

DAILY NEWS

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OUR AMBITION.

A Graphic Pen Picture of the Foremost Soldier of the Age.
"Caliban," in Cincinnati Enquirer.

Let us suppose a case for example.

We will take a man, if you please, who feels that he has been rather at a disadvantage in his contest with the world up to early middle life. He has not grown rich, as many have who started out in life with him; he has not grown famous in law or politics or letters, as others have; his military education, instead of being an advantage to him, has been rather a detriment, by keeping him out of avocations that he might otherwise have sought; he is poor and industrious in his way; but he sees his family growing up around him without being able to realize just how he is going to educate them as he has been educated or bring them up as he would wish them brought up. This, we can say, kills up the era of Doubt.

Suddenly a war breaks out, and this man who has been blamed for his inactivity or his want of thrift finds genius of his kind in active demand. He volunteers his services to the army for anything—wages or position no object—and is put in command of a regiment. He marches at the head of his regiment; helps to win a little battle or two, and is put in command of a brigade. Then he takes a fort or two, and is given a division of the army. He doesn't devote his time to proclamations or general orders, but sticks to the business of fighting, and in less time than three years has command of the entire Western army, and has opened the Mississippi river to the Gulf. Then he is called to the East to take charge of the armies there. He hasn't been seen hanging around the lobbies at Washington, asking for proportion, any time, has he? His most influential friends at Washington are his victories in the West. If he is ambitious to take the Eastern army it is a strange ambition, because it has thrown every body who has had it. Still, he does take charge there and somehow the luck changes. He wins victories instead of losing armies. The war is closed while he is there, and he comes out the Lieutenant-General, a military position which had been held by only one before, and that one Washington. Yet he may be ambitious. Presently they talk of making this man President, but the doubt arises as to which political party he belongs. The Republicans, caring nothing for so small a matter as that, nominate and elect him—nominate him, in fact, before he has signified his willingness to be their candidate or to give up his General's commission. Then, at the end of the four years, the same party re-nominate him by acclamation, and he is again elected. At the end of his term he goes abroad, travels round the world, in fact, and is every-where greeted as the representative man of the Western Hemisphere, as the foremost captain of his age. Still he returns home, and though feted and honored every-where, he persists in declaring that no one is authorized to present him for another term. Instead of that, he moves off to an out-of-the-way country town to get away from the excitement, he says, and to be quiet.

This is briefly what Grant has done. If it be ambitious in him, then all our previous ideas of ambition are at fault. If scheming, then the scheming must be played so fine as to be undiscernable to the naked eye. Now, I don't want to see Grant re-elected President, or re-nominated for that position. I believe it would be a mistake of the party doing such a thing which they would never cease to regret. It would be a bad precedent for our form of Government. It isn't the soldier who is needed now. Take away the sword. States can be ruled without it. We are not wanting a "strong" Government, so called, at this time, or will of iron to direct affairs. We have no provinces to be ruled, but instead we have States, equal in power and privilege. Grant isn't the kind of a man to govern by diplomacy.

But of all things let us stop this talk of his ambition. If we can't make out another charge than that against him than that, we had better let him take his chance in the great "free for all" race of 1880. There is some doubt whether an indictment against him on that count would hold good when it came up before the people on trial.

SECRETARY SHERMAN expects to reduce the public debt this month eight or nine millions of dollars.

Ad Aeneas Price's Wedding.

I must pass over a long period in the life of Master M. with the mere remark that he graduated in both his military and religious classes with the highest honors, and acquitted himself to the most perfect satisfaction of both the alfalquia, or priests, and the teacheauas, which is nearly the same as our word teachers.

Master M. had, for a long time cherished a hope that some day he might press the throne as king of Mexico. So like the Yorkshire lad who begged salt of a stranger eating eggs near him, so as to have the salt ready in case any one should ask him to accept an egg, he prepared himself fully for the possible emergency, and became not only a military general but a leading alfalqui.

And then he married. I have not room to give you a detailed description of the whole ceremony—its crowds, and fuss, and grandeur—but here is a glimpse of the way it was done.

A lady whose position in society required her to negotiate the match, having previously made all the necessary arrangements, one evening hoisted the happy damsel on her back, and accompanied by four young women, each in appropriate costume, bearing a torch, headed the joyous procession and marched to the house of Master M., where she dropped her cargo of precious humanity. Then the alfalqui asked them if they were mutually agreed on matrimony, and, of course, they said "yes" when he proceeded to tie their clothes together. Then two old patriarchs and two good old grandmothers stepped forward in a very solemn manner, and delivered little sermons suited to the occasion. The new couple walked seven times round a blazing fire, partook of a feast with their friends, heard a final sort of a "ninety-ninthly and to conclude" parting word from the four old people, and then, just as all married people do, went to housekeeping, and having their own way as much as possible. One thing they could not do. There was no law of divorce to appeal to then; death was the only judge who could entertain the question of separation.

Master M. will now disappear to reappear as the Emperor. In the year "ten rabbits," or A. D. 1502, the former monarch died, and the electors selected Master M. to supply his place. In the household of each monarch there was an electoral board of four nobles, whose duty it was, on the death of the ruler, to elect his successor from among the sons and nephews of the crown. Having done this and so notified the successor, they selected four nobles to fill their own places, and vacated their electoral chairs. Master M. when waited upon to be notified of his election to fill his uncle's place, was very busy sweeping down the stairs in the great temple dedicated to the god of war!

A Romance Among the Reds.

There passed down on the train the other day, says the Winona (Minn.) Republican, an aged but smart looking lady, between sixty and seventy years of age, having with her a little child about two years old, whose dark complexion unmistakably betokened Indian origin, and naturally excited some curiosity. The lady was communicative, and told a story filled with romance. She was a widow, with an only son living in Connecticut. Her boy grew to be a young man, and, filled with a love of adventure, he forsook the parental roof and came west. His rovings at last led him to Bismarck, Dakota territory, where he became interested with Indian traders and finally married the daughter of a chief, the fruit of the union being one child. At length, in an engagement with hostiles, the young man was killed. The sad news in due time reached his mother. She was almost disconsolate in her grief. With true maternal affection she at once resolved to search for her son's child, and, if possible, find in it an object upon which she might bestow her care and motherly love. Forthwith she journeyed to Minnesota. The difficulties in the way formed no barrier to her New England energy. Her diligent inquiries along the Northern Pacific railroad brought to her acquaintance a man who had known her son. For fifty dollars he offered to find the squaw who had been her son's wife. Without going into details of the search it is sufficient to say that the tribe of Indians was found, and with it the squaw and the child. When the lady first saw her grandchild she thought she could discern in his features a resemblance to her son, but when the little one was in the midst of a number of Indian children, it was hard to discover much difference. Nevertheless, the grandmother of the dusky little half breed was bent on having him brought up under the gentle influence of Connecticut civilization, and she quieted her compunctions of bartering in human flesh by the exigencies of the case and the gift of six sacks of flour to the bereaved Indian widow. The old lady departed with her newfound treasure, as happy as a boy with a new toy. She fondled the little Sioux with indescribable affection, and the little chap responded by making his doting grandma buy him all the peaches and pears that the train boy offered. The picture of youth and old age seldom has more romance done up in a couple than was here presented. It will not be surprising one of these days to hear of that cultivated little savage pulling with the Harvard crew.

A German oculist rented a cottage at Cape May, and soon found that he was paying an exorbitant price for it. His landlord was also his milkman. One morning when the milkman came along the oculist looked him in the face and asked: "What is the matter with your right eye, my friend?" The milkman said he did not know that anything was the matter with it, but he was frightened. Next morning he asked the oculist to examine the eye. The latter pronounced it very bad, and said that in less than six months that eye would be blind. The oculist treated him and easily cured him, for there was nothing the matter with him. Then it was a race between the rent and the oculist's bill; but the oculist won.

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THE AMENDMENTS.

What They Are and Why the People of Indiana Should Vote for Them.
To the People of Indiana.

Seven important amendments to the constitution of Indiana have been agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses of the General Assemblies of 1877 and 1879, and by an act of the last General Assembly, approved March 10th, 1879, these said amendments are to be submitted to the electors of the State of Indiana for ratification or rejection at an election to be held on the first Monday in April 1880. The law providing for the submission of these amendments to the electors of the State enacts that "The Secretary of State shall procure ballots of blue paper on each of which shall be printed the proposed amendments, and below each amendment shall be printed the word 'Yes' in one line, and in another line the word 'No'; that any qualified elector may vote for or against any amendment by depositing one of said ballots in the ballot-box. If he intends to vote for any amendment he shall leave thereunder the word 'Yes' and erase the word 'No' by drawing a line across it, or otherwise. If he intends to vote against any amendment, the word 'Yes' shall in a like manner be stricken out and the word 'No' left; and if both words are allowed to remain without either of them being so erased, the vote shall not be counted either way." These amendments are designated by numbers, and are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9, numbers 7 and 8 having failed to receive a majority of the votes of both branches of the last General Assembly. The ratification of each of these amendments is of such vital importance to the future well-being and prosperity of the people of Indiana as to justify a special effort in their behalf by every one having these objects at heart. They are mainly confined to the subjects of economy and honest elections.

AMENDMENT NO. 1.

Amend section two of article two so as to read as follows:

"Section 2. In all elections not otherwise provided for by this Constitution, every male citizen of the United States of the age of 21 years and upwards, who shall have resided in the State during the six months, and in the township 60 days, and in the ward or precinct 30 days immediately preceding such election, and every male of foreign birth, of the age of 21 years and upwards, who shall have resided in the United States one year, and shall have resided in the State during the six months, and in the township 60 days, and in the ward or precinct 30 days immediately preceding said election, and shall have declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, conformably to the laws of the United States on the subject of naturalization, shall be entitled to vote in the township or precinct where he may reside, if he shall have been duly registered according to law."

As the Constitution now stands, no fixed period of residence is required in a town ship or ward before voting, and no barriers against fraudulent voting can be maintained. When this amendment is adopted, one whose vote is challenged will have to swear that he has been a resident of the township 60 days, and of the ward or precinct 30 days, and thus the importation of votes and frauds upon the ballot box may be measurably prevented. No one can object to this amendment who favors fair and honest elections.

AMENDMENT NO. 2.

simply provides for striking out the words:

"No negro or mulatto shall have the right of suffrage" contained in section five of the second article of the Constitution.

And thereby conforming the constitution of Indiana to the Constitution of the United States. The prohibition as it stands in the constitution of Indiana today is a dead letter.

AMENDMENT NO. 3.

Amend section 14 of the second article to read:

"Section 14. All general elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, but township, elections may be held at such time as may be provided by law. Provided, that the General Assembly may provide by law for the election of all judges of courts of general and appellate jurisdiction by an election to be held for such officers only, at which time no other officers shall be voted for; and shall also provide for the registration or all persons entitled to vote."

The arguments in favor of this amendment are mainly those of economy. The cost of holding a general election in Indiana is about \$1,000 to the county, or nearly \$100,000. By this amendment the State is saved the expense of double elections on Presidential election years. But this is not all. The other States of the Union having nearly all changed the time of their elections to November, as long as Indiana continues to vote in October she assumes the heat and burden of the Presidential day. In 1876, counting money expended and time devoted to it, the October election cost the people of Indiana over \$1,000,000, which expense was avoided by the States that did not vote until November. This amendment is clearly in the interest of economy and business prosperity. Business in the State is utterly demoralized for three months when the State is compelled to bear the brunt of the Presidential campaign.

AMENDMENT NO. 4.

amends by striking the word "white" from sections 4 and 5 of article 4, conforming the same to the Constitution of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 5.

amends the 14th clause of section 22 of article 4 to read as follows:

"In relation to fees and salaries, except the laws may be so made as to grade the compensation of officers in proportion to the population and the necessary services required.

This provision will enable the General Assembly to grade the compensation of county officers and pay them in proportion to the population of the county and the services actually required. It will take away from the General Assembly the excuse now urged for paying exorbitant fees and salaries to such officers, which are out of all proportion to the compensation given for similar services in other avocations. We cannot see why it should meet with any opposition from the people.

AMENDMENT NO. 6.

The following amendments proposed to:

Amend section 1 of the 7th article to read:

Section 1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in a Supreme Court, Circuit Courts, and such other courts as the General Assembly may establish.

The words "such other courts" are substituted for the words "such inferior courts," enabling the Legislature to establish other courts not inferior in jurisdiction to the Circuit Court, and to establish a perfect system of jurisprudence which will greatly reduce expenses and at the same time facilitate business.

AMENDMENT NO. 9.

No political or municipal corporation in this State shall ever become indebted, in any manner, or for any purpose, to an amount in the aggregate exceeding two per centum on the value of the taxable property within said corporation, to be ascertained by the last assessment for State and county taxes, previous to the incurring of such indebtedness, and all bonds or obligations in excess of such amount given by such corporations shall be void; provided that in time of war, foreign invasion, or other great public calamity, on petition of a majority of the property owners, in number and value, within the limits of such corporation, the public authorities, in their discretion, may incur obligations necessary for the public protection and defense, to such amount as may be requested in such petition.

If this amendment had been passed 20 years ago the State of Indiana would have been \$10,000,000 better off to-day. There has been literally no embargo upon the schemes of plunder which have beset the towns, cities and counties of the State. This provision is designed to protect the taxpayers and limit the amount that may be assessed against them, and to which these municipalities may be burdened with debt.

The Republicans of Indiana are fully committed to all of these amendments, and the better class of the Democratic party also favored them in the last General Assembly. They are all measures of reform looking to the protection of the ballot-box and to the protection of the taxpayers of the State against excessive burdens. They should teach and every one of them be adopted by the electors of the State by not less than one hundred thousand majority.

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