

It seems that Br'er Wanamaker's last political investment was in the "also ran" class.

T. Thomas Fortune, the negro agitator, should be regarded as a misfortune by the rest of his race.

Millionaire Senators are increasing instead of decreasing, just as the price of legislatures is going up.

Political tickets and platforms are just as liable to suffer from too much previousness as anything else.

John Sherman is a millionaire, but as he no longer has an office or any prospects of getting one he is miserable.

Our flag has been formally raised over Cuba, but it will be hauled down as soon as Cuba has a stable government.

Gen. Miles seems to have succeeded in stirring up both the war department and the "embalmed" beef contractors, if he hasn't done anything else.

We trust that Col. Denby was right when he said that the report of the War Investigating Commission would not be a whitewash of anybody.

Other things in the conduct of war were believed to be rotten but there are thousands who can swear that much of the beef issued to our soldiers was rotten.

In as much as Hon. J. Hamilton Lewis led the ticket by 5,000, it is a waste of time, as well as very unjust, to charge him with responsibility for fusion defeat in Washington.

The pull of the beef trust on Secretary Alger, not to mention his desire to humiliate Gen. Miles will be sufficient to protect it from official condemnation as long as Alger remains at the head of the war department.

Judging by what has been done we should say that Dewey is capable of dealing with any Philippine conditions without the advice of any of our professional statesmen. He may be the first sailor-statesman we have had, but he has proven himself just that.

They are also wicked beef contractors in England. Each year Queen Victoria has been distributed among the poor of Windsor. This year the distribution committee condemned many quarters and compelled the contractor to replace them with good meat.

The law and common sense do not always goe. If they did, the Pennsylvania undertakers who was awarded damages against a townships for injuries his hearse received by reason of its rolling down an unprotected embankment while he was flirting with a girl on the other side of the road, instead of looking after his horses, wouldn't have received a cent.

If congress needed a temptation to extravagance, it would be furnished by the present plethora condition of the U. S. Treasury. Owing to heavy receipts from the sale of the Pacific Railroad, the issue of bonds and the internal revenue war taxes, the government starts the year with cash on hand amounting to \$290,000,000, which is much more money than should be locked up in government vaults at any one time.

The Chilcat Indians are terrorizing the white inhabitants of Pyramid Harbor, near Skagway. They threatened to massacre

them. The night before Christmas whites appeared at the Chilcat village with a big supply of whiskey, which was sold to the Indians without reserve. The entire tribe got drunk on Christmas and with knives and guns compelled all the whites in that locality to leave.

Col. Watterson did not originate the idea of nominating Dewey and Lee, in 1900, but he is vigorously pushing.

Men who did not give the party loyal support in '96 can hardly expect to be allowed to dominate its councils in 1900.

When, if ever, Tom Reed collides with the expansion policy, the country is going to be startled by a loud report.

Three negroes have just robbed a bank in Texas. Day by day the collere men strive to justify his claim to equality with his white brother.

If the Filipinos insist upon fighting they mustn't blame Uncle Sam for giving them the best article he has in stock in the line of a good, convincing thrashing.

The Kynoch Company of Birmingham has begun work on a contract to furnish 10,000,000 cartridges to the United States. It might not be a bad idea to forward this little item of news to Aguinaldo's obstreperous friends at Iloilo.

The citizens of Woodbine, in Kansas, blew up a saloon, with dynamite the other day, not because it was a saloon, but for the reason that it was unlicensed. The Kansas doesn't fear death, but he wants his poison not only straight, but with a revenue stamp on it.

Sir Robert Ball, the eminent astronomer, suggests the fearful possibility that all the water in the oceans may come time pour down into the center of the earth through a gigantic crack. Sir Robert evidently wants to discourage us from building a bigger navy than England.

A valued exchange opines that the attitude of Platt toward Roosevelt is very much like that of a hen who has unexpectedly hatched out a duck. This statement is hardly accurate. Roosevelt was never set on, and Platt was aware he was a rooster with his spurs uncut before the alleged period of incubation began.

General Joe Wheeler's plan respecting the education of Cubans is a good one. In talking to several college presidents, after his return from Santiago, he said: "It occurred to me that if each college in the United States would consent to give one Cuban free tuition it would result beneficially in many ways. For this offer to be published in Cuban papers would impress them with the generous disposition of our people. Cubans educated at our colleges would return to Cuba with correct ideas regarding our people and the whole tendency of the arrangement would be to increase mutual confidence and respect."

The old soldier deftly brings the argument of human selfishness to re-enforce the benevolent side of the proposition by saying that it would not cost the college much while recompense would accrue to them in their becoming known to the people of the island, who would patronize them freely as soon as better times should come.

Philanthropy and common sense lie behind General Wheeler's plan. It is already bearing good fruit. Mr. G. K. Harrison, of Union College, who was authorized to communicate with the American colleges concerning the scheme, has already received over two favorable replies.

News Notes.

Four brothers married four sisters at Trail, O. the other day. It took an hour to perform the ceremony.

Five boys of Evansville, Ind., were ordered publicly whipped by the court for stealing, instead of sending them to jail.

An American syndicate has obtained concession in Ecuador to build a railroad and operate a bank.

Malheur's County Seat.

Petitions are in circulation asking the Oregon Legislature to pass an enabling act allowing the people of Malheur county to vote upon the re-location of the county seat.

People from every part of the county have of late years been requesting Ontario to ask for the removal of the county seat to this place and for this reason the question has been and is unsettling many business interests of the county. It is a matter the people generally throughout the county want settled, and for that reason are petitioning strongly for the enabling act, about two thirds of the voters of the county having already signed it we are informed.

A remonstrance is now in circulation, also, but that was naturally to be expected, for where 1000 voters are concerned, it is certain all will not be effected alike.

The final settlement of this matter would add materially to the valuation of the county's taxable property, as many are prevented from building or improving their property by this uncertainty as to whether the county seat is to be moved to Ontario or not. So let it be settled one way or the other, and be done with it.—Ontario Advocate.

County Court.

Settled with road supervisors. A. K. Richardson appointed stock inspector for the year.

The following were appointed road supervisors for the ensuing year: Fred Oakerman, Road dist. No. 1; Joseph Barnes, 2; A. J. Wilson, 3; Seth Bower, 4; E. C. Bulkeley, 5; J. P. Gearhart, 6; A. Altnow, 7; Geo. Buchanan, 8; Walter Gray, 9; R. T. Hugget, 11; A. T. Clark, 12; Thos. Walls, 13; A. B. Mareks, 14.

Jury list for the year drawn. Reports of clerk, sheriff and treasurer, for the six months ending Dec. 31st '98 appearing correct were accepted and ordered filed.

It's Preposterous.

The editor has received bills to the amount of \$1000 or less since January 1st '99 with "please remit" written at the bottom of the page. Now many of the bills were sent with the idea that we would call at once and pay them. How can a poor newspaper man pay out cash when he doesn't get any. To be sure, we have a good lot of advertising, but if we should ask for a little cash we are asked if it was the agreement to take it out in goods. The best way to get pay from a newspaper man is to advertise. We are going to say to the n x man that asks for money: "Was it not agreed to take it out in printers ink?"

Letter From Havana.

Through the kindness of H. L. Brisco, we are able to give the following letter, written by John W. Dickenson, now at Havana: Havana, Cuba, Dec. 30, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Dickenson, Burns, Oregon. Dear parents, brothers and sisters:—I am on board the steamship Panama, anchored in Havana harbor. It is 2-40 o'clock a m, and has been the loveliest night I ever saw, the moon is full and now directly overhead: the shore looks like a streak of fire—the lights are so thick, and are all around us. I cannot see back to the mouth of the bay.

It is worth all the time I have spent in the service just to see what I have seen since we sighted the island of Cuba. This is supposed to be one of the best harbors in the world. It beats anything I saw. The mouth of the bay is about 500 feet wide, the shore on

either side is perpendicular and there are now about 300 vessels in the harbor. We are in talking distance of three large ones.

We passed close by the wreck of the Maine. It causes a strange feeling to come over one to look at it and think of the boys that went down with her, and it is so plain to see that it was done on purpose—they cannot tell me it was an accident.

The city of Havana is a fine one; it has some fine buildings. We passed by Morro Castle and I was glad when we got by too, for there were 5 13 inch guns looking down on us. They just put me in mind of a big bulldog looking down upon a little ratterrier—they looked so savage.

We were on the water 55 hours. I never got a bit seasick. We had nice weather all the way. I saw waves roll up on the deck as we were crossing the Gulf stream and was told they were not large, but I thought them large enough.

Well, I will have to close. Address JOHN W. DICKENSON, 7th army corps, Provo, Guard, Havana, Cuba

MOKE GUNBOATS.

Dewey Wants More Vessels to Serve Among the Islands.

New York Jan. 7.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: The navy department received a long cipher cable dispatch from Admiral Dewey, making requisition for ships and supplies urgently needed on the Asiatic station. The admiral reiterated the request he has made several times in the last few weeks, that additional light draught gunboats should be sent to him notwithstanding the fact that the Castine was starting immediately by the way of Suez and other vessels would follow when they could be spared. Secretary Long added a request to Admiral Dewey to designate specifically any other gunboats he desired, in order that the department might gratify him if possible.

A reply was sent to the admiral today that Bennington, now on her way to Honolulu to make surveys at Guam, would be ordered to Manila in the course of a few months and the Machias, now repairing at Portsmouth, N. H., would follow the Castine through the Mediterranean in a few weeks on her way to join his fleet.

The authorities recognize the advisability of sending all the gunboats that can be spared to the Asiatic station, on account of their adaptability to service in the archipelago, but in addition to the Concord and Petrel, which are now at Iloilo, Helena is at Port Said on her way to Manila, and Admiral Dewey now has in commission the Callao, the Manila, the Colgoa and the Barco, which he captured from the Spaniards, and in a few weeks the Isla de Luzon, and the Isla de Cuba, which he raised and sent to Hongkong, will be manned by the crews sent out on the Buffalo. He also has the captured gunboats Leyte and Mindanao awaiting crews, and when the Machias the Castine and Bennington join him he will have thirty vessels under his command, not counting the Oregon and the Iris, which will be soon at Honolulu awaiting orders.

Such a fleet has never in time of peace been under the command of a single American officer, but the department has such confidence in the admiral's judgment that it will not hesitate to send him any further reinforcements that he demands. In his dispatch, Admiral Dewey calls for large quantities of plug tobacco soap and American food.

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