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WAR TALK IN THE EAST.

From the Inter-Ocean.] The De Lome incident has cleared the decks for action. The ex minister's letter betrayed the animus of Spain's representative and the weakness of the Spanish cause in Cuba. It was testimony from a most important witness that the moderation of President McKinley, his patience and courtesy, had been thrown away, had been wasted on a government and a people who could not appreciate the character and conduct of the executive, and who could not understand the temper of the American people.

The offensiveness of the De Lome letter was bad enough, but the admissions as to Spanish duplicity were infinitely worse. President McKinley might have hesitated to take cognizance of the personal feature of the letter, but he could not hesitate with the other features of the letter and the action of the Spanish cabinet in mind. The whole personal equation has been subordinated to a question of national sentiment and national policy.

Minister De Lome in his letter written weeks ago admitted the failure of Spanish policy in Cuba—practically admitted the impossibility of conquering a peace; and yet his government had asked President McKinley to give the new policy a fair trial, and De Lome himself was pleading for more time. The Spanish premier and the Spanish minister to the United States knew that the forbearance of the United States government was based on the theory that the Sagasta ministry would honestly endeavor to carry out a policy looking toward peace in Cuba. Abandon this theory and there is no longer a reason for forbearance. Minister De Lome in his confidential letter to a friend abandoned the theory when he admitted the failure of the policy. His action and the action of the Spanish cabinet release the president from every implied or written promise as to further delay. The letter and the comments of the Spanish papers on it, show such lack of appreciation of the president's efforts, such utter failure to comprehend the restraints that he imposed upon himself in the interests of the new government in Spain, such ignorance of the real sentiment and spirit of the American people, that neither Spanish minister, nor ministry, nor nation deserve further consideration.

With their president flouted at; with their honest sympathies and sentiments sneered at, with their national pride and spirit scoffed at, the American people will stand almost as one man behind the president to resent insult and resist further concessions to a power that has used the forbearance of a generous people to further its own barbarous policy in Cuba.

As the time for the Republican convention draws near, more or less talk about the candidates who shall carry the party banners becomes a matter of necessity. One thing is certain, the delegates to the coming state convention will have abundant material from which to choose, and the probable delegates would do well to carefully consider the relative names mentioned. It has been hinted slightly in the newspapers that the name of Hon. George H. Williams would be brought before

the convention for governor, and if it is, the Republican party can do itself no greater credit than by giving him the nomination. Judge Williams stands as the foremost statesman of Oregon, and the people would gladly elevate him to any office within their gift. Should he accept the nomination, his election would follow as a certainty, and a clean, able administration would be assured. It would be better for the state of Oregon had it more men within its borders like Judge Williams, and it will be a fortunate day for the state when it can inaugurate him as its governor. The name of Claude Gatch of Salem has been mentioned as a possible candidate for secretary of state, and he would make a most excellent running mate for Judge Williams.

TIME TO STOP.

The course of the administration in the Cuban matter is not especially gratifying to the country. There has been too much of an apologetic air towards Spain. The Cuban policy at Washington has not been one to inspire Spain with respect for the United States. Every step taken has been preceded by the fear of giving offence to Spain, and followed by apologetic assurance of friendly intentions.

The administration appeals to the American people in the name of humanity to contribute food to the starving Cubans, then apologizes to Spain for doing it by the assurances that there is no intention to help Cuba. It was deemed best, in order to protect American lives and property in Havana, that a United States man of war be stationed in Havana harbor; but before the Maine reached that port, word was sent to Spain that the arrival of the warship meant absolutely nothing but a desire to resume former friendly naval relations.

Any one of these excuses and apologies may be all right from a diplomatic standpoint; perhaps they all are, but the effect and consequences which followed them have been most unfortunate. In spite of the soothing words of this government, the American legation in Havana has been the scene of rioting, where the utmost disrespect was shown the American nation and its representatives. In spite of the assurance of this government that the Maine was going on a pleasure jaunt, that vessel has been blown to pieces and hundreds of brave lives destroyed—how we do not know; but there are few who do not honestly believe that it was the work of Spaniards.

Even the report that there is activity in the military and naval stations in this country, is followed by a declaration that it has nothing to do with Spain, and that we love that country as much as ever.

All this may be good diplomacy, but it is like eating crow to swallow it.

Spain has no love for the United States, and we should not deceive ourselves by friendly words. This country is apt to get too good-natured through its easy-going ways. It learned a lesson in 1861, when by our temporizing the southern states were allowed to prepare for a war that four years were needed to settle, when had the North taken reasonable precautions for preparation, one year would probably have brought it to an end.

We cannot afford to stand anything more from Spain. Our president has been maligned, our flag insulted, our battleship destroyed. For what more are we waiting?

THE DALLES, DUFUR AND DESCHUTES RAILROAD.

We do not know how authentic is the rumor published in yesterday's papers that a railroad will be constructed from The Dalles to Sherman county, connecting with the Columbia Southern. That a company has been organized with this avowed purpose is true, and we have every reason to believe that the road will be built if proper arrangements can be made and suitable inducements offered.

It is needless for THE CHRONICLE to urge upon the people of The Dalles the importance of seeing that

the proposed plan does not fail in execution. We have been loudly lamenting our past mistakes when we allowed industries with pay rolls to slip away, and now when there is a possibility of securing favorable railroad connections with the vast interior of Eastern Oregon, let us see to it that we do our full share, and more if necessary.

This paper has long advocated just such a scheme as the one now proposed—to build from here to Deschutes river by the most practicable grades and, crossing into Sherman county, to connect with the Columbia Southern. That the route is practicable has been determined, and that The Dalles absolutely needs the trade of the country which the Columbia Southern proposes to tap is just as patent.

Very likely this city may be called upon to furnish a subsidy to aid the new project, and if this be so, we should respond most liberally. Whatever amount we raise would more than return within one year in the manner of increased trade, and the investment would be a most satisfactory one.

This question is a most important one, and the Commercial Club and the city at large should use every endeavor to see that the road is built to Sherman county before another harvest.

There are many signs that the Democrats, the Populists and the Silver Republicans hope to make an issue of the free silver question in the next campaign. Recently in Washington the Populists and Silver Republicans had a conference and agreed upon the terms of fusion, with the expectation of carrying on a sharp campaign next fall, particularly in the states west of the Mississippi. It was reported at the conference that those states are practically solid for free silver. In this connection the Hon. William J. Bryan, Democratic candidate of 1896, has declared that the chief issue of 1898 and 1900 must be the question of the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. He holds that this ratio, approved by the Chicago platform, is an essential part of the issue, and that it cannot well be surrendered. The effect, he argues, of changing the ratio from 16 to 1 to 32 to 1 would be to make the silver dollars twice as large as they are, and "to double the size of the silver coin of the country would diminish by one-half the silver money of the world," and "would diminish by one-fourth the entire volume of metallic money of the world." Such a shrinkage in money, he adds, would add billions of dollars to the debt of the world, and would do a great injury. For this and many other reasons he is in favor of insisting upon the ratio of 16 to 1. It will be remembered that Senator Wolcott, Silver Republican, of the International Bimetallic Commission, recently said in the senate that the ratio, in case of an international agreement, might be changed to 20 to 1 or 21 to 1.

NEWS NOTES.

Saturday's Daily.

Late dispatches from Paris state that Zola's chances for acquittal are very good.

A special received this morning states that the cause of the accident of the Maine has not yet been discovered.

Another big cut was made in railroad rates yesterday, and at present the rates to New York are the cheapest ever known.

It is announced from Washington that the first contract for a public building at Portland will be placed on the market in one week.

It is reported that the order of the Dominion government that all miners going into the Yukon country without provisions to last a year be turned back, has been withdrawn.

Spain has officially disclaimed in a positive manner the reflections contained in the De Lome letter, an as officially announced by the state department yesterday the incident is satisfactorily closed.

At first the Spanish refused to allow Captain Sigbee to examine the Maine without the assistance of Spanish divers, but they have finally yielded, and Captain Sigbee is at liberty to act as he pleases about the matter.

Reports from Colfax state that the Whitman county jail is being guarded night and day to prevent a repetition of the lynching of Chadwick Marshall, alias "Blackey." "Dakota Slim," the alleged accomplice of "Blackey," is now

in the jail, pending an appeal to the supreme court on a point of law. Public sentiment is against him and it would be no surprise if he should meet with the same fate as did his accomplice.

After a spirited debate occupying more than two hours, the senate yesterday, by a vote of thirty-four to twenty-nine, agreed to the resolution of Turpie declaring the senate's opposition to the sale of the Kansas Pacific.

The debate on the bankruptcy bill dragged along listlessly in the house yesterday, interest in it being overshadowed as Tuesday, by the Maine disaster. The speeches on the floor attracted almost no attention, and were delivered in most instances to a handful of members.

Monday's Daily.

Reports of yesterday state that the Canadian government has decided to grant a right-of-way to the American railroads in Alaska.

At present there are grave doubts as to whether or not the Snow and Ice Transportation Company will get away at all with their train.

It is learned from what is considered a reliable source that all the branches, rolling stock, depots and grounds of the Washington & Columbia River Railroad Company from Pendleton to Hunt's Junction, have been transferred to the Northern Pacific.

Notable preparations are being made throughout the country. Guns and munition of war are being put in readiness and the troops are under marching orders. The big guns on the fortresses have been manned by extra men and eye-tying goes to prove that Uncle Sam has grave doubts about the amicable settlement of the affairs with Spain. Late reports state that evidence against the Spanish government is accumulating and everyone waits with impatience the result of the investigations now being made by the divers.

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PUBLIC SERVICE IN CHINA.

Two Merits of the Competitive Educational System.

Ex-Secretary John W. Foster, who was the confidential adviser of the emperor of China in the peace negotiations with Japan, contributes a paper on "The Viceroys Li Hung Chang" to the August Century. Mr. Foster says of the viceroys:

"He does not regard the competitive educational system of admission to the public service as a perfect method, and more than once he has recommended to his emperor material modifications in the existing system. But it must be confessed that it has stood the test of centuries with much benefit to China, and its practical operation has demonstrated that it possesses two merits of inestimable value to any nation: first, it brings all the offices of the empire within the reach of the lowest subject; and secondly, it diminishes the incentives to, and opportunities of, corruption and favoritism in securing entrance into official life. But in China the competitive examination ends with the admission; beyond that step promotion must come through other methods. Li Hung Chang secured the right of admission to office through his assiduous application to study, and every succeeding step in his upward career has been attained by his own genius and capacity."

CHANGES IN OUR COLLEGES. The Rigidity of Discipline Has Been Relaxed.

If we look over the period covered by these memoirs (lives of Presidents Barnard and McCosh) we can see what changes have come to pass, says the Atlantic. Briefly stated they are these. It is most remarkable that pecuniary resources have increased enormously and this has made possible better buildings, larger libraries, more teachers. Private gifts, land grants and legislative appropriations have all contributed to this result. With more liberal expenditures, there has been greater freedom in every detail. The rigidity of discipline has been relaxed, manners are not so stiff, there is far less of petty regulation, the teaching is not so severe, the methods of living are much more civilizing. "The curriculum" has gone.

Either absolute election or a very large amount of choice is now permitted. With the abandonment of one fixed course the required amount of Greek and Latin has been greatly diminished and it is demonstrated that classical studies have gained more than they have lost by this change. History, English, French and German receive an amount of attention that was not given to these subjects 30 years ago. On the other hand, there is less attention to public speaking. Of great importance is the wide introduction of laboratory methods in the study of science, especially in physics, chemistry, physiology, botany and geology. Athletics have made marvelous advances. Finally, the admission of women to the advantages of higher education, either by coeducation, or by "annexes," or by separate foundations, is one of the greatest gains of the period under review.

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A Fearful Experience

A POSTMASTER LOSES THE USE OF HIS LEGS AND ARMS.

Edwin R. Tripp, of Middlefield Center, Meets with a Hazardous Encounter Which Renders Him Helpless.

From Otsego Republican, Cooperstown, N. Y.

Mr. Edwin R. Tripp, the postmaster at Middlefield Center, N. Y., recently had a dangerous experience which left him in a helpless state. His system was so much shattered that it was feared he might never recover.

In an interview with a reporter of the Republican, regarding this experience which had attracted considerable attention, Mr. Tripp stated:

"In March, 1892, I was taken with what I afterward learned was locomotor ataxia, and was unable to walk, and I kept getting worse until I lost the use of my arms. I doctored with two skillful doctors but received no benefit, and also used a galvanic battery but kept getting worse and the doctors told me they could do no more. This was in May and June, 1892. I gave up all hope of ever having the use of my limbs again, and did not expect to live very long. I was unable to dress or undress myself, and could not get around the house unless I was moved in a chair.

"I think it was in June that I read of the case of a man in Saratoga Co., N. Y., who was taken very much as myself. He had taken Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People which contained, in a condensed form, all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves, and had been cured by their use.

"I learned that the pills were prepared by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., and only cost 50 cents a box

or six boxes for \$2.50 at any druggist's, and sent for two boxes. I used the pills faithfully and they gave me an appetite. I then sent for four more boxes, and before I had taken all of them my feet and legs which had been cold began to get warm.

"I was a member of the Town Board that summer and had to be carried and put into a wagon to go to the meetings, and in fact was helpless, as my neighbors know. In August I could walk around the house by pushing a chair. I kept getting better and managed to move around more, until at election time that year, I walked with a cane to the polls, a short distance from my home. I continued to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People until I had taken eighteen boxes. I could then get around, and to-day walk to the post office and back, a distance of one-quarter of a mile, three times a day, and attend to my duties as postmaster.

"In the spring of 1893 I was elected town clerk, which office I held for three years, I had previously been a justice of the peace for thirty-two years. I am now 70 years of age, and have lived in this town for about forty-six years. For nearly fifty years I worked at the blacksmith's trade. I am able to do work in my garden now, and saw some of my wood. I consider that my restoration to health is due to the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People."

EDWIN R. TRIPP. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23d day of June, 1897. HOMER HANNAH, Notary Public.

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