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WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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THE RIDDLEBERGER CASE.

THE Judge of the County Court at Woodstock, Virginia, is something of a Democrat and very much a man. He it was before whom Senator Riddleberger, the chief actor in a much-talked-of case, committed contempt and for doing which the Senator was sentenced to jail for ten days and fined twenty-five dollars. It seems that courts generally, in that part of the country, and this one particularly, have been running along for some time with but very little of that essential element to a judicial tribunal—dignity, and its absence only means the inculcation of indifference, carelessness and the gradual breaking down of authority. But Judge Newman, the presiding functionary over the court referred to and who has held the office but a short time, seems to have brought to the bench a determination to reform matters, not indifferently, but altogether, and as the fates would have it, the very first case in which he was compelled to assert himself with vigor was one of such consequence outside as well as in, that a lasting victory or an irretrievable defeat was to be the result.

Mr. Riddleberger is an influential man. It appears he defended a chronic offender and got him off on the ground of insanity. During the trial much of his demeanor partook of the swash-buckler, but did not transcend the limit, so the court let it pass; but after the trial he got his client drunk, put him in a wagon with a big placard ridiculing the judge and had him paraded about the streets. On learning of this a bench warrant was issued by Judge Newman, and Riddleberger was brought into court. He frothed considerably, and when told by the Judge that an order had been issued for his appearance to show cause why he should not be fined and jailed for contempt of court, Senator Riddleberger asked to see the warrant, which he claimed had not been served on him. The Commonwealth Attorney read the return for the warrant. Senator Riddleberger then declared that the Court had no jurisdiction. The Court replied it had fully decided that it had jurisdiction. Senator Riddleberger then objected to the swearing of witnesses and attempted to make a speech. The Court ruled out any speaking until the evidence was in and told Senator Riddleberger to sit down. The Senator would not sit down, and the Court fined him \$25. The Senator then said the warrant was nothing, and the Court told him to take his seat, or he would be sent to jail for contempt. Riddleberger tore up the warrant and said: "This Court won't send me to jail, and I want to see the d—n man that will take me there." The Court ordered the sheriff to take Senator Riddleberger to jail for five days. Senator Riddleberger resisted arrest and the Court added five more days, and ordered bystanders to assist the sheriff, but the sheriff, a small man less than five feet in height and weighing one hundred and fifteen pounds, took the Senator to jail without any trouble. Some of the Deputy Sheriffs and bystanders jumped out of the windows, and there was a great deal of excitement in the street. Some of Senator Riddleberger's most influential friends, while they deplored the fact of his having to go to the County Jail, acknowledged the justice of the Court's decision. Others, more rash, proposed taking him out by force. He was subsequently taken out by a mob, but realizing how dangerous a thing liberty was under such circumstances, he voluntarily returned, when friends interceded with the court and upon a proper showing by affidavit that it was injurious to the prisoner's condition to remain there, the sentence was suspended until his condition improved. This of course ends it, as the Court only desired to vindicate himself and place his tribunal upon the plane where alone it could be useful.

THE "SALVATION ARMY."

THE turbulent character of the meetings of the members of the so-called Salvation Army in this city is a cause of considerable comment. Denunciations of these peculiar religionists are common, and perhaps indulged in without sufficient consideration.

It is held by some that the officers should interfere, and, as conservators of the peace, abate what is deemed by many people, especially those residing in the neighborhood where its meetings are held, to be a nuisance.

In the first place, the genuine creators of the disturbances should be ascertained. If there is anything of that character in the exercises of the religionists, they should simply be requested to be less noisy and demonstrative, that the peace, so far as they are concerned, may be preserved. We would, however, be in favor of a very liberal construction being placed upon their proceedings, and in the absence of a well grounded complaint as to their doings from aggrieved parties, official interference with them would not be advisable. In this matter there should not be even a shadow of intolerance, to say nothing of its substance.

We are not so well-disposed, however, to those whom we believe to be the real disturbers of the peace—a certain class of turbulent hoodlums who attend the meetings for the sole purpose of making sport of the salvationists. No matter how absurd the religious proceedings of the latter may be, they are entitled to respectful treatment, and every person who is not vulgar and brutal will accord it. The duty of the police in regard to that class of peace breakers is plain. They should promptly arrest them and place them in jail, no matter who they are. Anything in the shape of religious intolerance, whether it emanates from an official quarter or from an inconsiderate rabble, has at once our unqualified condemnation, and its objects naturally excite our sympathy.

OUTSIDE OF THE LAW.

A LARGE number of complaints have been made in reference to the conduct of Mr. Brown, warden of the penitentiary, as relating to his treatment of a certain class of prisoners whose terms have expired. Those referred to are men in whose cases the judgment has included a fine and payment of costs and who have remained thirty days in lieu of the payment of the monetary part of the sentence, their financial condition being such that they have been unable to satisfy it.

Prisoners belonging to this class have been, according to our information, detained from one to three days after the term of sentence and the additional thirty days have expired. This is alleged to have been on account of the neglect of warden to enable the parties subjected to this wrong to appear at the proper time before a U. S. Commissioner, as provided by law, to undergo examination as to their inability to pay the fine and costs and to take the oath in case such inability is shown to the satisfaction of the examining magistrate.

As an illustration, six prisoners appeared before the Commissioner yesterday, and it was made clear to the satisfaction of that functionary that five out of that number were unable to satisfy the monetary part of the judgment in the respective cases. Their terms and additional thirty days in lieu of fine and costs expired on Friday, August 19th, and they were therefore, after that date, detained in durand vile without warrant of law. During those three days they were the victims of false imprisonment, and are entitled to redress whether they obtain it or not.

Many others beside the parties specially referred to have been subjected to the same wrong, and it is time such proceedings were stopped and due regard paid to the right and law in the premises.

THE TREATY OF BERLIN.

THAT the treaty of Berlin was gravely ignored in the election and installation of Prince Ferdinand as King of Bulgaria is well understood through press dispatches, but perhaps the treaty itself, or the portion of it which the Bulgarians and their ally have violated, may not be so generally understood. When Russia set out with the determination of crossing the Turkish frontier nine years ago, the only pretext—a slim one, as coming from Russia—for so doing was the fact that the Christians in the upper Turkish provinces had been slaughtered and otherwise persecuted by Ottoman fanatics; being powerless to help themselves, aid had to come from without and Russia supplied it, becoming thus a semi-protectorate over the country referred to. The history of that bloody conflict—the desperation of the Muscovite's onslaught and the stolid, bawdy resistance of the son of the crescent—is a matter of history. But when the terms of peace had to be arranged, Russia found she would not be permitted to be alone, as she had been all the time while conquering the peace; the other powers of Europe—especially Austria and Germany—had to participate, and this eventuated the treaty of Berlin. The provision which Russia complains has been ignored, is the one providing that Bulgaria shall have no ruler without the consent of all the signatories to the treaty, and not only have none of them formally assented, but three—Russia, Turkey and France—have formally objected to the proceeding and repudiated Ferdinand's authority. There would ordinarily

be here abundant materials of a combustible nature to kindle a fire whose lurid glow would overspread the entire continent, but, in the present temper of European diplomats, no one seems willing to set it off. Perhaps it will come anyway; it is certainly within the probabilities. A nation like Russia, so powerful that its power is almost unwieldy through its greatness, is not apt to squander hundreds of thousands of lives and billions of dollars in the task of making herself recognized and felt on the western shore of the Black Sea, and then permit her prestige to be destroyed in a night by a mere upstart who represents nothing and nobody, without doing something more than merely repudiate him.

DEATH OF ALVAN CLARK.

THE name of a man but little known outside his own circle was, perhaps for the first time in the world, flashed across the wires on Saturday last. He was dead, and the fact was reported; and through his death hundreds of millions knew for the first time that he had lived and had not lived in vain. It was Alvan Clark, the maker of scientific implements and astronomical apparatus. It is a little singular that while the devotees of science in various parts of the world were peering into the great vault above and watching the different phases of the total eclipse, the soul of the maker of the contrivances by which their views were facilitated was taking its flight from earth.

The astronomer, or man who forwards the cause of astronomy, deserves well of his race and his time. He does not work for a day nor for a few people, but for ages to come and the whole human family. He does not devote his time to the attainment of an end because of there being money or other reward awaiting him when it is accomplished, for as a general thing his only reward is the consciousness of having brought men a little nearer to their Maker by enlarging their store of useful, lofty knowledge. And in order that he may be fitted for his exalted mission, his thoughts, his dreams, his very soul must be bent upon his work through long and tedious months and years. Sometimes he attains to eminence and his services as a professor or lecturer are in demand, but oftener he is so absorbed in the practical routine and unceasing studies of his calling that he is not known until he ceases to be, as in the case of Alvan Clark.

HOW TO RAISE THE NECESSARY WOOL.

OVER the signature of "Snopitcher" a correspondent writes from Mantl, commenting on the editorial in the EVENING NEWS of the 17th, deploring the fact that woolen factories in this Territory should lie idle, thus depriving operatives of employment, and suggests a plan by which he thinks all our woolen mills might keep themselves supplied with raw material. He says:

"I would suggest that the factory managers take the 'bull by the horns,' and start sheep herds of their own, and if they would offer inducements in the shape of capital stock, with good prospects of a reasonable dividend, there are many who have (say) from fifty to a few hundred head of sheep in the different herds in the territory who would invest the same for the benefit of themselves and the people. Others again would put in (say) from five to as many hundred dollars, if there were a guarantee that the non-producer and speculator would not have the power to act the 'big fish' and swallow the little ones."

There is an element of practical wisdom in this suggestion. The plan has been tried by at least one woolen factory in the Territory that we know of, which ran successfully for some years, in connection with a co-operative sheep herd. The owners of this mill produced their own raw material, exchanged cloth and yarn for means with which to pay wages, and their only cash outlay was for dye stuffs and mill furnishings.

The two main elements requisite for the success of this plan are a genuine co-operative purpose on the part of all who engage in it, and a faithful and intelligent financial management of it.

THE INDIANS AND CITIZENSHIP.

IT appears that the scope and effect of the Indian Severalty Act is to be as wide as its promoters and framers anticipated, judging by the construction given to it by the Indian Office. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs gave, some time ago, an opinion as to the method by which citizenship is to be secured by Indians under this new statute, which has not yet been printed. The opinion, which was first published by the New York Post, of August 15th, is as follows:

"OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Washington, July 6th.
J. N. B. Hewitt, Bureau of Ethnology:
Sir:—I am in receipt of your communication dated June 6th, 1887, in

which you state that you are a Tuscarora Indian by birth, and that since July, 1880, you have been living separately and apart from any tribe of Indians. You inquire how you can take advantage of the provisions of the latter part of the Sixth Section of the General Allotment Act, i. e., whether the declaration of the law is sufficient and ample to guarantee citizenship, or whether you must make it a matter of record in some court. In reply I have to state that it appears to have been the intention of Congress to declare Indians belonging to certain classes, specified in said section to be citizens, and not to provide a method by which they could become citizens. I think the declaration of the law is sufficient to constitute any Indian "born within the territorial limits of the United States, who has voluntarily taken up within said limits his residence, separate and apart from any tribe of Indians there, and has adopted the habits of civilized life," a citizen of the United States, "entitled to all the rights, privileges and immunities of such citizens," without action on his part. Should any such Indian be denied or refused any of such rights, privileges, or immunities, he should appeal to the proper courts, in the same manner as it would be necessary for other citizens to do in case of similar refusal or denial.

Very respectfully,
J. C. D. ATKINS,
Commissioner."

This measure savors of an attempt to do some degree of justice to the hapless red man. It is thought by those who are well-disposed toward the Indians and who abhor the barbarous extermination doctrine lurking under the cold-blooded saying, "the red man must go," that the gradual severance of tribal relations and the assumption of the position of citizens will solve the Indian difficulties, which have racked the country for a couple of generations. It will depend, however, on other conditions besides those that are merely statutory. In the face of a long catalogue of faith-breaking on the part of the white men in their relations with the Indians, it will take a good deal of patient labor to convince the latter that any project proposed from that quarter is made in good faith. There will have to be plenty of explanation and a more liberal and effective application of civilizing processes in order to prepare the Indians to emerge from their tribal relations and peculiar habits. Then will follow the assimilating process, or the process of the absorption of the red people by the whites, which will necessarily be slow.

The new statute is a step in the right direction. The manner in which the Indians can attain to the position of citizenship should be explained to them. Those who are classed among civilized Indians, scattered all over the country are, according to the interpretation of the law by the Indian office, in a position to be counted as citizens without it being necessary for them to surrender any tribal proprietary rights they now possess. That point was particularly specified in the Allotment in Severalty Bill under which the Indian Department has begun to allot lands to certain tribes.

THE SWISS REPUBLIC.

ON Sunday last, the Republic of Switzerland was 580 years old, thus antedating by many hundred years any other of the stable popular governments that have existed in medieval or modern times. In the latter part of the 13th century, when the nation was overrun with feudal despots and a castle crowned almost every accessible eminence, the peasantry were so ground down by oppressive taxation and petty tyrannies of a general nature that slavery under the name of government was the rule. This culminated in the Austrian tyrant Gessler placing his cap on a pole and commanding the people to bow to it as a token of abject submission. William Tell, however, did not refuse to bow and thus precipitated the uprising which freed his country, as we are told in the readers and in apocryphal literature, for the simple reason that no such person ever existed. The freedom of Switzerland was accomplished by other and much less dramatic means, beginning with three patriotic men, named Stauffer, Melchthal and Furst, who met one dark night and pledged to each other "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor," determined to do or die in the holy cause of liberty. The peasantry were secretly organized and armed; and on November 15, 1315, these, numbering only 1,300 all told, went forth to meet an Austrian army of 20,000 which had been sent to completely subjugate them and reinstate Austrian authority—Gessler having a long time previously lost his life, but just how neither of the three men herein named cared to tell if they knew. They vanquished the invading horde. Then followed the establishment of a republic out of the three cantons, Schwyz, Unter-Walden and Uri; they prospered and grew, and other cantons one by one dropped into the alliance, until there are now twenty-two—a prosperous, vigorous, healthful nation with a model government and an educated, progressive people.

"Liberty dwells in the mountains." Switzerland is a living illustration of the fact. Nations have come and gone

since she set up a republic among the everlasting crags and peaks; but she sits there with her coronet of everlasting snow, her bulwarks of eternal hills, and amid the prowess and correct principles of her people, promising to endure as long as the best of earthly governments. Six centuries, of an unchanged form of government, when all around and about her has been shivered to atoms or shaken to its very foundation stones! Truly, resistance to tyrants is obedient to God.

MANUFACTURING EXCITEMENT.

IT seems at this distance the noise and splinter made in relation to the alleged Indian outbreak in Colorado is entirely out of proportion with the reason for the excitement. As has already been explained, the apparent cause of all this fuss and fury, is that a couple of Colorado's Indians were indicted for stealing horses. From the best sources of information attainable it appears that the Indians who were indicted came by the horses fairly in a trade with those who were the real thieves without their knowing the animals had been stolen. On learning the situation they gave the horses up.

According to Indian ideas of right they had done all they could to rectify the mistake, and when Sheriff Kendall and posse went to arrest them Colorado declined to surrender them. This is what we understand to be the head and front of the offending of Colorado and his companions.

Because the Department at Washington declined to furnish the United States soldiers against the Indians, it has been unthinkingly denounced by many people and numbers of journals more or less prominent. Yet it was solely a matter pertaining to the State of Colorado, some of whose red residents had resisted legal process under its laws. It was a matter with which, so far as the difficulty had advanced at least, the national government had nothing whatever to do. It was the simple duty of the State to assert the supremacy of its laws, by affording the sheriff to whom the warrants were entrusted, all necessary assistance in serving them and making the arrests.

The ideas that some people entertain regarding the use of the military arm of the government are exceedingly loose. Such aid should only be invoked in times of dire necessity, that the States may be left, so far as consistent with public safety, to the management of their own affairs. When a demand of that character is not based on absolute necessity with a democratic leaning to local settlement of local difficulties, there should be no response.

To presume that Colorado is unable to cope with the present trouble within her borders, when there has not been so much as a resort to any species of violence on the part of Colorado and his followers, would be equal to accusing that State of being in a condition of imbecility. This may be said even in the event of an actual outbreak of violence on the part of the allegedly hostile Indians, who number, all told, according to the highest estimate we have seen, 150 men, women and children. Other reckonings place the number at 120. There are already in the field, of militia combined with Kendall's cowboy posse, enough supposed fighting men to kill and eat the whole Indian encampment, so to speak.

For the delectation of our readers we present to-day some dispatches from the Denver News, sent to that journal by its special war correspondent on the "tented field." The efforts of the indefatigable journalist to make mountains from molehills and manufacture the semblance of a sensation, project with such conspicuous prominence as to render them almost pathetic were it not for their utter absurdity. Evidently he was not cut out to shine like a Russell or a Forbes. He has slung aside the hackneyed statement about the chief commander directing the movements of his troops seated upon a noble charger, and represents General Reardon as performing that soldierly duty from that lightning express vehicle of the western past—a buckboard. That officer is described as eager for the fray, waiting for Indians to come that way that he may intercept them. Let us hope that the sensation created by the terror-inspiring spectacle of three Indians upon Hogback ridge existed only in the heated imagination of the super-excited correspondent, and that the bold exhibition of the troops being prepared to give battle—a consummation only prevented by the hurried retreat of the dusky tri—was overdrawn. We trust he did not intend this as a compliment to the courage of the militiamen. The other announcement that a fresh trail had been found, but was lost in the creeks, is in harmony with the sudden apparition of the three mounted "bucks." How that fresh trail would have been disposed of had it not been lost is not stated. The question is whether it would have been deemed best to salt it, providing it had not been so suddenly watered.

There is throughout the whole question of the disturbance an evident straining after sensational effect and the creation of excitement. This leads to the grave suspicion that there is a