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FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 25, 1898

GOOD THAT WILL RESULT.

Whether or not this country is to have war with Spain remains wholly a question to be determined. Opinions may differ as to the result of the investigation now in progress at Havana, and all future actions depends upon its outcome. The excitement which this nation has already undergone is bearing good fruit, as can be seen in the recent action of the senate adding two regiments to the artillery service. It has long been felt by military men and close observers in civil life that the United States army is altogether too small to serve even as a nucleus for a greater force in time of war. Twenty-five thousand men, scattered in all portions of a vast domain, would be as nothing in the event of a foreign war, and it congress is wise some measures will be taken looking to an increase in the size of the standing army.

While the United States pretends to be a peaceable nation, yet it cannot control the actions of other governments, and we may at any time be unwillingly drawn into a conflict for which we are totally unprepared. The strained relations now existing between this country and Spain have demonstrated to the believers in a universal peace that war is a contingency likely to happen at any time, and if this government intends to maintain its position among the nations of the earth, it must have a military and naval force which other countries will at least respect.

No nation on the earth is so strong in military reserve as the United States. A million men would volunteer in a short time should the occasion require; but it would take many months before these volunteers could cope successfully with the trained soldiers of European countries.

This government has the means and the men to increase its army and navy to respectable proportions, and if the present imbroglio with Spain shall teach this lesson, it may serve us to advantage in the days to come.

Chicago is in the throes of a disgraceful political struggle, in which the efficiency, if not the very existence, of its civil service system is seriously threatened. Unless the strong arm of public indignation intervenes, all the gains of municipal uprightness made during the last administration will be entirely lost. Two powerful party machines are making a desperate attempt to wrest the police department of the city from the control of the civil service commission and reduce it to their own evil purposes. The Chicago civil service system went into operation two years ago, after a prolonged battle on the part of the reform elements of the city and a decisive popular vote under the referendum. Mayor Swift and his administration were charged with attempting to defeat its purposes, but not openly. On the advent of Mayor Harrison and the present Democratic administration an army of hungry politicians demanded the spoils of the victory. It was led by a powerful secret organization of Democratic ex-police-men, who had been discharged by Mayor Swift. Unfortunately, there was a defect in the engrossment of

the civil service act, of which the corporation counsel was not slow to take advantage. The exemptions from the operation of the law were "the heads of any principal department of the city." Mayor Swift's corporation counsel had decided that these positions included only the heads of executive departments appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. Mayor Harrison's first move was to attack this interpretation of the law. "Heads of any department," as concerning the police department, was construed to embrace the assistant superintendent of police, the department secretary, four inspectors, and eighteen captains.

The Oregonian is doing untold damage to the Republican party in Oregon by its attempt to read out of the party men who in former years may have misunderstood the money question and leaned a little toward the side of silver. The Oregonian forgets that time makes changes, and men's opinions are changed with greater study and observance. There are many voters in Oregon, earnest believers in the gold standard, who four years ago did not see the right so clearly—and these men the Oregonian would be glad to hound from the party ranks. Are we not seeking converts, and glad to get them when they come? For what other purpose are speeches made and editorials written? Yet whenever a former silver man wants to come back into the Republican party, the Oregonian objects. It all comes back to the same old question—the Oregonian is serving Joe Simon and his gang more than it is the Republican party or the general welfare.

Frank Sherwood was down town today, the first time since he had his tussle with cholera morbus. He says he drove miles after he was taken sick, and never came so near dying in his life. After this when he goes out in the country he will take a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with him.—Missouri Valley (Iowa) Times. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.

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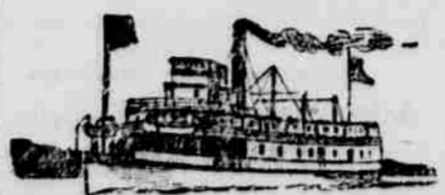


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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE, THE DALLES, OR., February 15, 1898.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at The Dalles, Oregon, on Monday, April 11, 1898, viz:

James Hall, of The Dalles, H. E. No. 4747, for the SE 1/4 NW 1/4, SE 1/4 NE 1/4 and NE 1/4 NE 1/4, Sec. 34, Tp. 1 N., R. 12 E., W. M. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Alexander Vance, Albert Walters, William Wolf, Frank Christ, all of The Dalles, Oregon. JAS. F. MOORE, Register.

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