

city enduring through long and fruitful periods everywhere. As previously suggested, when they exist in high places they achieve the greater part of their prominence by reason of their rarity. We have now in mind the case of Roger A. Pryor and wife of New York. On Tuesday of last week they celebrated their golden wedding. For fifty years they had been man and wife and still they are enjoying their honeymoon as happy and hopeful as when in the long ago they joined hands and hearts and unitedly began the high and holy mission of being and having an honorable family. At the golden wedding were present their entire posterity so far—two sons, four daughters and fifteen grandchildren.

Judge Pryor was at an early age elected to Congress. On the breaking out of the war he entered the service of the Southern Confederacy and became a brigadier general. He was

made a prisoner for some time. At the close of hostilities, with will, he removed to New York where, save his family and his indomitable will he removed to New York where, bringing up his long-neglected law books, he entered the arena with some of the greatest and brightest lawyers of the

His success was phenomenal and for several years he has been an occupant of the bench. All of his fellow judges and many other prominent people to the number of a thousand or more attended the festivities of Tuesday last and despite the election excitement prevailing, had an uninterrupted enjoyable time. Such a career as that of the Pryors should cause others to reflect upon the lines of the poet and profit thereby:

Lives of great men oft remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

THANKS, GENTLEMEN!

The "News" is in receipt of the subjoined complimentary letter, which needs no comment:

"Fort Douglas, Utah, Nov. 15, 1898.

Your editorial in last evening's paper on the race problem in the South is one that meets the hearty approval of all the race-loving members of the Twenty-fourth infantry.

"During all my career in the regiment, I have never heard a newspaper article so highly complimented as has been the one mentioned above. Not because it was a surprise, because we knew the sentiments of your paper too well, but it is because you seem to be alone (among Salt Lake City papers) in your fight for liberty and justice.

"The Tribune, from which we expected so much, has not even condemned the actions of those lawless mobs in the South. Not one word of condemnation has appeared in its columns. If that is Republicanism, may God deliver me from any such party. Murder and arson, all over the election of a Republican, and yet the leading paper of that party, in the State, refuses to say one word in condemnation of the outrages. Shame!

A MEMBER OF THE 24th.

A TROUBLOUS TASK.

Is this to be or not to be recorded in history as the last day of the peace commission's joint assembly? It is not known at this hour, but it seems hardly probable that the first of the propositions is the one that will prevail, but so elusive are apparently forecasted determinations these days that the most that anything of the kind amounts to is mere conjecture. Especially is this the case when Spanish

evasion and procrastination are confronted with Yankee forbearance and good nature. It is now given out that the Spanish members of the commission dare not sign a treaty of peace, particularly one giving Spain no indemnity or a merely nominal one, because doing so would not only end their political career but might, we are to infer, end their mortal career as well besides being somewhat in the nature of an incentive to revolution through the Carlists, who are more than ever on the alert and only awaiting a favorable opportunity to pounce down upon the denuded and crippled government.

This is all very sad. When men presumably invested with plenary power to conclude peace within certain lines are made to understand toward the last, when all the terms have been placed before them, that if they concur they will have trouble at home that cannot be easily disposed of, it shows a bad state of affairs. It is bad for us, too, but still it is a lesson which with all our smartness was apparently needed. It has shown us that in dealing on equal terms with a power which possesses no stability and whose plenipotentiaries are simply so many jumping jacks the strings upon which are held in Madrid and pulled at the dictation of an ignorant and a priest-ridden populace, we get only what we bargained for and consented to when it all falls. It also shows us that in concluding a business transaction, especially one in which nations are the parties, it is a serious matter to leave a feature of it—especially when this happens to be the most important feature—to what in the present lights can properly be called a game of hazard.

It ought to be, and doubtless from this time on will be understood that war is war and that no other term defines it. It is by no means a pastime or anything to be encouraged or desired. It is the last argument to which nations are presumed to resort, and when it comes it comes with thunderbolts, earthquakes, blackened skies emitting fierce and merciless lightnings and groaning volcanoes belching forth consuming flames. It means destruction, rapine, bloodshed, suffering, sorrow and distress. The loser in such a monstrous convulsion of animate nature has nothing to hope for but what the winner sees fit to grant, and this is also understood. Spain was crushed into helplessness and a suppliant for mercy at our feet. If we had then acted upon our understanding of what war amounts to and made it truly the last of the arguments in the case, all would doubtless have ended months ago and both nations be now profoundly at peace with no disturbing rumors from Paris or elsewhere to mar the serenity of the situation. Then the terms, merciful and just as coming from Americans they would have been, would have met with an appreciative welcome as being just so much more than any other great power would have extended and so much more than the vanquished had any right to expect.

It was another mistake to suppose the Spanish were so much unlike the races preceding them out of which they grew and between whom and the advanced peoples of the present day they form the connecting link. The Roman only wanted to get his hand within an enclosure to soon have his entire person therein, to set his foot upon forbidden soil to all at once stamp a force of men out of the ground and take possession. To concede is to encourage;

to smite and blast and subjugate is to make secure. But why enlarge upon this theme? The wrong is done and it seems to look as if it were a case such as that defined by Hamlet when he takes his first murderous step, "thus bad begins and worse remains behind." Spain now seems to think she has, under a strict construction of international law, a right to be restored to her former possessions at the other side of the Pacific and that if the United States takes them it must be in the same way that it would obtain territory from any other nation, by purchase. They have been encouraged into this; that is, they have received no discouragement since hostilities ceased, and this with the Latin races is generally construed as encouragement. As a result we have what at this writing seems to be the fruitless bickerings of a commission for three months—a commission met to reopen and resettle a question which was, in the judgment of all the nations in the world, Spain included, practically settled at Santiago. So more ships and more men are wanted at Manila; perhaps also some will be sent to the other side of the Atlantic before it is all over.

STILL DRAGGING ALONG.

It has been freely charged by some of the Democratic papers of the country that the administration was purposely prolonging or causing to be prolonged the peace negotiations at Paris until after the elections of last week. This charge seems to be composed of the stuff dreams are made of. The proceedings of the joint commission are going ahead just as fast as and no faster than before, and, so long as the dilatory tactics of the dons are tolerated, as fast as they are likely to for some time. The New York World of Wednesday last has a special dispatch from Washington stating that it was learned from high authority that the result of the elections would have no effect whatever on the peace negotiations, and thus it certainly seems to be.

The dispatch goes on to say that the advices so far received are encouraging, that a break in the proceedings is not expected, and the administration is looking for a peaceful solution in a short time. It also shows that the foreign bondholders are moving at last to protect their interests in Cuba and Porto Rico. Through the French embassy there has been presented to the state department an account of the Spanish bonds owned by French citizens chargeable against the territories either seized or set free by the act of the United States government. These bonds run up far into the millions. Just what it is expected will be done with them is not made clear. The United States government of course will not pay them, but it may be that the French government looks to it to cause the independent government of Cuba to assume the liability.

Those who have been at a loss to understand why so many meetings have been held and so much time was consumed in arriving at practically nothing, can get from the foregoing at least a glimpse of some of the causes. After all, there has been and may yet be a great many things to go over and settle; and perhaps it is the case that a subject in chief is no sooner disposed of than an auxiliary subject immediately comes to the surface to take the place of the other. Still, we would all feel better regarding the subject if fewer recesses were taken and the business in hand were brought to an early termination.

The senatorial question is becoming interesting. It has been so to a few for some time.