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Miscellaneous Mention.

The bill for a \$10,000,000 school fund is a move which meets with the approval of all who have an interest in the country's progress. The method of distribution also seems fair. The states having the largest percentage of illiterate citizens receive the most benefit. Though not strict justice to the other states, what serves to raise the general culture confers a good upon all. If care is exercised in its expenditure, we may look for results in a fairer ballot and a decrease in crime.

One of the chief causes of the weak hold which the orthodox churches have upon the world seems to be the conservative view which they take of great moral reforms. Many of the churches long gave countenance to slavery in America. Until recently the temperance question received a severe letting alone by ministers of the Gospel. We were glad to know of the recent Ministerial Conference—all creeds represented—held in this city to consider the temperance movement and decide upon a definite line of action.

The position of the country with respect to tariffs has caused much discussion in the Political Economy class. We think that, with some exceptions, the Protectionists arrayed against the Free Traders are an array of the politicians of the country against the intellect. It seems as if America had reached that standard of culture where she is ready to throw aside the party leading strings and sectional prejudice and follow the lead of intelligence. The time for civilized nations to refuse to fraternize with foreigners through fear of compromising their national independence is past.

Investigations seem to be the most interesting order of business in the present session of the Legislature. Numerous charges of bribery are made. Lieutenant Governor Carns is accused of offering a \$5,000 bribe; Senators Tefft and Graham are charged with having received bribes in the late Senatorial election. Will the time never come when politicians in America will be as eminent for integrity as they now are for venality. We sincerely

hope that the present charges are unfounded. Their prompt move for a thorough investigation palliates suspicion. In this day of ambiguous verdicts may the investigations be so systematic and searching that the gentlemen may be fully cleared or convicted.

In 1863 Fitz-John Porter was, by the sentence of a court-martial, deprived of his rank in the army and denied the right of holding a position of honor and trust under the government of the United States. The President has lately removed the latter disability by a pardon. A bill has also been introduced by Briggs of Wisconsin to authorize the President to restore him to the rank of colonel, and at his discretion to place him on the retired list. No back pay is involved and the bill may pass. Porter must be a professional hypocrite or else he was unjustly condemned. He has kept the matter before the public for years, and now his prospects are bright for a reinstatement. Truly perseverance is one of the chief elements of success.

A recent number of the *Popular Science Monthly* contains an article relating to quacks in medicine. This leads us to think of the extensive quackery practiced in all the professions. In medicine its effects are more noticeable and of course more appalling. When life is at stake a man who will administer a medicine whose nature he does not fully understand is morally guilty of crime. The laws in relation to practice are more strict than formerly, but they are not closely adhered to. Pettifoggers in most cases can not prosper because their ignorance is soon discovered and laid bare by the legal fraternity. Pretenders in science thrive in most localities. A few euphonious scientific terms will admit a man into the most cultured circles. But ministerial mountebanks are of all hypocrites the most numerous and insinuating. In many communities winning manners will completely overshadow moral depravity, and a smooth tongue is synonymous with mental strength. Students as they take their places in active life not only have the power, but it is their duty to do what they can to make it warm for these professional shams. If a University

education means anything, it should assist to raise the standard of the professions. It takes courage to expose abuses, but courage in the right direction is no vice.

Gail Hamilton in her article on "The Spent Bullet" makes a few scathing observations on the pretensions of Science and Religion as shown by their claims during the illness of Garfield. Science which can discuss so learnedly of the soul, resolve the nebulae into its constituent parts, how dismal was thy failure in the location of the assassin's bullet! Better give time to the clearing of your own eyes and perfecting your own department than to try to snatch from Religion any of her faith in her God and a future life. Science had every means it could ask; every convenience, as well as money, was placed at its disposal, yet death claimed the President and only then was it found that the physicians knew not where the bullet lodged. So complete was the failure of Science. Religion, too, tried her power. From churches all over the land arose the earnest prayer that the life of the President might be spared. And had he lived, no doubt, the churches would have claimed a share of the credit. As he died, they ought to take his death as a non-fulfillment of their prayers. Instead of doing this they try to explain it away, and say that their prayers were answered in another way. Law, too, does not escape her censure. Though she admits that the practical best was done. The only one who gained honor or glory was the President himself. Before and after his election he was charged with many crooked and dishonorable acts. Vile slander had touched his name. But all this was forgotten after that sad 2nd of July. His name will now live in the memory of a people who will look only on his virtues, carefully concealing his faults.

He had been expelled. His parents were made aware of the fact by the receipt of this: "Dear Father—Fatted call for one. Yours affectionately, George."

A boy having lost half his kite-string added forty-five feet, licked two boys, clubbed a dog and fell on a fence. The string was then one half its original length. What was the original length.