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TROUBLE WITH NICARAGUA.

The general public is reminded of the fact that there is a revolution in Nicaragua, by the announcement that two Americans have been sentenced to death for serving in the army of the rebels. It is believed that the men have been killed without the formality of a trial, against the protest of the American consul at Managua.

This is all the more unjust, since the revolutionists seem to be strong enough to blockade ports and to maintain embassies abroad. Whether they are formally recognized as belligerents, or not, they seem to be belligerents in fact, and are entitled to such consideration as civilized warfare demands.

The United States cannot afford to let an incident of that kind pass without taking cognizance of it. If the rights of American citizens abroad are not protected, the government will be regarded as weak and contemptible. Germany gobbled up a Chinese province when a German missionary was killed by a mob, without the sanction of the Chinese government. This country is not a landgrabber, and does not want Nicaraguan territory, but it may have to take a hand in the imbroglio in order to prevent the murder of American citizens in that country, without proper trial. We may have to assist the Nicaraguan people in electing a good, humane government, as has been done in Cuba.

QUEER PROTECTION.

And now we are told that "important changes" are to be made in the public service in order "to better protect the interests of the City."

It will be admitted that the interests of the City need better protection against he manipulators of its affairs. It has been asserted by the "organ" that the blunders of the former city engineer cost the tax-payers $100,000 and one of the councilmen stated publicly that if the blunders of the engineer cost that sum, the blunders of the board of public works cost three or four times as much. Taking these statements for granted, it is evident that the interests of the City need protection against incompetent officials, but is the promise sincere?

This is the way it is proposed to "protect." The City engineer is to be promoted to the position of general roustabout for the board of public works, and the board is to be the whole thing. There is, of course, no possibility of graft when the board controls, being composed of men specially approved by the honest leaders of the so-called "American" party.

Another measure of protection is that hereafter contractors, except Moran, will have to submit their stuff to a test of 28 days. It will be seen that when competition is rendered difficult, or even impossible, the City is fully protected. Now watch the appointments.

NATIONAL EGOTISM REBUKED.

Why should we Americans be, as we are said to be, the greatest egotists in the world?

Is it because we do things better than the rest of mankind, or simply because we occupy the richest of the lands of the earth, and have therefore been able to make a comfortable living out of it?

As the news dispatches of the day indicate, our national vanity and self-complacency may be founded, after all, upon a very insecure foundation.

With George E. Roberts, former director of the Mint, declaring that the United States is lagging far in the rear of civilized nations—"behind all the rest of the world"—in the matter of the regulations of her currency, and the former secretary of the interior, James R. Garfield, explaining that "the rights of the public are not safeguarded in the provisions heretofore made for the conservation of the national resources, American egotism ought to receive a well-merited setback.

Mr. Roberts thinks that the central bank of issue offers a more comprehensive treatment of the currency problem thab any other plan suggested. "It provides," he says "abundant elasticity under responsible control. It provides a fiscal agency for the government through which its enormous collections and disbursements may be handled with the least disturbance to the money market."

He shows that we are not pioneers in the movement and adds that there is not a country in Europe but has delegated the issuance of its paper currency to a central bank.

Students and writers on economics express opinions much like those of Mr. Roberts, but do not all concur in his proposed solution of the vexed question which is so tardidly being taken hold of by the representatives of one of the greatest among commercial nations.

Mr. Garfield's excoriation of the conservation policies, or rather the lack of them, may sound like anarchistic utterances to those sober persons who do not know the facts in the case.

"After years and years of floundering between scandalous subserviency to corporations on the one hand," he said, "and ignorant or vicious or dishonest attacks upon them on the other, the progressive communities of the country have recently been coming to the inevitable conclusion that to get this business of the people attended to promptly and satisfactorily it is necessary to entrust it to small and well-paid commissions, composed of competent men, charged with due power and responsibility."

Students of forestry, practical and far-sighted men, and all lovers of nature who have traveled extensively in this country and have beheld the devastation, the waste, and the monopoly of its natural resources, do not wonder at the strong words of the former secretary, even if they do not, in every particular, agree with his conclusions.

Conserving the resources now, after recklessly destroying them for over a century, may look very much like locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen. Much can still be done, however; and the more and the sooner it is done, the better it will be for the next and succeeding generations.

THE ENGLISH BUDGET.

There is considerable excitement in England over the budget. Mr. Balfour, according to the reports, has indulged in rather strong language in his reply to Mr. Ure, Lord Advocate of Scotland. The latter had stated that the poor were afraid of losing their old-age pensions, if there were a change of government. To which Mr. Balfour replied that the Lord Advocate had disgraced his office and dishonored the country in which he was born. He added: "No government could if they would, or would if they could, interfere with these old-age pensions, and that you might as well think of repudiating your obligation to the national creditors as repudiating your obligation to these recipients of the national bounty." Mr. Ure admitted that this may be the feeling of the opposition, but he held that in order to carry it into effect ways and means must be provided; and that Mr. Ure's statement was simply a challenge to Mr. Balfour to produce his program and show that he could raise the necessary sum, a thing which they declare to be an impossibility on the lines of the tariff-reform scheme.

It appears from this controversy that the old-age pension question has taken such a firm hold upon the public that the mere mention of the probability of a change in the policy is enough to start a panic in the ranks of the party suspected of being opposed to a continuation of the system. It cannot be successfully denied that the aged laborer, who has given his entire life to the industrial service of the country, at a poor remuneration, is just as much entitled to be taken care of, when he can work no longer, as anybody. And those who are dependent upon him, are entitled to be protected from want. It used to be the poorhouse, but public sentiment in England has demanded something more than charity. But the question of resources comes up. How can the country afford to take care of all its aged poor, without additional sources of revenue?

The strange part of this discussion is this, that the question of money is hardly ever considered when the demands of militarism are pushed to the front. When more Dreadnoughts are asked for, nobody stops to consider whether the country can afford it or not. It is only when the question is of providing for the comfort of the people that the plea of poverty is heard. Let England join other nations in a policy of disarmament, and there will be no lack of funds for the support of the aged and infirm.

SPIRITUALIST FRAUDS.

They have a new spiritualist wonder in New York, one Madame Eusapia Paladino. She has been brought over from Italy, by some members of the Society for Psychical Research, and scientists are invited to apply any test they may see fit, to the phenomena she produces at her seances. Prof. Keller has also been invited to assist, and it appears that this magician should be able to detect fraud, if fraud there be.

From the accounts it appears that the lady conjures up beings who come and tell about life after death. She produces spook hands which grasp cigar-holders and twang mandolins suspended in the air; and shadowy fingers which model portrait heads in wet clay. Tables and chairs rise in the air as a commonplace occurrence in Eusapia's exhibitions.

Camille Flammarion, who has experimented extensively with Eusapia, considers the phenomenon of "levitation" as absolutely established, and this because he has seen the marvel performed in the full light of a gas chandelier. Mr. Carrington, an American investigator, is equally confident of the genuineness of this phenomenon. He tells the story of how a milking-stool apparently became alive. It came out of the cabinet, seemingly on its own accord, and slid along the floor. The medium placed her hand above it and waved it to and fro in various directions, and finally it rose into the air. There was no thread, no string of any description. The medium was firmly held, but in spite of this the stool moved about in various directions. "We considered," Mr. Carrington says, "that this experiment had been produced under absolute test conditions."

Mme. Paladino is said to have converted a number of scientists to a belief in her spiritualist productions. Among them are Lombroso, Sir Oliver Ledge, Charles Richet, and Flammarion. Lombroso has devoted considerable space to her, in his work: "After Death—What?"

It is very strange that even men of scientific tastes, and trathing, care to spend their time "investigating" tomfoolery. There is hardly a so-called spiritualist medium that has not been exposed, or whose tricks have not been duplicated by sleight of hand performers. Mme. Paladino, it is admitted, cheats whenever she thinks she can do so safely, and that fact alone should stamp her as unworthy of serious consideration.

One witness gives a straight and candid statement. Three astronomers were present at a seance. One of them was Flammarion. Another was his assistant, Antoniadi. On that occasion the table rose in the air and resisted all attempts to lower it. Antoniadi was hit by an invisible hand. A table danced about the room, bells were ringing, and a book was passed through a curtain. But in spite of all M. Antoniadi reports:

"I restricted myself to ascertain whether there was a single phenomenon which could not be explained in the most simple manner, and I arrived at the conclusion that there was not. I assure you, on my word of honor, that my watchful, silent attitude convinced me, beyond all manner of doubt, that everything is fraudulent from the beginning to the end; that there is no doubt that Eusapia shifts her hands or her feet, and that the head or the foot that one is thought to control is never held tight or very strongly pressed at the moment of the production of the phenomenon . . . I was very much astonished when I was hit hard in the back, from behind the curtain, while I was very clearly holding two hands with my right hand. Happily, however, at this moment, Mme. Flammarion having given us a little light, I saw that I held the right hand of Eusapia and—yours!"

Spiritualist performances are either frauds, or produced through the agency of "deceiving spirits." In either case they are not to be encouraged.

The price of the milk is no guarantee of its purity.

If the worst should come to the worst, how bad would it be?

A little hot air now and then is indulged in by the best of men.

Of course the government's revenge on the sugar trust will be sweet.

How persistently the dead past sometimes refuses to bury its dead.

"Give me liberty of speech or give me death"—John Mitchell.

Lawyers should make good motion pictures, they make so many motions.

Has Collector of the Port Loeb got a modern Augean stable on his hands?

Mrs. Stetson is achieving a fame almost as wide as that of Lydia E. Pinkham.

Governor Spry and party are for St. George and Dixie, not St. George and England.

The Washington Herald had to go West to get the right kind of a man for business manager.

Having failed to score a success as a lecturer, why doesn't Matt Henson star in Uncle Tom's Igloo?

A New York physician says that pawning jewelry is a disease. It is the result, no doubt, of poor blood.

There has never been any discussion of the question "How to be happy though divorced." It seems to be taken for granted.

The members of the newly organized "Back from Elba" club should not forget the hundred days, Waterloo, and St. Helena.

That cold air plant President Taft has had installed in the White House building, will make the atmosphere chilly for the importunate office-seeker who calls.

Highwaymen hold up the street cars on the wrong side of the street. Passengers sometimes find it hard to get the cars to hold up on the right side of the street.

Shooting American citizens without trial, no matter with what offense they may be charged, is a most dangerous business, as Zelaya of Nicaragua is bound to find out.

San Francisco tong feudists are seeking for wildcat meat to make them fierce and more courageous. If they would buy a few wildcat mines it would make them just as furious.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison have got something to be thankful for; they have been granted a stay of issuance of mandate in their contempt case until November 29, which gives them a free Thanksgiving.

Colonel Watterson, speaking of the tendency of newspapers toward sensationalism, says that reporters are being turned into detectives. There is no gainsaying this. Chief Wilkie of the secret service was once a reporter.

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

HOW PRESIDENT HAYES GOT RID OF HIS CALLERS.

By E. J. Edwards.

This daily series of anecdotes and incidents that throw new, interesting and frequently dramatic light on famous events and personalities of the past have been collected by Edwards during nearly forty years of more or less intimate acquaintance with many of the country's leaders since the Civil War. Each anecdote or incident is fresh from Mr. Edwards's notebook, and, either in whole or in part, it constitutes New News of Yesterday, garnered from the men who made the news—the history—or from equally authoritative sources. As important contributions of the "Human Interest" sort to American history, these articles have a distinctive value all their own.

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Whenever I read of the great nervous strain that is put upon a modern president of the United States by reason of the calls paid to him not only by office seekers and their backers, but also by the thousands of persons who simply want to see and shake hands with the president, I am reminded of the little trick that President Hayes confessed to me that he employed to rid himself of callers.

"The afternoon in the latter part of his administration that I called on him he received me in the library of the White House. Strangely enough, he appeared to have some leisure, and was even disposed to chat a little about matters of common interest.

"'Mr. President,' I said, after a time, 'you must often get very weary on account of demands made upon you, your time and your strength, by those who call upon you with no other purpose than to pay their respects and to go home saying that they have seen the president.'

"President Hayes was holding in his hand a gutta percha penholder, at the end of which was a gold pen. He began to tap his desk with it, and at the same time a smile lighted his countenance, as though my question had suggested, instead of unpleasant recollections, some which aroused his sense of humor.

"'Of course, it is sometimes a little exhausting to stand and receive with a handshake hundreds of persons whom you have never met,' he confessed. "'But I always recall my own feeling—at least the feeling I had when I was a young man—that the president belongs to the whole people, and that they have the right to make his acquaintance. And really, I do not think public receptions are so trying as frequently are the visits of say one or two persons who are received in the library or cabinet room. When I first came here, this was one of the most trying of my experiences. Sometimes it was very difficult to convey a hint to the caller or callers that my time was much occupied, and that I should be glad if they would depart. The president should be especially careful about hurting the feelings or wounding the pride of anybody. But at last I hit upon a plan which has worked admirably."

The president turned in his chair as though to look out from the rear windows of the White House upon the broad sweep of lawn, and in the direction of the uncompleted Washington monument. This shaft was at that time about two-thirds done, but for some years work on it had been suspended.

"After I think the call has been reasonably long, I turn towards the window, as you see me now, and I try to say in a pleasant way: 'Have you seen the Washington monument since you have been here?' Usually, the answer is that it has only been seen from a distance. Then I say: 'Well, you should go down, crossing the White House grounds if convenient, to within such distance of the monument as will give you a very good idea of it. No one should visit Washington without getting a near view of the monument. You know, presidents change, but the monument, when completed, is to be there for all time.'

"This hint usually has the effect desired. My callers feel complimented that I should take the trouble to suggest to them some one of the Washington sights that would interest them, and within a few moments they rise and bid me good day. I have rarely known the expedient to fail."

Again the president smiled. And then, apparently as an afterthought, he added:

"Of course, you will not make any mention of this little confession—at least, not until after I have retired from the presidency."

(Copyright, 1909, by E. J. Edwards.)

Tomorrow Mr. Edwards will tell of the time "When the Duke of Wellington Turned Prophet."

BACK TO THE MONITOR.

New York Evening Post.

The rumor that England will now experiment with a semi-submarine battleship does not surprise us. We have long believed, in our ignorant laymen's way, that there ought to be a return to the Ericsson type of monitor improved by modern ideas on ventilation, etc., but we have always been pilled by naval officers for showing our ignorance in this manner. They have assured us that life cannot be made bearable on semi-submarines, that guns cannot be fired in a seaway save where there is high freeboard, and that even if a modern battleship is a wonderfully fine target at sea, with its heavy superstructure and its towering military masts, this type must survive. Well, the British Admiralty declines to be bound by tradition, and the semi-submarine is to be tried. More than that, some of our own officers—doubtless mere cranks—incline to the view that the semi-submarine will come to stay.

AN ARISTOCRACY OF WEALTH.

San Francisco Argonaut.

The Astor divorce suit is another demonstration of the moral breakdown of New York ultra-fashionable life—another proof of the complete failure to create in New York an aristocracy founded upon wealth. There was a time some fifteen or twenty years ago when it looked as if this effort led by the Astors, supported by the Vanderbilts, the Sloanes and others, and recruited from various parts of the country, would be successful. But time and events have shown that the scheme will not work. An aristocratic organization, whatever its faults may be, must have some of the sterling elementary virtues. Apparently the very rich group in New York has none at all. The public reports are bad enough; the private reports are nauseating. The second generation proves itself worse than the first, being utterly abandoned to the theory that wealth yields license for the exercise of every whim and every passion. We have in this country apparently but one principle capable of building up individual character in strength sufficient for its maintenance against temptations of extreme wealth, and that principle is discipline founded in necessity and trained in the school of poverty.

JUST FOR FUN

"The only news I have to tell you," wrote the Billtville citizen, "is that the river has rix an drowned all yer cattle, an' yer uncle has broke jail; likewise the widder woman you wuz a'goin' ter marry has runned off with a book agent. Outside of these here things, we air all doin' well."—Atlanta Constitution.

"What subject have you taken for your address at the Civic club?"

"Woman's moral obligations as a citizen."

"What a lovely subject. And what are you going to wear?"

"That new gown I brought home with me from Paris. And just think, I had it so cleverly packed in with my old clothes that the customhouse inspector never discovered it was there."—Baltimore American.

"Yes," said the fancy farmer, "we had to let our imported Swiss milkmaid go."

"What was the trouble with her?" the sympathizing friend inquired.

"Carelessness. If we didn't watch her closely she'd do the milking in her second best pair of kid gloves, and once we actually caught her cleaning out prize Jersey's teeth with an ordinary scrubbing brush!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Our Eastern Policy.

Knicker—What is our policy with China?

Bocker—The open door and the shut mouth.—New York Sun.

"Pardon me, Dr. Neatly, but it is simply preposterous for you to want to marry my daughter. You are more than twice as old as she is."

"I know that, Mr. Sykes, but when she has been a preacher's wife 10 or 15 years she will look fully as old as I do."—Chicago Tribune.

Example at Hand.

The pastor (dining with the family)—Ah, yes, Brother Smithers, it is the little things of this life that count!

Little Willie (in a loud whisper)—Maw, that's the sixth biscuit he's took.—Chicago Tribune.

Saturday Specials At Z. C. M. I.

Our great sale of Blankets, Quilts, Bed Pillows, Art Pillows ends tomorrow—these warm bed covering bargains were most opportune and the women of Salt Lake have shown their appreciation by taking advantage of the welcome price reductions.

Millinery Half Price

Stunning effects stylishly trimmed with colored plumes, wings, flowers, ribbons—tomorrow your choice at HALF PRICE.

All Children's Hats Half Price
All Colored Plumes Half Price
All Wings Half Price
All Flowers Half Price

Millinery Half Price

All Fur Hats, All Hats Trimmed with black and white plumes and aigrettes in this great sale tomorrow, ONE-THIRD OFF.

Untrimmed Shapes One-third Off
Black and White Plumes third Off
All Aigrettes One-third Off

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ON SECOND FLOOR

CHILDREN'S SWEATERS, a nice variety, sizes from 18 to 26, regular values from $1 to $1.50—you'll find a few $2 values among them—while they last, your choice at, each 50c

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