

**WHY THE ASSAULT?**  
Report has it that Mayor Bransford, yielding to the demands of the manipulators of the so-called "American" party machine, has asked Captain Burbridge to resign from his position on the police force. If the report is true, it is regrettable. As the Herald points out:

"Many citizens not generally in sympathy with the 'American' party voted for Mr. Bransford last fall under the impression that he would not submit to dictation from any faction, clique or newspaper. The fact that he has done so may give his party a temporary advantage, but it cannot fail to be disastrous in the end, not only to his party but to the City."

Captain Burbridge is accused of no offense. It was said that his resignation was requested because he had been attacked by a newspaper. But that is, surely, no reason. If every public servant were to step out of office whenever he becomes the object of an attack of vicious journalists, our government, both national and local, would not exist a day. We would certainly have no President, and we would have no governors, and no mayors, for no position is exempt from newspaper assaults. Captain Burbridge is admitted to be a good, faithful, and capable officer. He has been loyal to every chief under whom he has served. Why, then, should he be removed?

Captain Burbridge is a man who estimates his duty to the public at a higher value than party interests. The story goes that he was appointed a delegate to the last so-called "American" convention; that the appointment was made to test his party loyalty, and that he failed to fill the appointment. For this, it is said, his removal is demanded. The Captain, we take it, did not consider the police department a part of the "American" party machine. Will the general public regard that as a crime? We believe not. No city can afford to entrust the guardianship of public morals to an organization that exists for the furtherance of party interests. Any public officer, or employee, who must divert his attention from his official duties and devote his time and energies to the advocacy and promotion of any political party or any person who may be interested in a campaign, is not fit for his position. It has been well said in the Senate lately that an employee, desirous of taking part in a campaign, should give up his office, partisan activity being incompatible with the efficient performance of public duties, which concern citizens of all parties.

Politics cannot be permitted to penetrate the various branches of the government, without disastrous results. We are informed that politics in the Fire Department is costing the business men of this city about 25 per cent more in insurance than they ought to pay. It seems that information to this effect was forwarded, some time ago, to the proper officials, by insurance agents, who promised that much lower rate, if the department were organized as it ought to be. The business men are paying heavily for the policy of regarding the Fire Department as spoils to be distributed as rewards for political services. But the city would pay still more for an inefficient police force, which it is sure to have when appointments are not by merit, but by favor.

But, perhaps, the real reason why the slave drivers of the party demand Captain Burbridge's removal is this, that they are afraid of having anyone employed anywhere who is not with them in everything. We may infer this from what the party organ said some time ago when it demanded the removal from public office and employ of all not known to be solid party members. The organ called them "spies," intimating that certain secrets were to be guarded very closely. In view of this representation it would be just as well, perhaps, for the non-"American" members of the City Council to institute an investigation of the various departments, as well as the financial operations by which the City's money has been squandered to the extent that another loan issue is seriously talked about. If the so-called "American" party is anxious to make the City the victim of rotten party politics, it would be just as well for somebody who is in a position to do so, to demand an accounting, on behalf of the City.

It certainly is a mistake to make the administration of the affairs of any community subservient to political expediency. Does not the example of San Francisco convey any lesson to other cities? Political organizations and political tactics may be necessary for election purposes. They are thought necessary to secure the victory for principles in which a majority of citizens may believe. But when the election is over, the officers elected should recognize that they are the servants, not of a party, but of the community. They should recognize that if a political contest is not waged for principles but for "spoils," graft and corruption will surely result.

We have no special interest in the retention of Captain Burbridge on the police force. But here is a capable officer and a popular gentleman who is as well known for no other reason than the craving of fanaticism for a victim in order for some favorite may be rewarded for political services. Against this we protest in the name of decency. We would protest, were the intended victim a Catholic, a Protestant, a

Jew, a Mohammedan, or what not. Religion does not enter into this discussion at all. If the resignation of the Captain ever reaches the Council we hope there are members enough in that body to vote independently, to prevent an outrage which is sure to return some time with interest to the perpetrators.

Since the above was written, "friends of the Mayor," in a newspaper interview, have offered an explanation to the effect that Mr. Bransford had been deceived, presumably by the manipulators of the party machine, into believing that there was discord in the department, and that Captain Burbridge was responsible for this. The inference is that the Mayor, having become convinced that the party leaders had made him the victim of gross imposition, has decided not to demand the resignation of the captain.

We can readily believe the charge of deception. The entire party movement was started by means of misrepresentations and falsehoods. The leaders of that movement are experts in such tactics. By the grossest falsehoods concerning Church interference in politics and "hierarchal" plots, they induced voters to place them in power. No wonder if they rely on deception for the furtherance of their plans. But, what can honest men think of a cause that depends on deception for success?

**SCIENCE AND POETRY.**

Are science and poetry compatible in the same person?  
The modern belief that science is hostile to poetry must have become so widespread as it is because certain men, more or less eminent in one line of science, have been indifferent to and sometimes ignorant of the beautiful in literature. Men of wider scientific attainments have usually been much given to admiration of the diviner art of the poet. On the other hand, great poets and all great natures, from Lucretius down, have been profoundly impressed by scientific discoveries and speculations regarding the universe and the soul of man.

A posthumous article in *Figaro* from the late French astronomer M. Janssen, reveals how and why this scientist kept his mind open also to literature. He maintains that science and poetry represent the two greatest manifestations of the human spirit and argues that the time is now ripe for their "beautiful and fruitful" alliance. He cites the case of Gounod, a great musician and therefore a person of poetic temperament, who sought out Janssen to ask for a few lessons in the higher astronomy. One day, the discourse fell on Kepler's laws, and as Gounod grasped their theory, he was so much moved that he burst into tears, exclaiming, "How beautiful!"

The New York Post observes that so far as science wrote itself in Tennyson's verse, the result fell far short of Mr. Janssen's dream of poetry transfigured and made at once more vital and more beautiful by blending with the scientific spirit. Janssen could cry out, in one of his lectures on the chemistry of the heavens, "Oh, star, send me one of thy rays, and I will write thy history!" To very many, however, "star-eyed science" has in dubitably wafted back "a message of despair."

Scientific phrases and metaphors color the verse of Tennyson. It is true that some scientists have questioned the real extent of Tennyson's knowledge intimating that he had caught the jargon of science without really comprehending either its achievements or its spirit. But he at least was deeply affected by what he thought to be the dicta of science.  
It has been claimed that scientific conceptions such as the reign of the iron laws of nature the struggle for existence with the negative attitude towards proof of life beyond the grave, are fatal to poetry; that are not merely not susceptible of poetic treatment, but they eat into the heart of the poet, narrow his outlook, dull his hopes, and extinguish his enthusiasm; and that Tennyson himself shows that the effect of scientific study was not wholly inspiring to his verse.

But the natural man at his best, that is, the man of heart and feeling who is also educated, will ever be seeking the imaginative interpretation of life and the imaginative presentation of truth. The imagination is truly the queen of our intellectual faculties. In earlier days, reason was thought to be the highest faculty, but imagination is now given the precedence, as being more fruitful. Exercised in poetry, this faculty makes life and truth more vividly apprehended. Imagination conquers science, after the facts have become known, transmutes its message into one of hope and beauty, so that real knowledge wins its way to the inner soul of mankind.

All truth is one in the last analysis. Some time man, if true to his divine calling and destiny, must be able to understand and enjoy every form of truth and beauty—the "one life, one law, one beauty"—Tennyson's divine event toward which the whole creation moves.

**GERMANY'S FOOD PROBLEM.**

A German paper says that the price of meat in that country has risen till it is no longer a necessity, but only a luxury of life.  
Hundreds and thousands of persons there have learned to do without beef, while the consumption of horse-flesh steadily increases.  
New syndicates and combinations there as here are steadily reported in the German newspapers. Prices were abnormally high, and the government of Prussia faces an enormous deficit. There is rioting in the streets of Berlin, and the masses of the disfranchised are calling for a voice in the affairs of government. Imported food products are subject to high import duties in Germany. The aim of the taxes is protective—to support the agricultural interests so that part of the food can be profitably raised at home. It is estimated by the *Neue Deutsche Rundschau* that the increased price of wheat is about 100 million dollars by reason of the taxes on imported wheat.  
With arid land of the west lying idle, and the German masses short of food, why not let America help to feed

Germany by admitting American food products at lower rates. America's mission is largely to feed the world, and the dry farm wheat should contribute heavily to this great result.  
We are in favor of reciprocity treaties with Germany.

Not under two flags but under a flag stone is Ouida now.

"Old line Democrats" are really Mason and Dixon's line Democrats.

Governor Beckham realizes as never before how Tantalus suffered.

Long, long, after the forests are all gone politicians will continue to saw wood.

Why don't the Kentucky night riders try their hands at that senatorial deadlock?

It was an army of the unemployed without banners that descended upon Rockefeller's estate.

Those guilty of fraud and graft in the Pennsylvania capitol case deserve the most severe punishment.

Government ownership of railroads; government guarantee of bank deposits; too much government by consideration.

When a member of the police force is removed for "the good of the service," it shouldn't be understood that it is for the good of the public necessarily.

There are twelve thousand abandoned farms in the Empire state. For farmers there the motto seems to be, "Abandon farms all ye who enter here."

It is small statesmanship for a member of Congress to make a speech on the floor of the house about American helplessness marrying foreign noblemen.

The Philippine commissioners resident in Washington have been given the freedom of the floor of the senate. Independence may yet follow freedom.

Speaker Skaggs of the Nevada assembly denounced the police bill as pernicious, unconstitutional and Czar-like, predicting that all those who voted for it were digging their political graves. If they are, they will be most honorable graves.

Architect Hueston has disconcerted the plan of defense of the other defendants in the Pennsylvania capitol prosecutions by securing a separate trial. It is perfectly natural an architect should prefer his own plan, even of defense.

"I have seen many bank failures in the past thirty years, but all that I have ever known have had one and the same cause, namely, the management making loans directly or indirectly to itself," says Banker Forgan of Chicago. Of him it may truly be said, "A Daniel come to judgment."

**WORLD GETTING TOGETHER.**

Louisville Courier Journal.  
The wandering Briton has lifted the veil from the last of the lands of mystery by climbing the Himalayas, penetrating to the forbidden city of Lhasa, setting his profaning foot down in the sacred temples and frightening the grand lama into the brush. Somebody has been everywhere, except to the poles, and everybody knows everything by experience or hearsay. Gibraltar is nearer the middle west in 1907 than Hell Gate was in 1807. The Alhambra and the Ta Mahal are hardly further from the Mississippi than the White House was when it was built. The pyramids are much nearer Kansas than Bunker Hill was when the foundations of the fame were laid. In a little while the gyroscope may bring San Francisco within 12 hours from Broadway, but the difference between travel today and in the gyroscope epoch will not be greater than the difference between the travel in the present time and in the days when the traveler depended upon the windjammer upon the ocean and the stage coach or the trail upon land.

**LET NOT THE BACHELOR FEAR.**

Kansas City Journal.  
Leap year means nothing to a woman. She would not mind the advantage of its illusory and transitory advantages if this were her sole resource. The bachelor is a somewhat stupid animal, hardly game enough for pursuit. He is easily trapped—but even then he is generally easy. In his vanity he may imagine Cupid at his heels and himself in demand where maidens are supposed to languish, but in very truth he is a cult and often damaged goods. Leap year should have no terrors for him. A man who is not harvested to domesticity in three years need have no future fears for the fourth. Let him ponder on these things.

**PENNSYLVANIA'S DISGRACE.**

Philadelphia Press.  
The state capitol scandal is a grievous blot on the escutcheon of the state. Representatives of Pennsylvania in Congress had themselves exposed to the gibes and scoffs of members from other states on account of it. When Mr. Hamilton Moore was seeking an appropriation for a much-needed immigrant station in Philadelphia he was confronted by this slurring, irrelevant question from Mr. Edwards of Georgia: "I wish to ask the gentleman if its costs \$250,000 to erect a building for Philadelphia how much would it cost to erect one in Harrisburg?" This may pass for wit in the House of Representatives, but the speedy trial of the capitol defendants is the only way to quiet this scandal and protect Pennsylvania when outside of the state from taunts of this character.

**TALKING ABOUT THE FLEET.**

San Francisco Chronicle.  
Evidently the eastern press is of the same mind as that of Europe. It cannot get rid of the bogie of a Japanese war, which it has created for itself, but insists that it is bound to come. Meanwhile the editors are inconsistent enough to hammer the president for sending the fleet out to the Pacific and are demanding that it be ordered back at the earliest possible moment. If they really would like to have part of it back, they had better adopt a less warlike tone in discussing our oriental relations. Unless they do, the whole fleet will have to remain here to preserve the peace.

**A SERMONET FOR WORKERS**

(For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.)  
Some time ago, in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, an incident occurred which not only illustrates the insuperability of Irish wit, but renders also an indisputable principle in the attainment of success. Casey had been working at the bottom of a five hundred foot shaft, when a tremendous explosion brought him flying to the top in a cloud of dust and debris. The engineers crowded around him to ascertain the cause of the explosion, but Casey's only explanation was: "You can't keep a good man down!"  
And the biographies of many of our great men bristle with examples of genius that burst the bounds and bonds of seeming limitation. At the age of thirty Owen Kildare could neither read nor write, but nine years later finds him the author of several good books.  
Vice President Henry Wilson went to school only one month in every year, and at the end of eleven years of hard work, received as a recompense for his labors a yoke of oxen and six sheep, which brought him only eighty-four dollars. Before eight years had passed he made his famous anti-slavery speech in the Massachusetts Legislature, and four years later he found himself in Congress, to be followed by his being elected Vice-President.  
George W. Child, formerly at the head of the Philadelphia Ledger, started to work for two dollars per week.  
Eddie Foy began life as a news-boy. From the Greek Creon down to our present day conquerors of success, are thousands of proofs "that you can't keep a good man down!"

**JUST FOR FUN.**

**Theory and Practice.**  
The financier was explaining to the board why he had resolved to resign his position as president of the trust company.  
"The truth is, gentlemen," he said, "that I have built up a fine set of financial theories, but find them not designed for the wear and tear of use. I resign to protect their integrity."  
Tendering a vote of confidence, they let him go.—Philadelphia Ledger.

**Disappointed.**  
"I went to hear 'Il Trovatore' last night."  
"Fine opera."  
"Oh, shucks! Man, the hand-organs have been playing them tunes for years. I recognized 'em all!"—Pittsburgh Post.

**The Whole Problem.**  
Payment of one fare ought to entitle a passenger to one seat; yet a majority of people would rather stand inside a car and ride than stand on the sidewalk waiting for the next car.—Portland Oregonian.

**Unexpected.**  
"A modern drug store can supply all wants."  
"Had a fellow in here yesterday, though," declared the druggist, "who stumped me."  
"How was that?"  
"He had a prescription. They still bob up, it seems!"—Kansas City Journal.

**Hope.**  
"Do you expect to get anything out of your investment?"  
"Well," answered the man who is pretty well discouraged, "if the price of paper keeps on going up the stock certificates ought to be worth something!"—Washington Star.

Knicker—How do you know you will be accepted? Did you play poker with her father?  
Bocker—No; but I played bridge with her mother.—Puck.

Tommy—Pop, why do we call English the mother tongue?  
Tommy's Pop—To make it feminine, my son. It is so full of inconsistencies.—Philadelphia Record.

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Every Evening (except Sunday), 8:15, 75c, 50c, Box seats, \$1.00. Matinee daily (except Sunday and Monday), 2:15, 50c, 25c, 10c, Box seats, 75c.

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All men's, youths' and boys' clothes will be forced out at prices very little higher than the original cost to the tailors. Read these items carefully.  
All Mens Suits \$10.00 to \$18.00 values .....\$6.75  
Blacks included—No reserves.  
Young Men's Suits \$7.00 to \$15.00 values .....\$5.00  
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Men's Trousers Special \$1.25 to .....\$3.50  
Boy's Knee pants Special .....30c to 90c  
SALE STARTS FEBRUARY 1ST.  
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date two tenants if desired. Renting now for \$38.00 per month. Close in and on Center Street.  
\$3,200 Modern brick cottage of 5 rooms. A large unfinished attic, suitable for 3 extra bed rooms, on Third Avenue. Will make terms.  
\$3,150 Modern brick cottage, 5 rooms, on N street. Liberal terms.  
\$11,000 Good frame house with 4 rooms, First Avenue, Terrace.  
\$2,500 New brick house 2 rooms, on Second West. Large flowing well, good land for cultivation. \$500 cash, balance \$20.00 per month.  
\$2,000 Two story brick store building, in good location on Second West. A good dwelling on Penn street to exchange in part payment for a small farm.  
\$5,250 Will buy a good dwelling of 12 rooms and 6 1/2 rods of fine land, orchard, lawn, hedges, cement walk and out buildings all in fine condition. Good terms on this fine place. Is situated in Waterloo.  
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