

bers of a political convention "fixed" beforehand for certain candidates for the legislature who will in turn be "fixed" for some particular person for senator. This simply means the serving of a notice upon those who will not commit themselves beforehand that they need not apply; not being "in with the deal," they must not only not expect support, but must expect opposition and defeat if it can be brought about. This is virtually intimidation, coercion, and the suppression of free speech and action. Those who practice it should themselves be barred from all participation in public affairs. Let the conventions Americanize and popularize themselves by exacting from the delegates one and all a pledge that they are not so many stalking horses for anybody's race and things in that line will be apt to all at once take on an improved appearance.

After submitting the foregoing the "News" takes pleasure in announcing its choice for the senatorship: A man who is known to be moral, incorruptible, public-spirited, capable and devoted more to the public service than to his own glorification: one who is thoroughly identified with Utah, whose welfare is merged in hers, who glories in her fame, and will keep an eye single to her welfare at all times.

INTERESTING DISCOVERIES.

Some weeks ago the "News" published a brief article in this department regarding important archaeological discoveries by a noted Hindoo scholar and traveler in the southern part of Utah and western Colorado. It was expressed by him previous to making the discoveries—and these confirmed him in that position—that not the East but the West was the cradle of antiquity, the birth-place of ethnology on this planet. How old the ruins were or what the time or era in which they were constructed is one of the things to be determined hereafter, in the light of technical scientific investigation, relying not altogether upon the style of architecture and condition of the structures in a general way, but upon hieroglyphical inscriptions which, so far as known, have no relation to anything at present understood. It is a very interesting study and will grow more so as developments are unfolded.

In line with this and other kindred things are some recent discoveries made in southern Mexico by Mr. Marshall H. Saville, chief of the archaeological department of the American Museum of Natural History of New York. He has but recently returned from the scene of his explorations, bringing data relating to the unearthing of an ancient city similar in many respects to Pompeii, though possibly much older. It is called Zatchila and is partly surrounded by many features resembling those of the northern part of antique Egypt, pyramids of similar structure but smaller being among them.

Among the relics of the ancient city that Mr. Saville brought back are included hieroglyphics, carvings and drawings of mural paintings, all of which bear a close resemblance to the old Egyptian style. The connection between this far-off American city and the seat of ancient civilization on the Nile is pronounced as having a profound significance; in fact, it may upset all previous theories of history. Some students of antiquity, like Dr. Augustus Le Plongeon, the eminent Yucatan excavator, declare that this latest discovery proves, as stated, that the first civilization in the world grew up in that part of this continent.

We are advised that when Mr. Saville started on his expedition in October last, his object was merely to give

study to the illustrative inscriptions of the Montezuma sun god, desiring to know something more than is known of the Aztec races. While on his way to a temple near the town of Oaxaca, south of the City of Mexico, his attention was all at once drawn to projections above the surface of the ground, which proved to be the pyramids spoken of. This led to other excavation work, and in a reasonably short time walls of ancient masonry were discovered. These became quite numerous and extended out in tolerably regular order, being presumably the residences of the patrician element because of the great and grand scale on which they were constructed. Pottery of various kinds with inscriptions was abundant, and, as in the case first spoken of, some of these will be sent abroad for investigation and if possible interpretation.

Dr. Le Plongeon, in an article in the New York Journal, claims that Zatchila was inhabited by the Zepotecas, who lived 1,000 to 3,000 years ago. Back of these, he says, were the Mayas, who lived 10,000 years ago at least; these were the highest civilized of any of the races of this continent, being also, as he claims to have shown in his books, the oldest civilized race in the world. The doctor holds that theirs was the civilization that spread across the ocean to Egypt, Chaldea and India. He makes the following observations:

"If inscriptions have been found in this city of Zatchila resembling the Maya and Egyptian, it simply goes to show the extent of the Maya empire."

"The Zepotecan people who lived in this city of Xoko I think had fallen away from the higher and more ancient Maya civilization. But that they were still far above a savage state is shown by their tombs and temples which Mr. Saville has uncovered to some extent."

"All the buildings of which remains have been found were probably public buildings. The residences of the people undoubtedly were mere cottages of wood, or thatched stuff such as is common the world over in tropical countries."

Zatchila is pronounced one of the provinces of the former Maya empire. The divisions came about, as shown by inscriptions, through civil war and a feudal condition similar to that of medieval Europe sprang up. Of course it is impossible, at least at present, to tell even approximately the probable population of the ancient city, but it was perhaps not less than a million, and may have been a good many more than that. Later developments will prove interesting matter beyond a doubt.

THE FALL OF MANILA.

It now appears that not only Manila and environs were surrendered to the victorious American forces under Admiral Dewey and General Merritt, but that the entire Philippine group was delivered up. The peace protocol did not contemplate this, but that document was signed the day previous to the bombardment and taking of the city and the news of the agreement to cease hostilities had not yet reached the combatants. Circumstances beyond human control seem to have forced that far-away Spanish possession under the protection of the American flag, in spite of diplomacy and nervous remonstrances. Evidently "there is a divinity that shapes our ends, rough-hew it as we may."

The surrender of Manila greatly simplifies the labor of the peace commission. The protocol stipulated that the United States shall exercise control over the city, harbor and bay until some provision is made for the final disposition and government of the

islands. It was expected that Spain would consume much time on this point in the terms of peace, as long as her representatives could maintain that the Philippines were actually Spanish possession. The last victory of the Americans has rendered this position untenable and the only question now is whether the United States is willing to surrender what has been fairly won by American bravery. And if so, to whom shall the islands be given? To Spain or to the other European powers, to be divided between them?

The exploits of the American navy in Asiatic waters as well as of the forces of General Merritt are some of the most brilliant in modern warfare. The contest with Spain has closed in a burst of glory that will illuminate the pages of history throughout future generations.

A SOLDIER'S FUNERAL.

On Sunday afternoon at 4:30, in the Twentieth ward meeting house, the funeral rites will be held over the remains of Albert W. Luff Naisbitt, of whom mention has previously been made in these columns, and who died as a volunteer for the present Spanish-American war. He was the son of our well-known townspeople, Henry G. and Mary Ann Luff Naisbitt; was born Feb. 1, 1877, while his father was absent in the Millennial Star office of the British mission. The mother, of delicate constitution under unfavorable conditions, laid down her life soon after the birth of the boy, who was only raised by hand after much patience and care by Mrs. Lavina Luff, wife of Mr. Harry Luff, brother of the departed wife and mother; having no children of their own the motherless babe became the all-in-all of the foster-father and mother. As he grew to an unusually stalwart manhood, he was looked upon as the assured stay of their later years. They fondly looked for the possibilities of his married life and the little home adjacent to the parental roof was regarded as the place where peace and interest would center as the recompense for the sacrifices and anxieties of many years. Under the conditions no wonder that indulgence was more or less undue, and when the wish was expressed to join Capt. Caine's cavalry volunteers and leave this city for Manila, consent was given with broken-hearted anticipation that he might escape the accidents of war and return in peace to his home.

The boy sadly regretted that along with his corps he could not go to the front, for he looked upon a bullet-riddled body in the line of duty as more in keeping with the purposes of his enlistment than possible death by miasmatic or climatic influences incident to location. For four weeks in the post hospital of the Presidio reservation he received all the attention possible. Major Mousley, the ranking physician, held his to be a peculiar case. Doubtless disappointment and (as with many others) perchance home-sickness had its share in the final issue. Typhoid pneumonia supervened upon the malarial fever, but he never became delirious or unconscious, looking forward to within an hour of death to a brief furlough and then return to his company, now doing duty in the Yosemite park.

"Will" was beloved by all his associates. He was idolized at home. He was true to his country, to his comrades, to his faith, to his God, and the last relic of his brief life is a copy of the Lord's prayer, written just before his departure with a steady hand. His last words were to Comrade Peterson, who occupied the adjoining cot. Shaking his hand he said, "I think I am going—good bye." "No," was the reply, "your doctor says you will be all right