

The Independent

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ABUSE VS. ARGUMENT.

A man who can see through the narrow, contracted peepholes utilized by the present editor of the official organ of the republican party in Marshall county, along political lines, and see things as this man Brooke does, is all right, in his own estimation and of a few who worship at the same shrine. We do not intend to enter into a lengthy debate through the columns of THE INDEPENDENT in attempting to refute the personal attacks made by this Christian gentleman, but will give a few pointers regarding the article that appeared in his sheet yesterday. When a man, be he democrat or republican, stoops to villify another regarding a position assumed, especially along municipal lines, he casts aside every vestige of true manhood. Especially is this a fact when it comes to the present subject participated in by this man Brooke. In the position taken by THE INDEPENDENT regarding the Fourth ward matter we presented our views upon the subject from the standpoint of a citizen of Plymouth, and not that of a political wire puller, like this would-be editor. It makes but little difference to the people of Plymouth what position he may assume regarding this case, for it is well known that, whether right or wrong, he would follow the directions pointed out by the few whom he serves.

THE INDEPENDENT in its statement regarding the Fourth ward political jugglery, represented the voice of the greater portion of the people. Politically the proposition met with bitter opposition.

THE INDEPENDENT's idea as to who is in the wrong is well known and it has been our belief, in accordance with the decision of the supreme court, that the republicans would win this suit. And granting, for argument's sake, that the democrats did unfairly dishonestly if you wish—create this Fourth ward, yet then, from a purely non-partisan standpoint, THE INDEPENDENT was assuming a position that would produce the greatest results for harmony, if the opposing forces would honestly attempt to settle the differences for the sake of the people of Plymouth. The whole thing, from first to last, has been a scheme to control the city council, the people not being considered.

As for our being a "chump,"—well, we may be for entering into a newspaper controversy with such a nonentity as the editor of the Republican. As to being a "mischief maker," we throw the lie in his teeth.

It is an easy matter for a man like Brooke to come up from the rank of common every-day men and step into the editorial shoes of a man who has built up a business; it is an easy matter to let other brains and a pair of scissors fill the columns of an established journal; but if this man Brooke, with his narrow, meagre and disordered brains, were compelled to rely upon his own ability as a newspaper man and political writer, he would, in a short time, be relegated to the rear as a prehistoric curiosity. He would become a "reminiscence."

We want it distinctly understood that we favor anything that pertains to the welfare of our city, and THE INDEPENDENT proposes to fight for the rights of the people, and there is no political "pap" in it, either.

If the clouds of the Fourth ward muddle be cleared away, all heart burnings and hard feelings swept aside, and our city settle down to a peaceful prosperous growth, we venture the assertion that it will not be through the efforts of the two old party organs.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

The young fellow at Goshen who attempted to play a practical joke on his best girl, will have considerable to meditate over for several days to come. He rang the door bell then quietly stepped inside of the hall. When his love arrived in the dark hall he caught her in his arms and smothered her cry for assistance with passionate kisses. After releasing her he laughingly entered the parlor, and it is said his blood congealed, when he recognized his would-be mother-in-law. It is said icicles now accumulate on the door jams of that residence when the young man approaches.

Subscribe for the INDEPENDENT,

Tries to Hit Us Hard.

The would-be brilliant paragrapher of the Republican utilizes a great deal of his space, generally taken up by plates, to hold THE INDEPENDENT up to ridicule, this week, for errors committed in referring to local happenings. In the first, regarding the burning of the Presbyterian church at Michigan City; and secondly, the citing of friends who had been visiting relatives in Plymouth. His first conglomeration reverted back on his own soft pate, showing that he had made a greater error than THE INDEPENDENT. In the second he may be right, but we were given the information by one who was supposed to know, and a misunderstanding between the parties interested caused the error.

The fact of the matter is, it was not the error committed that caused the accumulation of bile upon the stomach of the dyspeptic editor of the Republican, but the numerous subscribers lost from his list and placed upon the roll of the progressive people's paper. While THE INDEPENDENT is always anxious to get the news and publish it correctly, there is considerable difference between utilizing a whole week and that of giving the every day events as they occur. The proper thing for Brooke to do is to keep quiet along these lines, for every time he makes a kick he shows the cloven hoof that is not a representative of a Christian spirit nor the keeping of the precepts of the "Golden Rule."

Telephones and Trolleys.

A telephone circuit is to be constructed along all the lines of the trolley car system in Hartford, Conn., and its suburbs, so that the conductors may communicate with the power-house and the car dispatcher in case of accident or delay. A telephone wire will be strung on the trolley poles, and at every eighth pole there will be a switch for making connections. Each car will carry a transmitter. It is expected that the device will prove of great utility and convenience, and will do much to prevent accidents and delays on the single-track lines that run long distances into the suburbs. The device is the invention of W. C. Fielding of Hartford. It ought, at least, to prove of great service in relieving the minds of the passengers and the strain on the conductor when the power is suddenly shut off and the car halted, and everyone wants to know just what the trouble is. There is no more exasperating situation of utter helplessness than to be halted in a trolley car a mile or two outside the city line, and not be able to gain the slightest idea of why the power has been shut off or when it is likely to be turned on again. Not a few suburbanites have been brought near to insanity of a violent type by just such a situation of trying uncertainty.

Would Mention It Next Time.

Dr. Chalmers, the eminent divine, was fond of telling the following story: "Lady Betty Cunningham, having had some difference of opinion with the parish minister, instead of putting her usual contribution in the collecting-plate merely gave a stately bow. This having occurred several Sundays in succession the elder in charge of the plate at last lost patience and blurted out: 'We rad dæ w' less o' yer manners an' mair r' yer siller, ma leddy.' Dining on one occasion at the house of a nobleman he happened to repeat the anecdote, whereupon the host, in a not-over-well-pleased tone, said: 'Are you aware, Dr. Chalmers, that Lady Betty is a relation of mine?' 'I was not aware, my lord,' replied the doctor, 'but with your permission I shall mention the fact next time I tell the story.'

Keeping Boarders.

It is the table only that counts for much; if that is satisfactory almost any other neglect or shortcoming will be pardoned. What these tables lack is variety and care, and those two things are the chief requisites of the average boarder. The supply of food is usually sufficient and expensive, but it is hideously monotonous, and it is often very badly cooked. The landlady complains of the boarder (using the generic term) as a fault-finder whom it is impossible to satisfy. May one of the same boarders gently suggest that she has not many times seen the attempt of satisfaction tried? There is ample cause for inserting that there is money to be made by keeping boarders. If one is willing to work hard at it there never will be a time when the pay was more certain than it is at present.

Concerning the Witness.

"My good woman," said the learned judge, "you must give an answer in the fewest possible words of which you are capable to the plain and simple question whether you were crossing the street with the baby on your arms and the omnibus was coming down on the opposite side and the cab on the left and the brougham was trying to pass the omnibus, you saw the plaintiff between the brougham and the cab, or whether and when you saw him at all, and whether or not near the brougham, and which of them, respectively, or how it was."

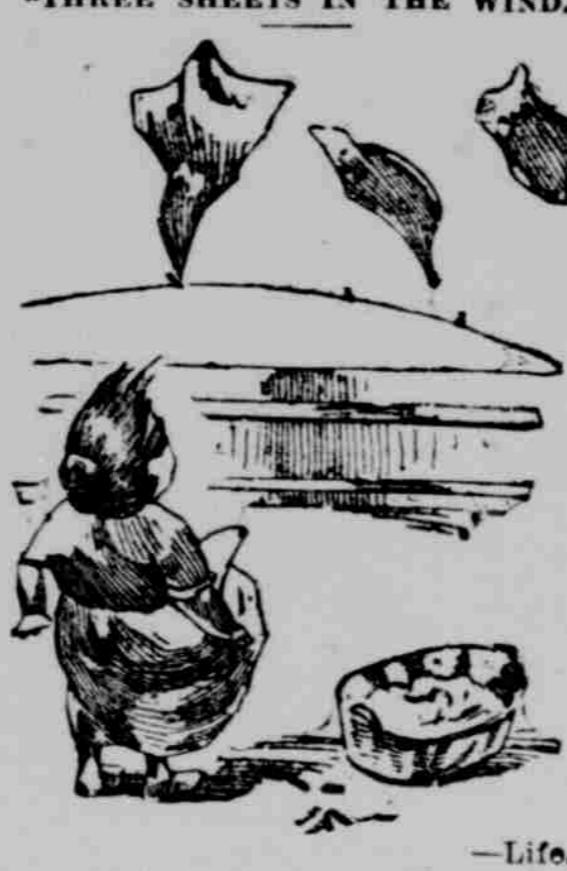
Praying for the Voters.

Women made a new political move in Olympia, Wash., last week. There was an election there on Wednesday, and on that day and for a few days previous an advertisement appeared in the Olympian asking "the women of Olympia" to meet at the Presbyterian church, at 9:30 on election morning, "for earnest prayer that the voters may be guided by Almighty God in the selection of candidates for city offices."

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THREE SHEETS IN THE WIND.



AMERICAN COMMERCIAL POLICY

The Holding of a Pan-American Congress Approved in the South

Citizens of Florida who have been holding at Jacksonville, in that state, a convention to endorse and urge action in favor of the construction of the Nicaragua ship canal, took action in favor of an unflinching maintenance by the government of a distinctive American policy, says the New York Picayune.

Besides the demand for the canal, the convention favored an early reassembling of a pan-American congress to formulate means intended to produce the permanent peace, independence and prosperity in and to protect all American territories from foreign invasion, interference or control; to promote commercial intercourse, and to provide for the settlement of all differences that may arise between American republics.

The convention also urges the establishment of international railway and steamship intercourse and connection between the republics and the territory allied thereto, as well as the promotion of adequate banking and exchange facilities and commercial and business relations to the end that all American republics may reap the full benefit of the various resources and industries to their betterment, now so largely directed into foreign hands.

Congress should take the cue. Now is the time to take such action as will secure a proper hold upon the commerce of Central and South America, and this can only be done by close trade association by means of ample transportation and banking facilities. For this country to assert a political American policy, and not to follow it up by a corresponding commercial policy, mutually beneficial to all the American countries, would be the height of absurdity.

The second edition of "A Tale of Two Nations," issued by the Coin Publishing Co., has been issued and is ready for delivery. It is a book that should be in the hands of every American.

Ruskin and Science.

One of the worst enemies of science is Mr. Ruskin. When Agassiz published his book on "Fossil Fishes," which was deemed of such importance in determining the relative ages of the strata in which they were found that the United States government contributed to the expense of publication, Mr. Ruskin, in "Praeterita," vol. 2, p. 112, said that "Agassiz was a mere blockhead to pay for all that good drawing of the nasty, ugly things and that it didn't matter a stale herring whether they had any names or not," a piece of criticism written with the pen of ignorance. But what shall we say when we see the same writer speaking of "little Mr. Faraday" finding a hydrocarbon oil in heaven which makes a stink. (I quote from memory.) Surely, if ever a man was great both as a man and an explorer of nature's mysteries it was the blacksmith's son who made his way from the position of a little newsboy to that of the greatest experimentalist that ever lived.—Notes and Queries.

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Not in Shakespeare.

Baby.==

Sighing, crying,
Night and day,
Winking, blinking,
Full of play;
But *Castoria* drives
The pain away.

Boy.==

Fooling, schooling,
Getting tall,
Growing, rowing,
Playing ball;
Take 'Hoos',
That's all.

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