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A LAWYER ON LAWYERS.

At a meeting of the Republican Bar Association in Portland a few days ago ex-Judge Henry E. McGinn, a well known lawyer and one of recognized ability, made a speech, which is attracting attention all over the state, in which he denounced certain corrupt practices in the office of the district attorney of Multnomah county, and, in doing so, he arraigned the bar association and lawyers as individuals for their indolence and lack of interest in the public good, in these words:

"When I was asked to add my name to the list of lawyers who had already become members of this organization, I refused to do so. Not because I had any doubt as to the propriety of intention on the part of the promoters, but because I had never yet seen an assembly of lawyers in Oregon that accomplished anything. It has been our practice—I was about to say, for time immemorial, for it is time immemorial to me—to have the Bar Association of Oregon meet once a year, and read learned papers upon the subject that a lawyer should not defend one whom he knows to be guilty of crime, or that it is not professional or not ethical for him to accept a contingent fee, but I have never been able to find one thing that has been accomplished by an assembly of lawyers in this state, and do not believe there is a remedial law to be found upon our statute books that was ever suggested by the Bar Association of Oregon. I know of one man who has done a great deal of good, although not in public life. I refer to E. W. Bingham. But he has done such by himself without the assistance of the bar of this county, city or state."

Judge McGinn has simply given utterance to a truth. The lawyers, as individuals and as a class, are derelict in reformations of any kind, and are always slow to lead or encourage a movement that promises benefit to the public. As a general thing, they are lacking in public spirit; the last to take up and push any reform or improvement in custom, practice or law, and as to making the law machine less clumsy, less burdensome to society and more beneficial to mankind, they will just be damned first.

If one of the profession is known to be a rascal and a disgrace to it; a thief with his hand in the public treasury, the lawyers, individually or collectively, will take no action against him, either to disbar or expose him. Instead, many of them will give him encouragement and share in the spoils of his nefarious practices and aid him to evade the penalties of the law, and for this reason the lawyer is seldom convicted for any crime he may commit. There is such a "fellow feeling" among them that they appear to have contracted a habit of overlooking one another's shortcomings. On this account the action of Judge McGinn in Portland is all the more surprising, and if he receives the right support the results flowing from it will reach to all parts of the state, to the everlasting credit of the profession of the law and the individual lawyers as well.

Of course there are exceptions to which these criticisms do not apply, in whole or in part, there being many honest, upright lawyers, who give their support to both private and public good work, and it is to be hoped that they will in time so bestir themselves that their tribe will so increase as to keep in check the unlawful lawyers, who at the present time largely predominate, at least politically, and so far as official position is concerned.

KIND TO GENERAL WHEELER.

President McKinley appears to be rather generous with the people's money. It is a fact that General

Wheeler tendered his resignation from the United States army last fall, but the resignation was held deliberately by the president in order that General Wheeler, as a favorite of the administration, might profit to the loss of the people. The result of this favor, General Wheeler was enabled to come home from the Philippines at the government's expense, with full mileage and expense to Washington, a little matter of some \$5000. Millions of the people's cash, wrung out of them by excessive and extortionate indirect taxation, are being wasted in similar ways under the present administration. In this connection it may be added that the cost of the war with Spain is found to have been \$250,341,290; or the war in the Philippines \$64,617,207 in 1899 and an estimated cost of \$100,885,934 for the current year, a total of \$244,844,300. A large part of this vast sum consists of favors such as fell to General Wheeler.

IMPERIALISM VS. EXPANSION.

Through all our history the guiding star of American statesmanship has been the idea of "manifest destiny." Rejecting any thought of aggression upon neighboring neighbors our public men of prophetic imagination have been inspired by visions of the time when the spectacle of the power, the prosperity and the happiness of our republic should lead all the less favored peoples of this continent and the neighboring islands to ask admission into our fortunate circle. They saw the American flag waving from the Arctic ocean to the Gulf of Mexico, and everywhere sustained by the affectionate pride of a loyal American population.

If the republican attitude toward Puerto Rico becomes the permanent policy of the United States, Manifest Destiny is dead. We never can acquire another foot of soil outside our present boundaries except by conquest or purchase—and the field for purchase is extremely small.

There are abundant examples in our own time of the voluntary incorporation of one country into another, but there is no case in which one people has asked another to govern it as a "subject colony." England has the best governed colonial empire in the world, but the only parts of the British Empire that are heartily loyal today are England, Scotland and Wales, which are equal partners in the government, and Canada and Australia, which govern themselves as independent nations, and have only sentimental ties with the mother country; England expanded when she joined forces with Scotland, but she neither grew nor gained strength when she exploited India.

The troops of Victor Emmanuel were welcomed with enthusiasm in Naples, Milan, Venice and Rome, but if Piedmont had proposed to rule the Neapolitans, the Lombards, the Venetians and the Romans as "subject provincials," where would Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Saxony have said in 1871 that they had been asked to become possessions of Prussia instead of parts of the German Empire?

There are two million French Canadians in Canada, thirteen million Mexicans, Indians and half castes in Mexico, and three million people of similar races in Central America. Of course, if we cannot take care of a million Puerto Ricans without treating them as "subject foreigners," we cannot take care of eighteen million of people of all races in Canada, Mexico and Central America.

To one who has the future greatness of his country at heart it is inexplicably exasperating to hear the petty, spitting arguments by which it is sought to prove that we have a right to be "unjust" to Puerto Rico. What if court decisions and executive precedents can be dug up, showing that a legal case could be made up for such treatment? It is not in that way that a great nation is built.

The only statesmanlike policy for the United States is not to see how badly we can treat Puerto Rico without violating our own constitution, but how well we can treat it, for the enhancement of our reputation and the popularity of our rule.

We have promised Cuba an independent government, and we must keep our promise. If Puerto Rico, under the American flag, were prosperous, orderly and happy, while Cuba, independent, were in disorder and distress, how long would it be to admit her to Puerto Rico's privilege?

Through Puerto Rico we speak for the first time to the whole Spanish-American world. Hitherto the difference of language has kept us out of the interchange of ideas that prevails actively throughout that world, from Patagonia to the Rio Grande.

Our purposes have been misrepresented to the Spanish-Americans. There are Spanish, French and German colonies in every important city of Latin America, and the members of these settlements have taken pains to distort our purposes and excite the jealousy and superstition of the people.

Now, for the first time, we have an opportunity to set ourselves right. Puerto Rico will be an object lesson in our purposes and our methods of government for all Spanish-America. The Puerto Ricans have means of making themselves heard. They have men of other tongues who read through all the eighteen Latin republics. They have newspapers and periodicals.

What they say about our rule—a novelty of tremendous and portentous interest to the Spanish-American mind—will be eagerly copied by the press of two continents.

Upon what we do in the next few months and upon what the Puerto Ricans say of it, will depend the judgments that will be formed of us by fifty million people, naturally suspicious, whom it is to our interest to conciliate.

Upon this will depend the question whether Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica shall look to us for protection or turn from us with aversion. Upon it depends the future of the Monroe doctrine—the question whether that doctrine shall be regarded as merely a decree of selfish policy maintained by our solitary force, or as a part of the public law of the Western Hemisphere, rooted in the regard of a hundred and thirty million people.

The American people are still devoted to the idea of expansion. They like to think of the flag moving westward across the Mississippi, across the Rockies, across the Sierras, across the Cascades, pressing to the Rio Grande, and carrying republican freedom and American commercial, industrial and political life wherever it goes.

Unless we can continue to expand in this way, expansion stops. When we want to gain weight we wish to do it by filling our pockets with lead. Expansion and assimilation must go hand in hand. Therefore the first duty of every honest expansionist is to "kill imperialism." Expansion can survive Atkinson—but not a continued course of Hanna.—New York Journal.

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Senator Foster and Representatives Jones and Cushman, have telegraphed Spokane republicans that a prominent republican speaker would soon follow W. J. Bryan through the state.

Many a woman has periodic crying spells. She mews her husband with eyes red and swollen and he cries out: "What has happened?" "Nothing," his wife replies. "I don't know what is the matter with me, but I just had to have a good cry." Men don't have crying spells. It would seem therefore that an affection confined to women must have its cause in the womanly nature. There is no doubt that a diseased condition of the delicate womanly organs is in general responsible for feminine nervousness and hysteria.

The use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes women happy by making them healthy. There are no more crying spells. "Favorite Prescription" cures inflammation, ulceration and female weakness. It makes weak women strong, sick women well.

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Tears

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