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FRIDAY - - FEBRUARY 11, 1898

A TOO FACILE PEN.

The De Lome incident may be the means of bringing the relations between this country and Spain to a severe crisis. While nobody would pay attention, under ordinary circumstances, to what some Spaniard might think of the personal qualities of William McKinley, yet when the representative of one government shows such utter disrespect for the chief executive of another, the rules of international law are violated to such an extent that the incident cannot pass unnoticed. The term "jingoo" is used generally in an opprobrious sense, yet among the so-called "jingos" are found the best of American citizens, who desire nothing more than that the rights and honor of the American nation should be maintained with dignity, both at home and abroad.

De Lome, or any other Spaniard, has little cause to complain of the treatment Spain has received from the United States government. In the minds of most people this treatment has been too lenient. Spain deserves nothing from humanity, and by her conduct of the war in Cuba, has forfeited consideration from nations pretending to be civilized. A few more breaks like the one De Lome made, and this government will take a hand in earnest in Cuba, and it would not be a source of much regret if the present incident should bring about such a result.

Senor De Lome would do well to remember the old adage that "it is wise never to burn a letter—or write one."

No feature of Speaker Reed is more pronounced than that which phrenologists call "human nature." If he is strong it is because he reads men aright and because he is wise to know that what the people want is the thing that they will have. They may be delayed in getting it, but they get it at last. Mr. Reed is a fine exemplification of Lincoln's apothegm that men may wabble, but after all, they wabble to a right conclusion. He seems to be obstinate, but when he finds that the people do not come to him, he always goes to them. He knows when to hold and when to let go. In the Hawaiian matter the speaker will let the people have their own way. Convinced that a majority of the voters of the United States, without regard to party, wish for the annexation of Hawaii, he not only will not obstruct but will facilitate the gratification of their desire. He is of the wise men who rule by ruling always as the best and wisest part of the people would have him rule.

The Leutger trial has been so long drawn out that public interest outside of Chicago has, in a great measure, subsided. The verdict of guilty will come to most people, however, as a satisfactory vindication of the law. The statute of Illinois, which permits the jury to fix the penalty in cases of this kind, is undoubtedly a wise one, and allows of more convictions where men are unwilling to see capital punishment inflicted. The question of whether or not capital punishment is morally defensible is open for wide discussion; but when the jury is allowed to determine the penalty its abolishment is not necessary.

When the sheep-growers' convention and the G. A. R. encampment are held in The Dalles some measures should be taken to provide electric lights for our streets. We must

put on our best appearance when the visitors are here, so they may carry away pleasant impressions of the town. To wallow around in muddy streets is bad enough at any time, but it would be the occasion of much chagrin should our guests be compelled to do so.

The people who dwell in the Transvaal know a good thing when they have it. Paul Kruger, whose brain is better than his looks, has just been re-elected president of the sturdy South African republic. England should take notice.

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Administrator's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that by an order of the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Wasco county, made January 19, 1898, the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Thos. J. Sullivan, Jr. deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased, are hereby notified to present them to me with the proper vouchers at the office of Huntington & Wilson, within six months from date hereof.

Dated January 19, 1898. HORATIO FARGHER, Administrator.

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