

The Weekly Chronicle.

The only Republican Daily Newspaper in Wasco County.

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 Sheriff..... A. M. Kelsey
 Clerk..... T. J. Driver
 Treasurer..... C. L. Phillips
 Commissioners..... J. S. Blowers
 J. S. Kinsey
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ANOTHER BUGABOO.

The opponents of an expensive war policy have been scared out of what little wit they had by a bugaboo of their own manufacture. Their cry now is that if we attempt to control the destiny of Cuba or the Philippines or annex Porto Rico and Hawaii we will load ourselves with new burdens of debt. They contend that to pacify Cuba we will be compelled to maintain a strong army there for several years, and that if we become responsible for the government of Cuba we will become responsible for her debt; that in Porto Rico and the Philippines it will be all outgo and no income, and in addition the expense of maintaining a large army in each.

All this is based on the assumption that Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines have not been self-sustaining under Spanish rule; that their taxes and revenues have not met the expenses of government. If this were true it would prove nothing as to what they would become under American supervision. Florida and Louisiana were not very prosperous under Spanish and French rule, but they made rapid progress under American rule. Texas was poverty-stricken under the rule of old Mexico, but it soon became a great commonwealth under American influence. The prosperity of California dates from her admission to the American union. The condition of any island or colony under Spanish rule is no index of what it would be under the supervision of the United States.

But the record shows that Cuba was always, under normal conditions, a source of profit to Spain. A pamphlet published by the colonial office in Madrid, with data and statistics compiled from "official records," is authority for the statement that from 1850 to 1860 the annual surplus in the Cuban treasury never fell below \$3,000,000, while in some years it rose to \$5,000,000. This was in addition to a yearly contribution to the Spanish crown of \$2,000,000. Up to 1868 the finances of the island were in good condition, although the expenses of the military expeditions to Mexico and San Domingo were paid out of the Cuban treasury. The debt of the ten years' war was paid by Cuba, not by Spain. The revenue running up to \$34,000,000 per annum.

In prosperous times the yearly income of Cuba was estimated at \$80,000,000. Of this amount forty per cent went to state, provincial and municipal expenses. Poorly managed as Cuba was in peaceful times, she was a source of profit to Spain.

Porto Rico has always been more prosperous than Cuba. The climate is more salubrious and the soil more productive. By its position the island is peculiarly adapted to become the center of a flourishing commerce, but neither industrial nor commercial resources have been developed. The expenses of government are not heavy, and when an army has been quartered in Porto Rico the local government has maintained it. The same rule has been followed in the Philippines, where the military forces consisted in 1895 of 3,000 Spanish and 18,000 native troops. All the expenses of the army, all the outlays made in suppressing insurrection, were charged to the local or colonial government.

If we managed the Philippines and Porto Rico no better than the Spaniards they would not be a burden. Neither would require a large army of occupation. American supervision would probably greatly increase the prosperity of both, and certainly would be to the benefit of the people.

THE HERO OF SANTIAGO.

An assistant naval constructor, heretofore engaged in the routine

duties of school-teaching, and a delapidated tramp steamer lately used as a coal-hulk—these are not on the face of the case promising material for the building of an heroic saga. There is not in them much that is reminiscent of Nelson with the glass at his blind eye, or Farragut lashed to the rigging. One would instinctively look elsewhere for stirring deeds. These are only the fittings of an age of commonplace, in which veins are filled with water instead of blood, and passions are regulated by measure and weight. But in that instinct would be forever wrong. For in an hour in Santiago bay that man and that ship gained immortality of fame for the sheer splendor of deliberate daring such as King Olaf and his Berserks might have loved to see.

Inside the bay was the Spanish fleet, half a dozen superb fighting ships, and the shores were lined with batteries and the bottom dotted with mines and torpedoes like that which destroyed the Maine. Outside lay the American fleet. And the problem was to block the narrow gateway so that the Spaniards could not get out.

It was to that task that this man addressed himself, with his seven comrades and the old coal-hulk. There was none of the dash and excitement of battle in the job, no blazing and thundering of big guns and darting of torpedoes. At least there was none on Hobson's side. He and his men and their defenceless ship sailed slowly into the awful trap without a stroke in their own defence. A literal hail of shot and shell swept down upon them. The chances were that they would be riddled, or blown to atoms. But calmly and steadily the ship was moved forward until the narrowest part of the channel was reached. Then an anchor was cast out at the bow. In instant peril of death they waited patiently, as inch by inch the tide swung the great hulk around. At last she lay right across the channel, her length reaching almost from shore to shore. Then they dropped another anchor at the stern to hold her fast in that position. Then, as Greenville said after his immortal fight, the word was given, "Sink me the ship, Master Gunner! Sink her! Split her in twain!" And by the hands of her own crew the ship was sunk, effectually barring the harbor against Cervera's exit or Camara's entrance. The work was done. Then, seeing there was no escape in their open skiff through the storm of shot and shell that fell about them, Hobson and his seven men calmly rowed straight to the nearest Spanish ship, whose guns were belching out death against them, and gave themselves up as prisoners of war.

The name of Hobson is added to the list that already bears the names of Dewey and of Farragut, of Perry and Decatur. It was a small proceeding, compared with their great battles. But its results are not insignificant in themselves, while the manner of its doing showed its doers to be possessed of the highest heroism known in mortal conflict—the heroism that goes to the performance of supreme duty without a single stimulus save the fact that it is duty, and that in the face of all but certain death.—New York Tribune.

A COLossal TASK.

Whatever may be the object in withholding information in regard to the transports loaded with troops it is certain that the way has been opened for the landing of troops in Eastern Cuba. Operations of the navy have not been confined to Santiago. Admiral Sampson is practically in control of Guantanamo bay, to the east of Santiago, which will give shelter to all our war fleets and also afford a landing place for a part of Shafter's army.

Some days ago a special dispatch was sent from Berlin to the New York Herald and other papers, giving views of alleged German military experts on the invasion of Cuba. These were all of a discouraging character, the critics holding that the landing of a large army in Cuba was a work of too great difficulty to be mastered by officers in command of our armies. The case of Russian maneuvers on the Black sea in 1897

was cited as an illustration of what a colossal task General Shafter has undertaken. In this Russian case (which we are told was theoretically the most successful attempt ever made in modern times by a fleet to land large bodies of troops in the face of an enemy), each squadron succeeded in landing only 8,000 troops in three days. This, it is claimed, is a small matter when compared with what the Americans propose.

The German writer seems to believe that the Americans are going at this matter of transporting and landing troops in a haphazard manner. The very opposite is true. The government has succeeded in masking the real movements of the transports. It has also succeeded in confusing the Spaniards as to the point of landing. Never has so little been published as to any military expedition in this country as that under command of General Shafter. The people know that the troops are the best in our army, and that they are on the transports. The Spaniards know that much, but it may be assumed that General Miles and Admiral Sampson know a good deal more.

The operations of the navy indicate that there has been foresight in the selection of a landing place, and that when all things are ready the expedition will land. There will be no Spanish navy to oppose, and the invaders will meet no Spanish army on shore capable of making successful resistance. The case will not be like that of 1897 on the Black sea, but more like that of 1854 on the same sea, when France and Great Britain landed 57,000 troops in the Crimea in five days. The American people understand by this time that the view of the curbstone critics that the landing of an army is only a matter of two or three hours is not correct.

We are likely to have a little misunderstanding with the Kaiser over the Ladrones and Carolines, but it is probable that we can convince him of his error if he has committed one. In the meantime there is no reason why we should get mad at the Kaiser. Our indignation can be put to better use elsewhere. There will be ample time for the settling of small disputes when the big one is disposed of.

Manila had, when the war broke out, 300,000 population, of which 50,000 were Chinese, 5,000 continental European, 300 British islanders, and three Americans. We are left to guess as to the nationality of the remainder of the people, and this is the best they are able to do themselves.

The people who expected that the United States would whip Spain in three weeks are not different from the people who expected to crush the southern rebellion in a month. They are always with us.

With the submarine boat Holland going in one direction and the war balloons in another, it is probable that Spain will eventually be caught between a cyclone and an earthquake.

The Final Examinations.

Wednesday the result of the final examination of the pupils of St. Mary's Academy was made known to the young ladies of the various departments. Those who reached the required maximums were honorably promoted to the higher grades. Premiums for excellence in the minims department were awarded to Genevieve Fish, Alice Nolan, K. Skibbe, R. Donovan and Delia Brogan. The honors of the day, however, were reserved for four young ladies, Misses Edna Smith, Lizzie Brogan, Rosemary Baldwin and Annie McNeil, upon whom were conferred diplomas of graduation for having successfully completed the grammar course of study required by the institution. The teachers and young ladies of the academy express themselves highly pleased with the results of the year's work. AN OBSERVER.

Wyandotte Chickens.

Fine table fowl, good winter layers, \$1.00 each or \$9.00 per dozen. Eggs for sitting of 13, \$1.00.

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Tested queens by mail, 50c each. Inquire of Mrs. A. Bonney, Tygh Valley, Or.

One Minute Cough Cure, cures.

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CLOSING EXERCISES.

The Boys of St. Joseph's School Give a Splendid Entertainment Last Night at Which Many Friends and Parents Were Present.

Thursday's Daily.

The closing exercises for St. Joseph's school took place at St. Mary's Academy hall last evening and was largely attended by parents and friends of the little folks, who are under the superintendence of Sister Mary John.

The program was opened by a march and chorus by about forty little fellows, and was very ably and harmoniously rendered and betrayed marks of careful training.

Johnnie Brogan distinguished himself by his rendition of "Mr. Ward's Lecture." The selection, which was a difficult one, was very well rendered.

Next came a piano solo, "The Spinning Song," which was played in a way that surprised and delighted all present.

The next number was entitled "Klondike," and consisted of a dialogue and song by about twenty little fellows. They were well drilled in every detail and this number was very creditable.

A monologue by George Bunch, entitled "Tomorrow, or the Music of the Future," was highly amusing. He was assisted by eight little boys who represented each of the eight notes of the scale.

The gun drill followed. In this about thirty little fellows appeared, and the manner in which they did their parts showed that they were true American boys, well drilled and prompt to obey the commands of their captain.

The drill was concluded by the singing of "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," by the entire company of little patriots.

A piano and violin solo by Roger and Teddie Senfert followed, and for little ones they did themselves proud.

Hammond Geltner recited "Mr. Transcript's Slide Down Hill," in a way that would do credit to a much older boy.

A song and chorus, "The School Festival," by twenty-five boys, was the next number. The several parts of the song were sung by different boys, while the chorus was joined in by the entire group. Their singing showed application to the work and sound training.

The orchestra rendered the beautiful selection, "Scenes From Childhood." This was probably the best number on the program and although a hearty encore was given they modestly refused to respond.

The song and chorus, "One Wish," delighted everyone and was followed by the awarding of class honors by Rev. A. Bronsgeest. The gold medal for highest class average, which was donated by John Hampshire, was given to Johnnie Brogan. The medal for application, donated by Harry Liebe, was won by Walter Roos, while Herman Goelner won that offered for Christian doctrine, which was donated by James Skully. Rev. Father Bronsgeest made a short address of congratulation to the boys, after which the entertainment was concluded by the singing of the chorus "America" by the entire school.

GRADUATING EXERCISES.

Held at St. Mary's Academy, Yesterday—Virginia Hillgen Graduates With High Honors—A Splendid Program Throughout.

Friday's Daily.

The commencement exercises of St. Mary's academy took place in the large hall of the convent yesterday afternoon, and was well attended.

The stage was beautifully decorated with flowers, potted plants, and the class colors, lavender and white, while in large letters above the stage was the motto of the class of '98, "To Higher Levels Rise." The young ladies were all attired in white dresses and the effect throughout was very pretty.

The program began promptly at 2 p. m., the opening number being a selection on the piano, a Sonata by Mozart, by eight young ladies. Each and every one of them executed their parts faultlessly.

The entire school then joined in the beautiful chorus, "With Music Glad, Our Welcome Blends." Their singing was faultless, being sweet and harmonious.

A dialogue "The Troubles of the Little Folks," was well rendered, and the applause was certainly sufficient to prove that it was highly appreciated.

The number following was an essay by Miss Mary Virginia Hillgen, of Dufur, the graduate of this year. Her subject, "The Harp," was handled in a most thorough and charming manner. She traced its origin and history down from ancient times to later years when it was emblematic of the Emerald Isle. Her illusions were well made and betrayed the marks of application and learning. Although Miss Hillgen is the only member of this year's class, still her Alma Mater may well feel proud of the class of '98.

The piano selection, "Vase Brillante," by eight young ladies, was played in a manner that would do credit to artists, and certainly reflected great credit alike on the pupils and their teachers.

An aesthetic drill by fourteen girls, in costume, was remarkably graceful, and all, from the little tots of six summers to the older girls, did their parts admirably.

The beautiful drama, "Virtue Re-

warded," passed off without a perceptible error.

The orchestra, consisting of about thirty pieces, appeared, and by their beautiful and harmonious playing of difficult selections from the old masters, astonished everyone and drew hearty applause from the large audience.

The musical program was concluded by the vocal trio, "Sunshine, Song and Flowers," after which the entire school marched on the stage, where the graduating honors were awarded to Miss Virginia Hillgen, a gold medal and diploma being presented to her by the institution.

The gold medal, donated by Rev. Bronsgeest, was given for proficiency in vocal music to Miss May Johnston.

The gold medal, given by the institution for Christian doctrine, was awarded to Miss Virginia Hillgen. The gold medal for highest class average in the senior department, which was donated by Dr. and Mrs. Hollister, was awarded to Miss Edna Smith.

The medal for highest class average in the preparatory class was donated by the institution to Miss Mary Howe.

A medal donated by Miss Jane Connors, of the Portland Business College, was awarded to Mary A. Connelly for proficiency in plain sewing, while the gold medal donated by Miss Catharine Brogan, of The Dalles, was given to Mary Goelner. A gold medal donated by James Dagan, of Ashland, was given

to Mary McNerny for proficiency in instrumental music.

The afternoon's entertainment was closed by an eloquent address by Rev. A. Bronsgeest, in which he kindly complimented the young ladies for their splendid efforts, as well as giving them a rich store of kind, fatherly advice.

The exercises from beginning to end were most successful and were heartily enjoyed by all present.

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