

The Weekly Chronicle.

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IMPORTANCE OF VICE PRESIDENCY.

It will be noticed that more men are being mentioned for the Republican nomination for vice president these days than were spoken of in connection with this office at any time in the recent past, says the Statesman.

The vice presidential office has suddenly become more attractive to statesmen of character and ambition than it was in many years. At one time it was considered something of an insult to offer the nomination for this post to a statesman of national reputation who had been looking for the higher office.

Many statesmen of national stature, however, are apparently ready to accept the vice presidential candidacy on the Republican ticket in 1900. Of course, the nomination in this instance is equivalent to election.

JEFFERSON WAS FOR FORCE.

It may be said the acquisition of the Philippines would endanger our foreign relations. But we held them now with the good will of all the great powers, and that was not the case with Louisiana.

Spain then disputed the boundaries of a large part of Louisiana, and Jefferson sent James Monroe to Madrid as minister extraordinary and plenipotentiary.

embassy. Jefferson tells us they were not able to obtain any satisfaction as to the boundaries of Louisiana, other than a declaration that we had no rights east of the Iberville, and that our line to the west was one which would have left us but a string of land on that bank of the river Mississippi.

In this special message Jefferson urged congress to make a show of war against Spain. "The present crisis in Europe," said the president, "is favorable for pressing such a settlement, and not a moment should be lost in availing ourselves of it."

A clear threat of conquest, if you please, nothing but conquest. Acquisition of the Philippines may be opposed, with some show of logic, on grounds of national expediency; but on grounds of precedent or principle, assuredly not.

MRS. DEWEY'S CARDS. The wife of Admiral Dewey has raised another social tempest in Washington by announcing that she will not be able to return calls except by cards, says the Chicago Record's correspondent.

Before her marriage Mrs. Dewey's visiting list was comparatively short, but when she became the wife of the hero of Manila and the admiral of the navy she was naturally the object of particular interest, and there was a long string of carriages in front of her house every afternoon, bearing people who expected she would reciprocate their attentions.

Horatio Rubens, a man who made himself, as counsel for the Cuban Junta in 1897-98, offensive to the American people by his threats of war on the part of the rebels against the United States, says there is "perfect peace in Cuba." This is hardly news to the United States, for everybody who has been reading the papers has known that for a good many months Cuba has been tranquil.

While no intimation has as yet been received from Ottawa in regard to the composition of the second Canadian contingent for South Africa, the greatest enthusiasm is being displayed not only in the city of Victoria, but throughout the island by young men anxious to unite with the detachment, says the Victoria Times.

The reported reorganization of the Fenian brotherhood for the purpose of invading Canada, in case the Dominion sends any more volunteers to South Africa, is denied. This government would not for an instant tolerate the organization of any such movement in the United States.

England. Numbers of American sympathizers with Oon Paul's cause are contributing liberally toward the Boer hospital fund and sending supplies to the Transvaal, via Delagoa bay, and they are taking a much wiser and far more praiseworthy course.

Napoleon said of the English, that they did not know when they were beaten. Most certainly their reputation is not that of men who lose their nerve when they get licked. The reverses in South Africa has only knit all parties in England closer together, and we predict that the only result of the Boer successes in South Africa will be to make the British realize the full size of the task they have undertaken, and to go ahead and finish it.—Leader.

This country is estimated to have 21,458,294 children of school age, of whom 70 per cent are in the common schools. In 1870 the school attendance was but 61 1/2 per cent. The average school year has been lengthened eleven days in the last quarter of a century. Thirty-two states have adopted compulsory school attendance laws.

That there was a considerable movement of immigration toward Washington last year is indicated by the fact that in 1899 nearly 100,000 acres within the Spokane land office district were filed upon. Nearly 700 families secured homes from the government during the twelvemonth in this district.—Review.

Senator Kyle, of South Dakota, has decided to return to the Republican ranks. As for the other senator, Pettigrew, he represents nobody but himself. He thought he had a party of renegades at his back, but can find nothing there but his shadow.

Not the Twentieth Century.

When does the twentieth century begin? One year from Monday. Why do you say so? Let us answer by asking and answering other questions.

Joint Installation. Last night every chair in Fraternity hall was occupied with members of Mt. Hood Camp, W. of W., and the Circle, together with a few invited guests.

The chairs were then vacated for officers of the Circle and Mrs. Cushing introduced Mrs. C. F. Stephens, as grand guardian, who installed the officers, assisted by Mrs. R. H. Webber acting as grand attendant and Capt. Minnie Gosser, who had charge of the floor work.

Size doesn't indicate quality. Beware of counterfeit and worthless salve offered for DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. DeWitt's is the only original. An infallible cure for piles and all skin diseases.

THE FIGHTING BOERS.

An Englishman's Account of Battles Fought with Them.

They Are Fearless and Excellent Marksmen—Losses of the English Outnumber Theirs in Every Engagement.

It is usual, I know, for military men to sneer at the generalship, or want of it, which, as they allege, was responsible for the Majuba disaster—these critics are wise after the event. It is forgotten that the Boers met other officers than Gen. Colley at Brunkhorst Spruit in a number of fights about Pretoria, Potchestroom, and other villages, and that in no case were our men and military leaders able to stand up to the enemy.

At Durban, in Natal, in 1848, we got the worst of it, as we did at Doornkop, where English officers of the ordinary type commanded. The only military success which English officers can claim in a good many encounters with the Boers is the battle of Boomplaats, fought in 1848, between artillery and flintlock guns. It is, therefore, nonsense to take refuge behind the lack of generalship of our leaders. If such factors as courage and leadership do not come into the controversy, except to a very limited extent, in what direction must we look for the explanation of our defeats?

At Laing's Neck the action began by our guns dropping a few shells into the Boer lines, and, as admitted by the Boers themselves, the small loss they suffered from this fire—Gen. Joubert was nearly hit by a splinter of a shell—induced them to think seriously of abandoning the position. They were about to leave when the attack by a small number of mounted infantry and by a few companies of Col. Deane's regiment, was made. Only one of our men reached the Boer lines, the others being stopped a short distance away; and as they were unsupported, these were driven back down the hill. Result, 190 killed and wounded on the British side, against 24 Boers killed and wounded.

At Ingogo, fought a few days afterward, a force of about 300 men and two guns were stopped on a small plateau, and after an action lasting all day our men, with the two guns, were withdrawn during the night, leaving the dead and wounded on the ground. The Boers also left the field at night. At this fight the Boers crept up to within 60 yards of our guns. They lost 17 killed and wounded, while our loss was 142 killed and wounded.

A force of about 600 infantry set out for the summit of Majuba hill on the night of February 26, 1881. There were about 550 combatants. After leaving some companies on the road about 400 men reached the summit and were disposed in various positions about the rim of the mountain. The first shots were fired about six o'clock, and the combat went on unintermittently for hours. In the final stages the main body of the Boers crept to within 40 yards, and for a considerable time filled our troops at this distance.

Many of the men fell in the subsequent fight; but when the fighting was over, at one o'clock, our casualties were 250 killed and wounded, while the Boers lost one killed and four wounded. At Brunkhorst we lost 120 men killed and wounded within ten minutes, the Boers losing one. In the Jameson raid our losses were about 100 killed and wounded, the Boers having five killed and wounded in the actual fighting.

It is usually maintained that these Transvaal fights were fought at a disadvantage, and that our men were in each case vastly outnumbered. If we accept the Boer accounts, our forces were not outnumbered. At Majuba they say they had about 400 men. But even assuming that there were as many as 1,000 Boers, the result is still extremely unsatisfactory.—African Review.

Stray Notice.

Came to my place on Five Mile, about two weeks ago, a buckskin saddle horse, branded with an oakleaf on right hip and an M on right shoulder. Said horse has been on the range near my place for the past two years. Owner can have same by proving property and paying all charges.

Dated Dec. 19, 1899. FRANK D. JONES, The Dalles, Oregon.

As a cure for rheumatism Chamberlain's Pain Balm is gaining a wide reputation. D. B. Johnston of Richmond, Ind., has been troubled with that ailment since 1862. In speaking of it he says: "I never found anything that would relieve me until I used Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It acts like magic with me. My foot was swollen and paining me very much, but one good application of Pain Balm relieved me. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.

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