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MCKINLEY'S POSITION.

REPRESENTED AS BEING THE GREAT ARBITER OF WAR.

Holds Balance of Power.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun refers at length to the much discussed question of an alliance between Great Britain and the United States. He says: "It has come to pass that Great Britain especially, and to some extent European diplomacy, as a whole, no longer regards the Spanish-American crisis, the far Eastern crisis, and the West African crisis as separate and distinct issues. These questions are now looked upon as interwoven factors in a political situation which threatens the peace of the world. The decision of the point whether this is a true view rests solely with President McKinley. His power and responsibility in shaping human destinities is greater at the present moment than has fallen to the lot of any man in this generation."

"There is danger that the attention of the American people may be too much concentrated upon the Cuban-Spanish affairs with which they are more directly concerned. Europe regards these troubles as of little intrinsic interest as compared with the incalculable importance to the whole human race of the Titanic struggle which threatens to involve all the nations of Europe and Asia. The worst outcome of the Spanish-American difficulties will be a brief war, wherein the United States has nothing to gain except a sense of disagreeable duty faithfully performed. It is a simple truism in politics to say that vastly greater issues hang upon the American policy with regard to the fate of China than anything the United States may do concerning Cuba and Spain. It is now almost true that nothing short of a distinct and decisive American endorsement of the British policy in the Far East can avert a collision between England and her continental rival. I say almost, because it is not yet quite clear whether Russia and France are convinced that Great Britain is in earnest that she will go to war rather than permit the partition of China or the closing of British markets there. This doubt, if it exists, will soon be removed, for the Salisbury Government has taken means to carry conviction to the most sceptical diplomatists on this point. Then, and the time cannot be long delayed, the Franco-Russian attitude will change or the war which these countries, by their recent policy, have almost been inviting will come."

RUSSIA WILL HANG BACK.

"Most observers are inclined to believe that Russia will manage to postpone the fatal day, for her present unpreparedness despite her ultimate intentions is notorious. On the other hand, if Great Britain is convinced that the conflict is inevitable, sooner or later, it will be greatly to her interest to force the issue. The British war preparations for months past have been on a vastly larger scale and more thorough than the present measures undertaken in the United States. There is need of no argument on this situation to demonstrate the vast importance of the American attitude. It is this obvious importance, probably, which has given rise to free discussion of an Anglo-American alliance in the past few days, a discussion which is more prominent on your side of the Atlantic, according to the cable despatches, than on this side. It should be said unreservedly that there is not the slightest expectation in England that any alliance will be made at the present moment or in the present situation. It is hardly necessary to add the English denials to those from Washington that Great Britain has been so patronizing and undiplomatic as to offer the United States assistance in dealing with a fourth rate power like Spain. It is probably true that English public opinion is more well disposed than American toward an Anglo-Saxon combination, but even this country is by no means unanimous in favor of such a consummation. The English view of the subject is not altogether selfless, for it is believed that the United States, with its rapidly expanding foreign trade, will profit fully as much as England by co-operation in keeping open the markets of the world. On the other hand, with regard to immediate policy in China, there is possibly some danger of retaliatory action by the continental powers of the Spanish-American controversy against the United States in case the latter supports Great Britain in the far East. Any such action, no doubt, would leave Great Britain open to take the American side, but it is impossible to estimate the complications which might arise. The problem before President McKinley therefore is one of

great difficulty as well as far-reaching consequence in the estimation of Europe."

MR. FORD'S VIEW.

Cabling to the Tribune on the same subject, Mr. Ford says:—"The reason for the Anglo-American era of good feeling, so far as England is concerned, is easily understood. It is not based on race affinities, nor sentimental vagaries, nor selfish interest, either in the far East or anywhere else. It is grounded on the fact that Americans have displayed in the Cuban crisis the same traits on which the English are in the habit of pluming themselves. These are coolness, self-restraint in time of danger, ardent love of country and inflexible courage in defence of the national interests. The Americans in a grave emergency have acted precisely as the English themselves would have done in similar circumstances. The English people are compelled less by their instincts than by their sobriety of judgment to admire the present attitude of the American people. It is not from enlightened self interest, nor because blood is thicker than water, but because there is reason in all things. The spectacle which a united country has presented under the leadership of President McKinley has commanded the respect of England, excited the warmest feeling of sympathy and silenced cavilling criticism."

TEMPLARS' RECRUITING DAY

Across the mind of the visitor at last evening's reunion, flashed the thought, 'could this committee of busy and untiring ladies' be duplicated in any other place than Charlottetown Lodge?'

The tables were laid artistically perfect. Each small detail was attended to. The menu was just what it should be. A master hand was at work in that department. The intimation on the invitations sent out was endorsed by every person present last evening. "In charge of Bro. John Munford—enough said."

As the weather was unfavorable the members of Elliott and Bethel Lodges could not attend, but the Good Templars from the city filled the hall comfortably.

The tables were spread in the centre of the room, and at the head sat Mr. J. D. Scaman, Chief Templar, while the Lodge Deputy, Rev. W. J. Kirby, sat at the foot and acted as vice president.

When all had satisfied themselves with the good things, the following toasts were drunk and responded to:

The Queen—God Save the Queen.

Our International Supreme Lodge—Rev W J Kirby Grand Chap.

Our Grand Lodge—E H Duchemin, Grand Marsh.

Our District Lodges—F B McRae, P Dis Temp.

The Juvenile Branch—J D Scaman, S J T.

The Ladies—Dr Geo F Dewar and J K Ross.

Elliott and Bethel Lodges was also drunk and in the absence of representatives, Mr Geo Foster responded fittingly.

A programme of readings, music and recitations was rendered during the toast-drinking.

The affair was a decided success the only regret being that the two invited lodges were not present to enjoy this very sociable reception.

A Great Opportunity!

We give away, absolutely free of cost, for a limited time only, The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser, by R. V. Pierce, M. D., Chief Consulting Physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, a book of 1068 large pages, profusely illustrated, bound in strong paper covers, to anyone sending 31 cents in one-cent stamps, to cover cost of mailing only. Over 680,000 copies of this complete family Doctor Book already sold in cloth binding at regular price of \$1.50. World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y.

Sir Henry Bessemer, the celebrated inventor of Bessemer steel, is dead.

THE MAILS arrived in town today at 1 p. m.

THE STANLEY is in Souris, and will leave for Pictou tomorrow morning.

THE WEATHER.—Moderate to fresh westerly winds, not much change in temperature.

PREPARING.—Lobster fishermen at Souris and Kollo Bay have already begun to make ready for the season's fishing by putting out lines preparatory to putting out their traps later on. This is the earliest spring work done in that line.

CONCERT AT GEORGETOWN.—The second concert in aid of the Town Hall was held in the Court House Georgetown, on Wednesday evening, March 16th. The attendance was fair and it was a success. A larger report is crowded out of this issue of THE EXAMINER.

MAT HOOKING.—This is the time of year when the mat hooking fever breaks out in various country districts. A correspondent writes to say that in travelling through a certain section the other day he found the ladies of every second house, and sometimes the house between, busily engaged in mat hooking. This speaks well for the industry and perseverance of the gentler sex.

—It is reported from Ottawa that Mr. J. N. Greenshields, of Montreal, is the actual owner of the Mercier-Guerin gold dredging leases in the Yukon and its tributaries, and that he has already disposed of the leases to Rockefeller.

HALIFAX, March 17.—There is a heavy drop in the price of live lobsters in Boston, a point which controls the market here. A week ago a firm in this city that deals largely in lobsters received a telegraphic advice that they were selling at \$20 a crate of 140 pounds—about 90 lobsters.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Entertainment at Emerald

A success in every sense of the word was the celebration of St. Patrick's at Emerald. To begin Emerald is well known for liberality in its patronage of such celebrations, and on this occasion the attendance was no second best. The large hall was literally packed and the best of order prevailed. The special from Ch'town brought a large number of visitors and among them were the "inveterate" St. Dunstan's B. S. T. C. They made the village a place of unusual interest during their stay, and carried the best wishes and admiration of the people of Emerald when they departed.

In the hall before the curtain went up, they enlivened the visit by interpositions of song and the "College cry". The college orchestra opened the evening's performance by a selection that well sustained the reputation of that proficient band of musicians. Then the Rev. J. F. Johnson, Ch'town came forward and held the audience spell-bound while he delivered an eloquent oration on Ireland and St. Patrick. At a very appropriate stage in the oration, Mr. J. H. McDonald of the college sang the "Minstrel Boy" in excellent style.

Then the curtain went up on the prologue of 'Paul the Cripple'. This play is one of the highest order and cannot fail to please the most exacting audience. The plot is deep and well laid, and suffered nothing in development at the hand of the college boys. The scenes were all well chosen and unity of design is everywhere apparent. The "boys" went at it with a will and right well did they succeed. It was allowed on every side, that it was the best thing of its kind ever given in Emerald and that is saying a good deal. Even some of those present expressed their determination of hearing this play again in the Opera House at Charlottetown, where it is to be given on Easter Monday night in aid of the new Cathedral.

While all the characters sustained their parts well, special mention must be made of J. H. McDonald who played the part of Anthony with true spirit; of Cliff Cox who took the character of Paul the Cripple; Mr Gregory McLellan interpreted the nice injunctions of Father Fidelis, while E. F. Ryan as Urban, Mr. Foran as Sebastian and L. D. Tobin as Cornelius made a capital gang of bandits. Then P. F. Doyle as Count Felix, F. G. O'Neill as Philip, T. D. Lynch as Linus, and J. J. McGowan as Nicholas played splendid parts. The other characters played their parts equally well and all the superior "hits" were loudly applauded. During the course of the play Mr. R. Lamont and Miss. B. an h Craig each gave a vocal solo in good style. St. Dunstan's College Dramatic Club has staged good plays in the past, but we feel sure that this is equal if not superior to any heretofore given.

Much of the success of this society is due to the persistent energy and untiring zeal of its moderator, the Rev. J. Augustine McDonald. This Rev. gentleman, in training the actors has spared no pains to lead the dramatic club on to success and he has reason to be proud of his excellent work.

The Day at Souris.

At Souris the day was duly celebrated. In the morning, with banner borne aloft, thirty two members of the B. I. S., in full regalia preceded by the cornet band, marched to St. Mary's Church where after high mass was celebrated, an appropriate address was delivered by the Rev. Father McLeivre, of St. Columba, East Point. Flags floated in the breeze from the Customs, St. Patrick's Hall, Providence Bros. store and Consur Carlton's residence. In the evening the drama entitled "Woven Web" was presented in St. Patrick's Hall, to a large and appreciative audience. The several parts were taken with precision and ability, showing the local talent to be of a high order in the dramatic line.

FREDERICTON, March 17.—There is a flutter among the soldiers of the infantry school and among their sweethearts too. This afternoon orders were received from Ottawa, directing that thirty-two non-commissioned officers and men of the permanent corps here under command of Capt Thacker and Lt Kave be despatched next week for the Yukon. The men are to be unmarried and of no less than two years in the service.

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- INDIAN DIMITIES, 32 inches wide, in sky, yellow, white, cardinal, shear and fine. 26c Yard
- WHITE FRENCH ORGANDY, lace effect, beautiful material fine as they make them. 30c Yard
- COLORED FRENCH ORGANDIES, extra quality, designs and colorings all that could be desired. 29c Yard
- NEW PLAID TIES, new plaid belt ribbons, new gingham, striped Irish homespun.

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