difficulty about having honest elections is that of getting honest men to take charge of them. Every person who is acquainted with the wonderful and manifold uses which mechanical devices are now constantly used to perform know there is no apparent difficulty in contriving a voting machine. More than this, voting machines of several sorts have already been constructed, operated, tested and found so satisfactory that their employment has been heartily recommended.

It appears that voting machines have been tested and have received general encomiums from the press. It has been demonstrated, so it is claimed, that mechanism furnishes a much cheaper method of voting than the Australian ballot system, which has become the vogue in many States, and that it is more accurate and convenient than any voting system which has been on trial in this country.

A single voting machine has recorded without error a thousand votes, showing a capacity for registering votes which would allow a very decided reduction of election precincts, with the consequence saving of rent, service of election officers, cost of printing tickets and the incidentals which swell the costs of elections to large figures in the aggregate. The appliance requires but one booth at each election place, and will accomplish as much in a given period as ten or eleven booths under the present New York system.

It appears that the machine counts the vote as it is recorded by the voter himself, and the result is known immediately at the closing of the poll, which is certainly a most important consideration, since not only is there a universal demand for instant news, but the danger of stuffing ballot boxes, or of counting the votes fraudulently, in the period between the closing of the polls and the making up of the returns is eliminated.

The voting is done by pulling a lever or touching a knob, one for each ticket or candidate, as may be arranged for.

Naturally, the question is asked whether or not the people who have charge of the machine can work it in interest of fraud, and, in the absence of specific description of it, the question cannot be answered here; but it is said that the act of voting for one person or party locks the other levers until the voter leaves the booth, when all the levers are unlocked again by the closing of the door behind him, and the booth is prepared for the entering of another voter.

Breaking The Solid South.

West Virginia is a State of mountains and freemen, and of important industries which would be ruined by the Democratic programme of free trade. The people of West Virginia have returned to the party which created their mountain State as a bulwark against Southern secession, and in this crisis for American industry they are coming to the front as loyally as in the memorable crisis when the existence of the Union and the hopes of humanity depended on the arbitration of arms, Virginia, too—the Old Dominion itself, is helping to swell the forces of protection, and there are signs everywhere among the border States that the outer crust at least, is breaking from the Solid South. The Bourbons are losing their grasp upon the Southern people, the mass of whom must earn a living by labor, and who find the war issues settled in 1865 a poor substitute for wages, food and clothing in 1894.—New York Press.

That another bond sale will be necessary after the adjournment of the present Congress no one doubts, as the process of procuring gold to recoup the reserve, which, in turn, is withdrawn for foreign shipment and for other purposes, must continue, like the swinging of a pendulum, until the receipts of the Treasury Department largely exceed the expenditures.

Ladies button shoes worth \$2 now selling at \$1.25 at David Davidson's. 48tf

Kissing and a Jury Trial.

The annals of American jurisprudence are about to be enriched by another kissing case. The town of Freeport, in the State of New York, is stirred to its profoundest depths by an osculatory event that has found its way from a church festival to a court of law. One William Corning is the osculator, and a Miss Mueller the osculatee.

The history of this case begins, as we have indicated, at a church festival. It does not appear on the records that Williams was a church going man. It is not shown that he ever "sighed at the sound of a knell, or smiled when a Sabbath appeared." But he happened one day to hear that a fair or festival was being held to raise money for the purchase of a horse and carriage "for the minister," and he was further informed that a leading and lucrative feature of the enterprise was the selling of kisses by Miss Mueller. William went. He went with a good supply of Federal currency in his wallet. He saw, and he kissed, kissed again, and kept on kissing until his available funds were exhausted. And still he hankered for further osculatory indulgence.

About this time it occurred to William that, if he were the husband of that kissable maiden, he could get his kisses without cash or negotiable paper, and being intoxicated with bliss, he offered his hand and heart and both were promptly accepted. After the customary deliberations the wedding day was named and the bride-elect began to appear herself with due diligence to the work of preparing for the impending change. It is stated by a local chronicler of happenings in Freeport that all of the other marriageable ladies of that place began to envy Miss Mueller, and kissing festivals became the rage. But a sudden check was put on the osculation industry one memorable day, when the startling announcement was made that William had changed his mind—in short, that he had backed out.

At first the lady wept, refusing to be comforted, but after indulging her grief for a fortnight she went to see a lawyer, and her suit for breach of promise is now on a court docket. The case of Mueller versus Corning promises to have an attractive and illuminating influence. One of the results of the trial may be a discouragement of public and promiscuous kissing as a means of raising money. Kissing for revenue only is not the ideal style of osculation. Somehow, it hasn't the right flavor.

Wilson's Day Over.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 21.—Congressman William L. Wilson is no longer a drawing card in this city. Three weeks ago, when he spoke in behalf of his friend, John K. Cowen, the big music hall was scarcely big enough to hold the people. Last night a business college paid him \$300 to deliver a lecture at the same hall, and though the same fact had been judiciously advertised, scarcely 300 people attended. The expenses were in round figures \$600, and the receipts \$100, entailing a loss of \$500 to the college. Heretofore the college has made money on all its lectures. This is the first time a loss has been sustained.

CHINA'S WATERLOO.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25.—Additional details of the capture of Port Arthur came in a cablegram from Rear Admiral Carpenter, of the China station on board the Baltimore. It is as follows:

"CHEE FOO (no date) DELAYED IN CHINA. The Japanese army engaged on November 21 numbered about 15,000; the Chinese army 13,000. Japanese lost about 200 killed and wounded. Two thousand Chinese lives were lost. The Chinese army escaped."

Chairman Wilson persists in declaring that "tariff reform has a future," but he fails to perceive that it is like his coat tails—wholly behind him.

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