

The Weekly Chronicle.

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**INCAPABILITY OF THE BRITISH OFFICERS.**

"With an army of British privates and French officers," said Bonaparte, near the end of his days, "I could conquer the world!" The judgment of the great Corsican as to the incompetency of England's officers has been ratified by many wars. The blunder of Gen. White in sending a force against a far larger army which was in a strong position ought to compel his retirement from the army, but it was not so destructive in its consequences as was the folly of Pakenham at New Orleans in 1815, in attacking Jackson's forces which were behind the cotton bales, when he could have flanked them with comparatively little trouble. Gage made a similar blunder at Bunker Hill. Technically the British gained a victory there, for they gained the ground fought over, but it was at such a loss of life and it brought out the fighting qualities of the handful of Americans so clearly that it was morally a defeat.

In each case, and in many others which could be cited, the mistake of the British officers was partly due to obtuseness and partly to contempt for the fighting qualities of their enemies. When Montcalm, during the conflict known in American history as the French and Indian war, but which, in its larger aspect, is known to the world as the seven years' war, was stationed at Ticonderoga with 3000 men to hold it against the British advance under Abercrombie, the British having an army of 15,000, some of his officers wanted him to retreat, and many of them believed an attack would mean not only French defeat, but the capture of the whole French army. Montcalm evidently knew Abercrombie, however, and consequently held his ground. White's intellectual ancestor, Abercrombie, committed a far more serious and costly blunder than White, for he allowed Montcalm to fortify his position, which, on one side, was of great natural strength, he attacked it on that side instead of on the sides in which it was weak, refused to bring up his artillery, and consequently the largest and most finely equipped British army which had ever appeared on the American continent along to that time was beaten with a loss of 2000 men by a force numbering scarcely one-fifth of its own.

The fighting qualities of the British at Ticonderoga were superb, as they proved to be at New Orleans, Bunker Hill and in the Transvaal, but no amount of bravery on the part of private soldiers and line of officers can compensate for the stupidity of commanders. When the youthful Washington tried to teach the impulsive and supercilious Braddock the way in which to fight the Indians and the French, the latter of whom fought in the Indian style when this was advisable, Braddock refused to hear him, but British historians are pretty well agreed that if the commander at that time had been Washington instead of Braddock the French Fort Duquesne would have been captured and the massacre of British and colonial troops by the Indians would have been averted. But neither Braddock's blunder nor that of Abercrombie in the same war taught the British officers the rudiments of their trade, and this was one of the reasons why, in the war a dozen years afterward, the Americans were successful, even under seriously adverse conditions, in most of their campaigns, and independence was gained.

**REFORM IN CITIES.**

The fifth annual meeting of the National Municipal League will be held at Columbus, Ohio, November 15th. Its most important business will be the consideration of the report of a special committee appointed

in 1897 on "Municipal Program." The members of the committee are Horace E. Deming of New York, Professor Frank J. Goodnow of Columbia University, Dr. Albert Shaw of the Review of Reviews, New York; Charles Richardson of Philadelphia, Professor Leo S. Rowe of the University of Pennsylvania, Geo. W. Guthrie of Pittsburg and Clinton Rogers Woodruff of Philadelphia.

After two years of study and investigation the committee has adopted a plan of city charter which it believes would solve many of the existing problems of municipal government. It favors a single legislative chamber, similar to that now working in this city, but it would fix the terms of councilmen at six years. The mayor would hold office for two years, and one-third of the councilmen would be elected at each biennial election. Special effort is made to surround the granting of municipal franchises with strong safe-guards, a four-fifths vote of the council and the approval of the mayor being required. The election of councilmen at large instead of by wards or districts is recommended, and in order that citizens may have a choice of candidates unhindered by party lines, the nomination of candidates for elective municipal offices is to be by petition and not by convention. Spokesman-Review.

**SUNBEAMS FROM CUCUMBERS.**

Mr. William J. Bryan went out into his political garden Saturday and gathered in a dozen election cucumbers, and proceeded with the skill of a political prestidigitateur to extract therefrom several smiling sunbeams, says the Telegram. Maryland was again safely Democratic. Kentucky was badly mixed up just now, but would be all right next year. The Nebraska cucumber, a fine, large, yellow specimen, afforded on dissection a flood of light. There was no doubt about Nebraska. Ohio needed more skillful treatment before the illuminating and coloric-conveying rays could be extracted, but they soon shone upon the operator's face and flamed from his tongue. McLean and Jones together had 50,000 more votes than Nash; therefore the Republican party is in the minority in Ohio, and can be easily beaten next year. The New York cucumber readily yielded a fine little beam in the statement that Assemblyman Maszet had been defeated, and another in the fact that the Republican vote had decreased, though not much light or heat could be obtained from the further fact that the Republicans had gained twelve members of the legislature.

However, the Lincoln farmer and professional orator succeeded to his own apparent satisfaction in extracting enough sunbeams from these election cucumbers to cheer him on his valiant way till the meeting of the next national convention.

**A DIFFERENT THING.**

The Thanksgiving proclamation of the governor of Missouri, the Hon. Lon B. Stevens, contains this sentiment:

"Not in any period of the history of the commonwealth has it ever been possible to find greater cause for gratitude to our Heavenly Father than at the close of the present year."

If Governor Stevens will stick to this solemn opinion when, six months hence, as a delegate to the next national Democratic convention, he takes part in making the platform for Bryan to stand on, he will make a national sensation.—New York Sun.

But he will not do it, says the Salem Statesman. Not by any means. The Thanksgiving proclamation of the governor of Missouri was made for one time and occasion.

The platform of the governor of Missouri and his associates, planned for Bryan to stand on, will be for another time and another purpose. It is good Lord this year. It will be good devil next year. Such are the inconsistencies of Democratic politicians in these troublous days.

Spokane is having a moral stir-up, which is very creditable. The Spokesman-Review most aptly says: Men who build cribs for immoral

purposes, and rent them for the high returns which vice is willing to pay, can not play indefinitely at the double game of respectability and vice. Soon or late their sins will find them out, and society will compel them to seek their level.

The New York Sun divulges the following very interesting information: "Another disputed chapter in Admiral Dewey's career has been written aright through the revelations of his recent courtship. Evidently before the Spanish war began he had been told, as a reply to his application for special consideration, to 'go and get a reputation.' He went and got it, but the orders that drove him to Manila apparently were neither Secretary Long's nor Governor Roosevelt's."

In a stiff war with the Boers England has discovered some weak spots in its army, just as the United States discovered the "cankers of a long peace" when it went to war with Spain. A London dispatch says "the public is beginning, with some anxiety, to see what would have happened should any great power have taken the opportunity to attack Great Britain." In that event it would have been discovered that the other great power had weak spots in its army.

At Minneapolis one of those elevators which "can't fall" made a surprisingly close imitation of it last week. It went down five stories like a flash, and ten of the occupants were severely injured. Elevators which can not fall are something like fireproof buildings which "can't burn."

Artemus Ward's mule story has been recalled by the episode at Nicholson's Nek. Artemus told of a young mule driver kicked by his team who informed his mother that he had come home to die. Her reply was: "So I perceive, my son; but where are the mules?"

The little Orange Free State is annexing territory freely by proclamation. For a government with less than 100,000 inhabitants, its imperialistic appetite is immense. But if it doesn't annex things now in a hurry the opportunity may be lost.

If this road from the paths of single blessedness in Wasco county continues to increase, the path will soon be overgrown with weeds and it will be a difficult matter for the old maids and bachelors to make their way through the trackless waste. Still another marriage notice reaches us, which was sent from Portland, and reads thusly: "Two more of Wasco's young people were happily joined in the holy bonds of matrimony at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. F. S. Campbell, in Portland, on Nov. 8, by Rev. F. T. Harter, pastor of the Evangelical church. The contracting parties were Miss Melissa J. Cox and Mr. Malcolm P. Foster, of Nansene. After receiving congratulations the happy couple left on the California train for San Francisco to spend a two weeks' honeymoon. They will live at Nansene."

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from ten drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Saturday afternoon Maude Kirby celebrated her ninth birthday by entertaining a number of her little friends. They played games and had a general good time, after which Mrs. Kirby served a nice lunch. Maude did not forget to remember some of the older "boys and girls", who received one of the cute little invitations sent out. The playmates present were: Norma Dietzel, Myrtle Borden, Margaret Wheatdon, Jean Wheatdon, Margaret Sampson, Frances Sampson, Nora Vause, Geraldine Kelley, Georgia DeBols, Eva Shepard, May Walters, Lella Langhry, Jessie McArthur, Carmel Bolton, Ruth Warner, Nellie Hostetler, Lou Hostetler.

Fresh cracked Nebraska corn at the Wasco warehouse. Finest kind of chicken feed. mch25-tf

**STABBED HIS WIFE FIVE TIMES**

**HORRIBLE DEED COMMITTED BY A DRUNKEN MAN THIS MORNING.**

**While on a Drunken Spree J. R. Brown Attacks His Wife With a Knife—She May Recover.**

**Saturday's Daily**  
 There are some things which even a reporter regrets to chronicle, and such an occurrence was that which took place this morning when a husband, who had been transformed into a demon by liquor, assaulted his wife with a knife in the presence of his children, and may be her murderer.

The terrible affair took place this morning at the home (?) of J. R. Brown (known as "Windy" or "Sewer" Brown) near the garrison at 6 o'clock. He is addicted to drink, and went home drunk last night and got into a quarrel with his wife (which seems to be a frequent occurrence, since he has been arrested before for mistreating her). Later he went down town, and this morning at about 6 o'clock came home reeling, and finding her in bed rose around and demanded breakfast. She got up and he knocked her to the floor. When dressed, she went to the kitchen, and he followed her with his pocket knife in his hand. As she was leaning over to start a fire he stabbed her three times in the right shoulder. She jumped and ran, when he again stabbed her just above the left collar bone and once back of the right ear. His son, who is a young man, awakened by the noise, got up and running out grabbed the knife from him, and the neighbors sent word to the sheriff, when the deputy sheriff and marshal arrived and arrested him.

Dr. Geisendorfer was summoned to attend the unfortunate woman and found her in a bad condition, the knife penetrating her right lung. It is not thought she can recover, as the knife is said to have been slightly rusted, which will no doubt cause blood poisoning. Her condition is critical this afternoon.

Brown is a man of about 30 or 40 years, while his wife is much younger. He has been employed most of his time working on the sewers about town, and while not a quarrelsome man with those whom he meets in a business way, drinks heavily and has always been a brute to his wife, having been known to attack her with a knife before. Why she persisted in remaining with him has been a mystery; it may be to receive support for her three little children. The oldest, who is 9 years old, saw the terrible deed this morning.

When the doctor arrived Brown began muttering about the awful occurrence in a maddening way, until he was told to shut up and leave the room. When the officers took him and during the morning he scarcely seemed to sober up, and said little. No move has been made as yet concerning his case, and developments in her condition are being awaited.

Feeling is very bitter toward him throughout the city, and no words seem strong enough to express the contempt which is felt for such a fiend.

Many see back of it all the real cause and the temperance lesson which it should teach, for while the man is no doubt a contemptible cur, yet he would not have committed such a deed unless fired by the worst of all demons—drink.

**LATER**—Reports just received from the physicians say Mrs. Brown's chances for recovery are about even.

**Circuit Court Business.**

The following cases were disposed of in the circuit court this morning:

**LAW.**  
 J. H. Gerdes vs J. H. Woodworth. Dismissed without prejudice, without costs to either party.

A. T. Creevy vs G. D. Armstrong. Default and judgment and order to sell attached property.

B. Frank Korts vs W. L. Best et al. Demurrer overruled.

**EQUITY.**  
 W. H. Patton vs Laura M. Patton. Decree of divorce.

**CRIMINAL.**  
 State of Oregon vs J. E. Berry. Not a true bill. This case was one wherein the defendant was charged with embezzling \$400 from L. S. Davis while left in charge of the feed yard during his absence. Mrs. Davis was keeping the books at the time, and was to have been the principal witness in the prosecution. Her death therefore removes all evidence in the prosecution.

**Volcanic Eruptions**  
 Are grand, but skin eruptions rob life of joy. Bucklen's Arnica Salve cures them; also old, running and fever sores, Ulcers, Boils, Felons, Corns, Warts, Cuts, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Chapped Hands, Chilblains. Best Pile cure on earth. Drives out pains and aches. Only 25 cts. a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold by Blakely & Houghton, druggists.

Clarke & Falk have a full and complete line of house, carriage, wagon and barn paints manufactured by James E. Patton, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

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 WHISKEY from \$2.75 to \$6.00 per gallon. (4 to 15 years old.)  
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 OLYMPIA BEER on draught, and Val Blatz and Olympia Beer in bottles imported Ale and Porter.  
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