EARLY SPANISH DISCOVERERS AND EXPLORERS

HE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

DISCOVERERS AND EXPLORERS OF AMERICA

BY LYMAN P. POWELL

In temperament and training the Span-ish people seemed suited to the task of exploration. For many years they had been at war with the Moors, and in the school of war had learned to take blows as well as to give them. Inured to the hardships of campaigning, they were ready to bear their full share of the trials of the pioneer. Their love of adventure was now at its full and the strain of bohemianism in their blood was now most syldent and most imperative. To leave home and kindred and country made few demands upon their feelings. Most of them could set sail without a pang and with none of the anticipatory dread of the homesickness which under the modern name of nostalgia did great damage to our soldiers in Cuba and the Philippines. Fierce adventurers that fell on kingdoms for their prey, the Span-jards seemed of all the European peo-

iards seemed of all the European peoples to be just the men to open up the new world to settlement.

But they were never good colonizors. With them colonization was always in the words of Swinburne, "n hideous and Blocotian jest." Where other nations achieved at least a moderate success the Spaniards never lost a chance to make an arrant failure. Not one of their experiments, viewed in the larger light of history, could by any warrant of imagination be called a real success. Not only did the natives whom they found suffer grievously, but the mother country niways in the long run paid to the uttermest the hard penalty of the witless and tricious policy she allowed her colonizers to initiate and to follow, to her and their undoing. From the very moment the lone. doing. From the very moment the lone-ly followers of De Foto sunk his weighted remains in the midnight darkness to the buttom of the Mississippi River the lines Professor W. P. Trent wrote in 1898 have been veraciously accurate:

Thine hour is come, a stronger race Succeeds and thou must fall. Thy pride but adding to thy and disgrace, As warniwood unto gall. And get thou hast but reaped what thou has

For in thy pride of strength s didet the kingdom of the mind disown And so art sunk at length.

The Spaniards used not merely pooludgment in the solution of their colonization problem; they used no judgment at They sent out foolish, weak and celess men to deal with concerns that required men wise and strong and true, and they gave to all the "Christian soundrels" they sent out carte blancae to go where they pleased and do as they liked. The Jamestown settlers were over-eager for gold, but there was a John Smith ready at the proper moment to reduce the chaos to some order. The Dutch were chiefly interested in the economic value of the new America, but they were not averse to work or to trade for their reward. The eligrim fathers, in the well-known playful words, first fell upon their knees and then upon the aborigines, but this was just a fieck upon the fair fame of the settlers of New England. The Spanish explorers had no England. The Spanish explorers had no redeeming traits. Cruel, lazy, greedy, they came hither for the solitary purpose of discovering gold, and the gliding of their greed with plous professions of devotion to the cross made it the more nameating. Never caring to make a home or to found a nation, they were impattent to despoil the land of all its gold and then sail heek to Snain to be gold and then sall back to Spain, to be flattered and envied by a people always everfund of the tinsel and the glitter of this life of ours. The men who sacked Mexico and Peru, who trampled the best development of Indian civilization to pieces under the hard boots of cruel conwho worked the soft inhebitants adjacent islands to death and rethem by black men captured in the wilds of Africa, were just goldhuct-era nothing more. And Spanish coloniza-tion was in consequence foredoomed to

Columbus was the worthlest of all the sen that Stella sent out, and he was not Semiard. Vasco Nonez de Halboa, alled inaccuracely Balboa by English riters, is the most attractive of all the a Symbard. Vasco Nuncz de Balboa, by English dox at Nicaragua, and had had a hand called inaccurately Balboa by English in the conquest of Peru. Made Governor proposed to prosecute the case, and the trial began. Never, perhaps, in the humatrocitive Sponlards who came hither. A hankrupt and a rebel, he crossed the

Jean Ponce de Leon in 150t to repair his fortunes good luck. To escape imprisonment for debt in Harti he took passage concented in a cask in an out-bound vessel, and when the yeard was wrecked off Dorien he led a revolt against the captain, En-cisco, who had spared his life, deposed Encisco and made himself by the force of an unscrupulous character commander of the company. One day while on a foraging expedition not far from the present town of Colon, an Indian chief, observing the greed of the Sonniards, told them of a yast ocean to the westward where gold was as plentiful as pebbles on the shore. Here was at last



Jean Ponce de Leon.

the chance for Vasco Nunez to repair his wasted fortune, retrieve his ruined reputation and atone for his great trea-son. September, 1512, he left Darien with nearly 200 men, bloodhounds and Indian guides. He fought his way with need-less cruelty through tribes of hostile in-dians, "hewing them in pleces as the butchers doe flesh in the shambles" or giving then over to the dogs, which tore them limb from limb "as if they were wild boars or Hertes." On September To be found himself on the crest of the Corollierus, not far from the line of the present Panums Railroad, while at the hose glittered for many a mile a waste of unknown waters which Vasco Nu-ner, wibsti he fell upon his knee in awo, could not have dreamed was the largest ocean on the globe. Wading out into the water to his waist, he took possession of it in the name of Spain and called it Mar del Sur, or South Sea, to distinguish it from the Mar del Norte, as the Spaniards termed the Caribbean, Vasco Names made several voyages along the Pacific Const and fell a victim to the fears and jeulousies of a rival, the Gov-

tain where the oldest might renew his youth. Possibly he had rend the spuri-ous letter of old Prester John, who vowed he could commend the fountain, because he had tried it once himself. When word came to Ponce de Leon in Porto Rico that the long-sought fountain was now at last located, that Indians said it could be found on an island called Bimini, northward of Hispianola, he could scarce.

eign devils follow. The hog's skin and bristles are still upon him." Down the left-hand side of the picture and in the middle of the poster sie inscriptions which are absolutely too obscene for publication.

JESTER'S BEST LAWYER.

Father Time Worked in His Behalf and Successfully.

Chicago Tribune.
One of the most remarkable eriminal he had tried it once himself. When word came to Ponce de Leon in Porto Rico that the long-sought fountain was now at last located, that the long-sought fountain was now at last located, that the long-sought fountain was now at last located, that the long-sought fountain was now at last located, that the long-sought fountain was now at last located, that Indians said it could be found on an island called Bimini, northward of Hispianola, he could scarcely wait the comming of King Ferdinand's consent for him to hasten off to have his both. Wealthy enough to bear the whole expense, he lot sail on his pathetic voyage with three caravels in March, 1814, and, disembarking at the Bahamas, the aged cavaller and his companions tried every lake, stream, rivulet and spring, and then in disappointment hastened on their way, to make their real landfall, not Easter morning, as some historians say, but six days later, April 2 near the site of St. Augustine. He tarried long enough to name the country Florida, to find the story of the fountain all a myth, to cruise awhile among the neighboring islands, and then at last to resome trace of Jester, but his efforts were some trace of Jester, but his efforts were



turn to Porto Rico, still white-haired and wrinkled and a little older. In 1521 he came out once again to found a colony, but his landling was disputed by the Indians, and he received a wound in the thigh from an arrow, which sent him to Cuba, there to die a death of prolonged suffering.

useless. Finally he gave up the attempt. John W. Gates was the elder brother of young Gilbert. One day, sitting in his brother had vanished from the knowledge of the world, he casually picked up a newspaper. His cye happened to fall upon a little item telegraphed from an

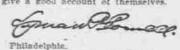
suffering.

A yet more formidable and if possible a yet more formionole and it possible more dinastrous attempt to take possession of the country was made in 1325 by Panphillo de Narvaez. Appointed to succeed Cortez, the conquerer of Mexico, he landed on the coast of Florida in the Spring of 1828, and fixed by Pincida's mention of gold ornaments on the Mississipal Indians he burried injury of the Mississipal Indians he was the most of the mos Mississippi Indians, he hurried inland as Mississippi Indians, he hurried inland as fast as he could go to find an Indian town as full of gold and precious stones as those which welcomed Pizarro in Peru. With the characteristic stupidity of his infamous predecessors, he relied upon the sword to conquer a country which might have been secured by kindness. The first batch of Indian captives was flung to bloodhounds, though upon the chief the kinder torment was infleted, of an amputated nose. The Indian arof an amputated nose. The Indian arrows, the dismal swamps, the tangled forests, the smothering heat, the fever-breeding climate, the scarcity of food, turned them back at last, and the survivors reached the Gulf, near the mouth of the Mississippi—the most of them to perish in the flerce "northers," still a menace to the sallors on the mighty Guif.

Fernando de Soto had been with Corsovereign to conquer and to occupy the as that displayed on the stand and under his ill-starred expedition. Though De Soto had roundly blamed Pizarro for his horrld treatment of the Inca, and though he knew full well the baneful conse-quences of the foolish, faithless policy of Narvaez toward the natives, De Soto proved just as silly and as cruel. No indignity was too flendish for him to upon hapless men and women who fell into his clutches, and in consequence he had to fight his way, inch by inch, across the country, though the hostile Creeks, no mean antagonists even for the armored and firearmed Spaniards. Before relentiess hostility the Spaniards slowly melted away, and after a desperate fight in the Autumn of 1541, near the site of Mobile, where De Soto lost 170 of his men, the end seemed near, even to the most sanguine and most sanguinary. On to the Mississippi they pushed, barely escaping annihilation in a furious engagement with the Chickssaws. The eldorado of their fancy still eluded them, though they must have penetrated far beyond the Mississippi. Wounded in battle, weakened by suffering and disease, disheartened by his failure to find gold and his inability to found a colony, De Soto at last orders the building of two brigan-tines, in which his party may float down the Mississippl and from its mouth make back to Cuba. The work was hardly un-der way when the commander died of fever, May 21, 1542, and was buried in the Mississippi, lest the Indians should wan-tonly desecrate the grave. A year later the few survivors of a cause forever and deservedly lost made their way to the Mexican coast and sent the doleful news of their undoing to Havana.

of their undoing to Havana.

After this the colonizing of the New World languished for a while. The Spaniards had nothing to show for all their pains except the lasting pain of mortifying failure. Instead of gold they had nothing but experience, by which neither then nor in their recent government of Cuba have they ever profited. For the life of them they could see no good reason for holding Florida, and when in the Autumn of 186 Philip II announced that Autumn of 186 Philip II announced that he would encourage no further attempts to colonize the country every one was glad to have an end of unsuccessful efforts to find gold where there was no gold, and to deal with natives who give a good account of themselves.



The Chinese and Missionaries Poultney Bigelow in North American Beview The public misrepresentations of the spirit and aims of the Christian religion and of the objects which animate Christian missionaries in their work are almost ernor of Durien, who had him beheaded incredible. I have before me a specime ernor of Durien, who had him behended in RII.

Around the name of Juan Ponce de Leon there is the hale of a rich romance. Of noble pedigree, a compenion of Columbus on his second voyare, a rather femous soldier of fortune already part the heroday of his youth, and growing old and blass. Ponce de Leon added to Spanish love for gold an insufface desire to be young amount to extract from gold its full delight. In his earlier days he had heard of course, the Oriental stories of a four-reads: (This is the beast which the for-reads: (This is the beast which the foruse, the Oriental stories of a foun- reads: (This is the beast which the for- was paid.

of the world, he casually picked up a newspaper. His eye happened to fall upon a little licen telegraphed from an obscure village in Oklahoma Territory. It related that an old, white-haired man locked up in fall as the result of a land dispute under the name of W. H. Hill, had been positively identified as Alex-ander Jetter. Almost before he had re-covered from the shock a letter came from a woman calling herself the halfsister of Alexander Jester. clared that for nearly 30 years she had concealed the knowledge of her brother's crime; that her conscience would allow her to conceal it no longer, and that she

young Glibert Gates had driven on their way to the golden West. Detectives swarmed about Middle Grove, Mo., and traced every step taken by Jester on his long overland journey in 1871. They followed him into the far Southwest and brought every detail of his life for 25 years under the microscope. The search for witnesses extended over almost as many states and territories as years have elapsed since the alleged crime was elapsed since the alleged crime was land embraced within the patent of his predecessor. In May of 1539 he anchored at Tampa, within sight of the spot where all years before Narvaez had set out on his ill-starred expedition. Though Da positive exactness such facts as the date and even the time of day when Jester, for instance, asked for a drink of water or stopped his wagons at a crossroads store. People to whom such feats of memory seem impossible should remember, however, before condemning the witnesses as untruthful, that people in the rural districts have few exciting things to interest them, and, consequent-ly, remember with vividness facts which of their carly life long after more re-cent events have been forgotten. At any rate, witnesses were found who wove about old man Jester a web of circum-

stantial evidence. stantial evidence.

But after hearing all the evidence and listening to the speeches of the eminent criminal lawyers, the jury, seven members of which were born after the allexed crime was committed, found him "not guilty" on the third ballot. The ver-dict is not a surprising one. On the contrary, it would have been an astonish-ining thing if so old a man had beeen ing thing this of a man had been found guilty so many years after his alleged crime was committed. Time is the one fixed and unalterable factor in all human affairs, and a crime which has been a mystery for nearly 30 years is not likely under any circumstances ever to be punished.

Hardwoods of Great Value

FERNANDO DE SOTO.

wished to give him up to justice. The Gates family, hoping to get at last the solution of the long mystery, procured the arrest of Jester. He was brought back for trial to the country, through which, 20 years before, he and young Glibert Gates had driven on their city residents would soon forget. Again, it is a common experience that old peo-

Medford Mail. The hardwoods of Southern Oregon are rapidly coming into notoriety. They should be preserved with the utmost care for manufacturing purposes. Hardwood on the Coast will be as valuable as wainut in the Middle Western States. We re-member when fine wainut trees, three or four feet in diameter, which would have made the finest quality of furniture, were cut down and made into rails; and we have lived to see this timber so scarce and valuable that the stumps of these fine trees have been dug up and sold at fabulous prices to meet the demand for this valuable word. The value of all grades and varieties of hardwood, suff-able for manufacturing purposes, should be understood now before it has been exhausted in waste or used for purposes where less valuable woods would answer as well. Every important resource sus-ceptible of exhaustion through waste or inadvertance, should be carefully husbanded to meet a future demand which is

Member of the Church Militant.

Medford Mail. There was a rough meeting house up at The evangelist stepped out of the pulpit and proceeded to eject Foresthe from the church, which act was accomplished after a second effort. The evangelist's collar was torn off and his outer garments otherwise disarranged. A warrant was sworn out by T. J. Pell. charging Forsythe with disturbing a religious meeting. He pieaded guilty and was fined \$10 and costs amounting in all to \$15 30 which costs, amounting in all to \$15 30, which

AND HANNA IS ONLY AS CLAY IN THE POTTER'S HANDS.

An Entertaining Study of McKinley and Bryan by a Man Who Observes Keenly.

It is sometimes said that Mr. McKinley is an opportunist, says a writer in the New York Sunday Herald. He is. Opportunism is the essence of American business success. Given honesty, loyalty, industry, untiring energy—the ground-work common to all industrial or political organizations—and no other principles are needed by the modern school. Everything else is improvised as required by the developments of the day, and the emergencies of the hour. Put Mr. Bryan at the head of a big concern and he would endcavor to run it by means of preconceived notions. It would be all theory. There would be hard and fast rules. He would try to operate upon men by means of principles borrowed from the fathers. Mr. McKinley, the tribe constitutions of the production of the fathers. true executive, counterpart of all modern industrial administration, operates upon men directly through understanding of human nature.

McKinley's one basic principle led him, immediately after his inauguration in 1851, to call Congress to special session for the purpose of enacting a new tariff law. There his instinct and his luck ran parallel. His idea was to give the countered to try prosperity. Now, pro-perity was coming of itself; coming clowly but surely in response to laws infinitely higher and greater than acts of Congress. But Mc-Klaley got his new tariff law upon the statute books just in time to secure the greatly for all the good times that for credit for all the good times that fol-

lowed.

Apart from this one act, all the remainder of McKinley's administration has been opportunism of the simplest and most obvious sort-practical, sensible, businers opportunism-meeting problems after they have developed and not before, drilting carefully with complications till they can be thoroughly understood, taking advantage of events rather than trying advantage of events rather than try-ing to force or create them. McKinley never set out to be an explorer or dis-coverer. He sails along with the fair wind, but steers constantly and well and has one of the best weather eyes ever seen upon the political waters. He runs into port with the tide, but no mariner ever watched light more alertly than he or was more skillful in avoiding shoul or breater.

McKinley's habitual opportunism, his practice of walting to see how the

practice of waiting to see how the wind blows, has given the careless observer the impression that this is a sign of weakness, of timidity, of tack of char-acter. It is nothing of the sort. Oppor-tunism is Mr. McKinley's principle, it is his strength, it is his salvation. He be-lives in it, he wormhips at its shrine. He goes upon the theory that the best op-portunist is the most successful in the race. The results indicate that he is

right. In 1896 William McKinley did not know whether he was a gold man or a silver man. The question had never been brought forward in an acute way. Hith-erto he had escaped all searching incrio he had escaped all searching in-quiry by announcing himself a bimetal-ist—the convenient compromise, which meant nothing and was employed by so many persons. But in 1886 his party was meeting in National convention at St. Louis and threatening to take a new departure by putting the word "gold" into its platform. Did Mr. McKinley fa-vor it? He did not know. He was walt-ing to see what the party itself wanted. He was for whatever the party was for. Mr. McKinley is strongly enough for

Mr. McKinley is strongly enough for the gold standard now. Of course, he is. The path is plain, It is unmistakable. And if any one harks back to the doubtful days of '96 when it was the tosa of a copper whether it should be gold or a stradue, let him not say that hesttangur on McKinley's cert was a standard. a stradue, let him not say that hesitancy on McKinley's part was a sign of weakness. Not so. In his philosophy—and his philosophy, mind you, is practical and success-bringing, that bit of cautious waiting, ear to ground, that renunciation rather than assumption of responsibility—was strength, strength of the highest order. Mr. McKinley lays no claim to being a great leader, a pioneer. He is content to go as fast as the world goes, and he cautiously tries to

more assiduously, draws more out of them, than any other personage of his times. . . . The enemies of Mr. McKinley are fond of saying "he has kept his car so close to the ground that he has worn that member off close up to his head." But this is only a bit of witticism. Mr. McKinley believes in keeping his car to the ground. That is his method. Understand this, and you have the kaynote to his character. He does not believe there is anything reprehensible believe there is anything reprehensible in it. To the contrary, he believe it his duty. He has faith that nine times out of 10 the people are right in their sober judgment; that it is safe to follow them; that the vox popull is the voice of wisdom. He has no shame in being an op-portunist—he only wants to be the best opportunist in the business.

From whatever point of view we study McK'nley we find him pursuing this favorite method. He aims to be no An drew Jackson, as Grover Cleveland. The world is not to him an oyster, to be opened as he likes with the sharp end of his firmly held instrument of power.

It is, rather, a complex, growing, devel-

It is, rather, a complex, growing, developing thing, subject to certain of nature's laws as to climate, atmosphere, soil and water, and it is his business to watch and nourish and guard it, and when it finally blooms, be it prickly cactus or sweet rose, it is his and he is with it, and in control of it, and, as chief gardener, he so trains it that it may inure to his glory and renown.

If we seek a better keynote to the Mc-Kinley character than any we have as yet employed, perhaps we shall find it in yet employed, perhaps we shall find it in saying that he is an adept in the art of benevolent selfahness. His is the policy and the practice which endeavors to make everything work out for the common good and his own special benefit. So great is his skill that even close ob-So great is his skill that even close ob-servers often lose sight of the man and his personal motive in the splendor of the well disposed ensemble. He is even content to play the game so adroitly that men think him weak and vacillat-ing. There is a prevalent belief that he lacks strength of purpose and is easily led by others; that he wobbles and yields too much to be entitled to a niche in the gallery of real fame.

gallery of real fame. This is an error. It is a natural error, due to the cleverness with which the game of benevolent selfishness is played. Judged from a little distance William McKinley is thought the most generous and self-sacrificing of men. He is all urbenity, all milk or human kindness, all surrender and compromise. His speech is soft, his glove of velvet. So smooth and unctious are all his moods and methods that small wonder the steel of selfish-

ness and persistency, of from will and indomitable purpose to reach the result aimed at, is overlooked.

In the estimation of the ill-informed public the character of McKinley has been wholly subordinate to that of Hanna. The child who asked if McKin-Talent last Sinday evening. Evangelist ley would still be President were Hanna to die is famous. But this, too, is a are told during his remarks made some assertions to which James Forsythe, a Southern Pacific painter, took exceptions. Southern Pacific painter, took exceptions.

The evangelist stepped out of the pulpit and proceeded to eject Forsythe from the church, which act was accomplished after a second effort. The evangelist's collar was torn off and his outer garments otherwise disarranged. A warrant was general belief, it is not the chalrman totherwise disarranged. general belief, it is not the chairman of the Republican National committee who is the stronger-willed, the more set-fish, dominint.

Br.an. Discontent needs nothing so much as for a train. My wife commenced her

a voice. Nothing but a voice can direct and lead it. A voice is ready to fall down and worship. Unconsciously, to itself, the organized discontent of the Democratic party at Chicago in 1896 was seeking a voice which should summon to its side all the unorganized discontent of the massen. Suddenly the voice appeared. It came as a potent phrase-maker from the prairies, With its "cross of gold and crown of thorns" it stood with outstretched hands and the scepter was placed in them. The voice was Bryan. From that day to this the party has remained true to its instincts, and has made no serious effort to rid itself of the leadership of the soothsayer. It has recognized the eternal, fitness of things by keeping as its imperator the utterer of epigrams, by preceiving the dictatorship of the decontented in the hands of the chief declaimer.

"We Democrats are a different people from the Ropoulleyne" said Mr. Dock-

"We Democrats are a different people from the Ropublicans," said Mr. Dockery, a former Congression from Missouri, and the next Governor of that state, at Kansas City. "The Republicans have discipline. They are organized on business lines. The lenders say how many addresses shall be made and who on business lines. The lenders say how many addrerses shall be made, and who shall make them, and that's all there is of it. But when we Democrats get together every one of us thinks it his duty to make a speech, and all the rest of us think it our duty to stand around and help him." Of this party Mr. Bryan is the fitting and well-chosen hader. Mr. McKinky is such a perfect type of the business and executive spirit of the American people that he may be said to business and executive spirit of the American people that he may be said to be a personification of it in our public life. Mr. Bryan as perfectly represents the elements of protest, of dissent, of discontent, of dreams of higher and better things not definitely defined, or well understood, but which have a good and virtuous sound when translated into well-rounded rhetorical periods.

But it will not do for anyone to assume that Mr. Bryan, because an idealist and an egotist, is without the will power and force of character which are requisite to a successful management of the Na-

to a successful management of the Na-tion's affairs. That would be a great mistake a deception of one's self. There is a widespread impression, especially in the East, that the Democratic candidate the East, that the Democratic candidate for President is shallow, demagogic; a mere dreamer, whose dreams fall to coordinate, and whose lack of stamina would make his administration at Washington a rudderless, water-logged derelict, full of surprices and dangers. I know Mr. Bryan well, and I am sure this is a gross misconception of his character. Mr. Bryan is in carnest. He believes what he says. He really and truy thinks the gold standard a great evil in the world, the imperialistic tendencies of the Republican party a menace to the the Republican party a menace to the Republic. These are with him more than matters of the mouth—they are from the heart. He may be a dreamer, but he dreams honestly and without the aid of

Soif-administered narcotics.

His faith is not in practical politics, in the old methods which William C. Whitney, Arthur P. Gorman and Marcus A. Hanna know so much of. When Mr. Bryan says his trust is in the people he means it. He is not merely saying things for the sound of them. That is his creed. In this day and generation it seems sad-ly old-fashloned and prosale, but with Mr. Bryan it is eminently practical and modern. It is the only politics he knows. His conception of manipulation is to get the people together in an open space where there is a hill or rostrum at one side of it, and there to appear and make appeal to them by word of mouth. If the rollitely of Karnes City had not sue. politicians of Kansas City had not succumbed to this dictatorial idealist's irade as to the platform, do you know what we should have seen? One of the most dramatic incidents ever witnessed in a National convention. Mr. Bryan speeding to Kansas City by special train, rushing to the hall, raising his hand and his voice over the mulitiude, appealing from leaders and generals and heads of masses to the private in the ranks. He would not have appealed in vain. There never was a great man in politics who was not bigger than his party. Mr. Bryan knew this, He had made bimself his party's voice, but he yearned for something more. He was its nominal physical leader. But that was not enough. He wished to be its moral cumbed to this dictatorial idealist's irade not enough. He wished to be its moral master. The opportunity came when the head men led him up in the mountain. He seized it. He compelled them to set the stamp of their approval upon him when he ran counter to their wishes, This is more than leadership—it is absolutism, but absolutism for principle's sake. It is heroism, because it may be renunciation of the Presidency. Bryan has made himself a man before eer. He is content to go as inst as the world goes, and he cautiously tries to avoid going a whit faster. This is the natural adaptibility of a man who knows almost no...ng of books, excepting the Bible and the Congressional Record, but who mingles more with men, reads them more assiduously, draws more out of the contrast with Mr. McKinley there can be no doubt. He had seer the country the contrast with Mr. McKinley there can be no doubt. tending to the conclusion rival was as clay in the hands of Potter Hanna; a trimmer and wobbler; a man without moorings to any other bank than that of self-interest; one who would shift and turn and run this way or that to be President again. It was not Mr. Bryan's President again. It was not air, fryan's business to stop to inquire whether this estimate of McKinley was wrong or right. All he wanted to know was that the estimate had place in men's minds. His task was to put himself in contrast with that figure of his rival, to make people

> It is the fashion in some parts of the country to look upon Mr. Bryan as a dan-gerous radical of revolutionary tenden-cies. But many of his friends complain of him that he is not radical enough They would like him to favor government ownership, but he refuses. They talk to him of the initiative and referendum. He waves them aside, Instead of being a Populist with Democratic leanings, Formulat with Democratic leanings, ar-Bryan is a Democrat with a love for Pop-ulist votes. Mr. Bryan possesses remark-able ability as a hypnotist. Nearly all the men who fall within his influence are completely charmed by him. This is not completely charmed by him. I his is not confined to those who agree with him upon the issues of the day, but often extends to those who go to argue with him. During the agitation about the Democratic silver plank a number of prominent party men called on Mr. Bryan to coax him over to the conservative side. Almost invariably Mr. Bryan and they were in harmony at the close of the interview, but it was not Mr. Bryan who had yielded. The one notable exception to this rule was David B. Hill. Mr. Bryan is a fatallat. He believes he is to be President of the United States before he dies. He is so confident of it that he does not permit himself to be worried by doubts and fears. If it does not come in 1900, it will come in 1904, and if not in 1901 then in 1908; for Mr. Bryan has not the silentest section of standard. has not the slightest notion of stepping aside from Democratic leadership even if defeated next November. The Demo-crats who want to defeat Mr. Bryan this year in order that their party may get rid of him once for all are reckon the knowledge or co-operation of

say unto themselves and to one another:
"Here at last is the man we long have
sought; one who bends not the knee,
whose moral backbone is of solid stuff;

one who may be wrong in some things, but who is right in character and

How Her Deafness Was Cured.

-Detroit Free Press.
"My wife has had her curiosity apany wife has had her curiosity appeared in a way that will satisfy her for some time," said the newly-married man. "It was my idea to make our wedding trip as quiet as possible and do away as much as we could with the annoyance that usually attends wedding couples. But the woman said that she was proud of being a bride, and that she wanted to hear the comments that the people would make. With this end in view, she hit upon the crazy notion of playing deaf and dumb and going through a lot of monkey shines with our fingers to carry out the scheme. She reasoned that this would cause people to talk in our presence and thus we would be able

to hear what they said.

"I opposed the idiotic idea from the start, but what I said cut no figure, and I had to consent to the plan. Our first chance to try the scheme occurred in a railway station where we were waiting for a train. Mr. wife compressed here.

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pantomine, and I had to carry it out, feeling like a fool while I was doing it. She wobbled her flugers and I wobbled mine, and we seen had every one staring There were two women seated

at us. There were two women seated back of us, and the comments she desired so much to hear soon came.

"It's a newly married couple, said one. The poor things are deaf and dumb. In't it awful?"

"What do you suppose he saw in her? asked the other. 'She is positively here.'

homely.'
"'And I believe her hair is bleached." "'And her hat is out of date," was the

next startler.
"'Looks like an old one made over,'
was the reply.
"'Hor dress wrinkles in the back,' said the first.
"She's 35 if she's a day, and she looks
"She's 35 if she's a day, and she looks

one of them.
"Right there my wife found her tongue, and her remarks to those two women left no doubt about her having that important article that women are supposed to ex-ercise so freely."

Eugene Sleeps-Brownsville Hustles. Everyone realizes that in the near fu-ture the trade of the Blue River mining district will be a matter vitally import-ant to Eugene. Everyone knows that this trade is now menaced by the town of Brownsville; that there is only one possi-ble way in which it can be retained to ble way in which it can be retained to Eugene, and that that way is to improve the Blue River road. These are facts. And yet, after 10 days of soliciting. G. W. Griffin and C. M. Young are able to report a subscription aggregating only 3800. It is no wonder that the committee is discouraged, nor is it surprising that the mining men of the district hall with delight the announcement that the actual work of grading has begun on the Brownsville road. Tomorrow the committee will make a final effort. They believe that \$2000 must be subscribed in Eugene. If they meet with no success tomorrow, the matter will be dropped.

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