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OBSERVATIONS.

Colonel Stotsenburg's death while leading a charge against the insurgent Filipinos last Saturday was received with genuine grief here, and wherever the knowledge of his soldierly qualities, his self-control, patriotism and bravery have been disseminated. The attention of the country has been directed to his record, to the conduct of the First Nebraska, its discipline, responsiveness, and eagerness to remain in Manila as long as the situation requires. Not one of the companies in Manila has a more brilliant reputation than the First Nebraska. As in a baseball or football team which wins the pennant at the end of the season, the victory is not due to this or that brilliant play, but to the harmony responsiveness, and perfect discipline of the whole team under the leadership of the captain, the credit of the conduct of the First Nebraska, the series of apparent accidents of position which has placed it in the forefront of every fray is the result of Colonel Stotsenburg's incessant drill and the consequent readiness of his men to take the positions of greatest peril and responsibility. Every loyal Nebraskan bitterly regrets that he will not now have an opportunity of expressing his appreciation to the steadfast Colonel for his conduct on the Manila battlefields and the stern preparation of his troops for the moments when the issue of the battle would be decided by their obedience and steadiness under fire. The consciousness that the conduct of such a soldier and such a man should receive a reprimand from

the Nebraska legislature oppresses everyone who has followed the newspaper accounts of the Manila campaign. The attention of the rest of the country is directed to the act of the legislature in asking for the transference of Colonel Stotsenburg and the conclusions in regard to the intelligence of the legislature are not flattering to the state.

What grief our criticism caused Colonel Stotsenburg we do not know, because he did not say anything, he had not acquired the newspaper habit, but he seems to have been determined to show to the stupidest and most prejudiced Nebraskan that he was a brave soldier as well as a good disciplinarian and an irreproachable officer.

When the history of the war is written the name of Colonel Stotsenburg will be among the distinguished few and we will not begrudge it to him, for inseparably connected with his name will be that of the First Nebraska and its gallant conduct on the battlefields of Manila.

Mrs. Stotsenburg is in Manila and will probably bring the body of Colonel Stotsenburg home. In that long journey across the wide Pacific she will be accompanied by the sympathy of all Nebraska, and of all the men and women, in the army and out, who knew the reserved duty-bound, intrepid Colonel Stotsenburg.

Charles Sumner was beaten and nearly killed in 1856 in the United States senate for making the speech against slavery called the Crime against Kansas. After three years of suffering and of heroic treatment he returned to the senate and delivered a speech on "The Barbarism of Slavery," in which he emphasized the effect of Slavery upon the master of slaves. What he said about the influence upon the character of men who held other men, like dogs, in a leash, has been completely demonstrated by the barbaric treatment of colored men by the whites of the south since the war. The Georgia mob which cut off the negro Hose's fingers, ears and nose, and after burning him alive, fought over the possession of scraps of his heart and bones, is certainly not more civilized than savages who kill prisoners by slow torture. The crime the negro committed was abominable, but legal punishment was absolutely sure. Ignorant and debased, his crime was no more horrible than murders committed by white men in the north every week. To be sure, these white men are of low grade birth with a criminal ancestry that has been killing and robbing since their ancestor Cain first developed the homicidal germ. The negro's crime is not discouraging, because it is an isolated case, but the report that three thousand men and women, of Georgia, (even though it be true that they belong to the poor, degraded, lazy white trash of the south,) dismembered a negro and fought over

the possession of fragments of his body for souvenirs, is evidence of a very low average of civilization. There are cultured, gentle and just citizens of Georgia who tried to stop the exhibition of brutality which has resulted in the lowering of the reputation of the state. But they had apparently no influence upon the mob they addressed, and the shocking murder which placed the mob on a level with the negro took place. Before he died, he accused a negro preacher of inciting him to murder the farmer, and with no more evidence than this, the old preacher, whose reputation was good and who had never harmed any one was hung, protesting his innocence with his last breath.

It is not pity for the negroes, more than consideration for justice and a desire to stop the brutalizing of a people, which should induce the governor and proper authorities of Georgia to severely punish the leaders of this mob. Unless these barbaric exhibitions can be punished the pace that Georgia has already set back to savagery may be quickened. As aforesaid, it is not that the negro was lynched but that the mob was so large, so unanimous, and because the newspapers of the section only half condemn the action of the mob.

Kansas City has an ordinance requiring all milk dealers to be licensed and all milk sold by them must contain three per cent butter fat. Well, of course every ordinance with a penalty must have an inspector and the milk inspector of Kansas City, taking samples at random from several dairy wagons, discovered that the milk contained only 2.6 per cent of butter fat, an indication either of diluted milk or of very poor milk cows. Two dairymen were fined five hundred dollars for selling such low grade milk, and another was fined five hundred dollars and had his license revoked. Both the fine and the revocation of license seem an excessive penalty for such a misdemeanor. In consequence of the trial of the three dairymen, the chemical analysis of the milk and the fines assessed against them doubtless the milk was enriched on every breakfast table in Kansas City the day after the city read the report of the trial.

If there is not an ordinance in Lincoln fixing the per cent of butter fat in the milk sold here, there should be. Most of it is blue and thin and the per cent, from appearances, will not average 2.6 of butter fat. Milk dealers say that it is impossible to ship milk or cart it about a city unless water be added, but the city council ought to make an official recipe with a penalty and milk inspector attachment, to insure milk customers from investing in too much water.

The voluntary retirement of Speaker Thomas B. Reed of Maine from the leadership of congress, and from a

commanding position in the republican party because he has been offered something better in New York, is one of a number of similar cases, wherein a public position has been declined for a more remunerative private one. Mr. Reed made his reputation in congress, or rather the newspapers recognized his remarkable character and presented him with several million dollars worth of advertising. The law firm is guaranteeing Mr. Reed fifty thousand dollars a year, because he will give the firm a national reputation. There are other lawyers just as brilliant, just as able, and just as obstinate and opinionated as Mr. Reed, but so long as nobody knows it, the use of their name is of no especial value to a wealthy and long established law firm. This gift on which Mr. Reed is drawing fifty thousand dollars a year interest was presented to him by the newspapers of the United States. There is little reason to believe that he realizes his indebtedness or that he feels any gratitude to the newspapers, but reflection must convince him that his virile obstinacy, his ability to rapidly come to an unprecedented conclusion, and his indifference to verbal assaults, have been converted into assets by the newspapers. The constant creation of values by the newspapers give them an added title to be classed as producers.

Captain Coghlan is under a curious misapprehension if he thinks the American people do not appreciate Admiral Dewey. He seems to feel that he needs an interpreter, a mediator, when in reality Admiral Dewey is in complete rapport with the American people. Like General Grant, Admiral Dewey is laconic and Captain Coghlan had evidently an incorrect understanding of his character when he said that the admiral would have repeated the Hoch der Kaiser poem, or made the remarks in regard to German interference at Manila. Admiral Dewey is a man of discretion and does not put an enemy in his mouth to take away his brains, as Captain Coghlan apparently does. The latter is a brave sailor and has done the United States good service, but in his cups he is a magpie and unless his character and condition had been explained to the German ambassador, might have involved the country in a series of embarrassing explanations with and apologies to Germany.

The tendency of the training given children in the public schools is towards the vocalization of every idea which strikes them, the quicker vocalized the better. The pupil who can answer the largest number of questions in the least time has the reputation of being the cleverest. For reflection, contemplation, a careful and judicial weighing of the parts of a problem there is no time, and, my impression is, that all suspension of opinion during the processes of