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CIVIC REFORM MOVEMENTS. The municipal government of the city of Chicago, according to the claim of the civic federation, has reached a degree of rotteness, and the public officials have fallen into such a stage of hopeless depravity and boodleism, that the good people of that great city must hold their noses of the stench and hide their faces for very shame.

The trouble which will confront the civic federation in their herculean task of cleansing the Augean stables is occasioned by the fact that their activity in behalf of municipal cleanliness is spasmodic rather than continuous, so that the results have heretofore been, and doubtless will continue to be, temporary and not permanent. There is one thing which must yet be learned by those who take upon themselves the task of ending the reign of spoilsmen and boodlers in any large city, and that 1900. The dawn of the twentieth cenis that eternal vigilance is the price of municipal purity.

The history of civic reform movements reveals the fact that the reformers have acted by spurts and spell, sometimes mustering enough strength to seriously annoy or perhaps temporarily dislodge corruption, and then, as if exhausted, they relapse again into a comatose state, deserting those whom they have placed in power to care for themselves and leaving the dislodged boodlers to lay their plans for another successful attack upon the citadel. Civic reform forces must yet learn that, if municipal government is to be free from blemish, the men who hold the official positions must be men of probity and honor; and if there is to be no misappropriation of public funds or discrimination in favor of powerful competitors for public favors, or violation of the city ordinances, and if there is to be an exact and equitable enforcement of law against all offenders, whether small or great, reformers must be willing to pay the price of contasent general commendation of the message. rigilance and unremitting toil in behalf of good government, lasting from the beginning of the year until the end, and must then not be discouraged if they are victorious but half of the time.

### ADVERSITY'S USES.

Every day it becomes more apparent that the election of Mr. Bryan without a congress in accord with him would have been a misfortune to the cause of bimetallism. The election of McKinley has been followed by a continuous train of commercial and industrial disasters, which would probably have ensued also if Mr. Bryan had been elected without a congress in sympathy with his policies, because they are the inevitable and logical results of a ruinous and suicidal financial policy. Had Mr. Bryan been elected all these disasters would have bee heralded by the republican press as the result solely of s lack of confidence inspired by his election, and the democratic party would have been held responsible for them. A good many democrats believe that if Mr. Bryan had been elected, and a congress to co-operate with him, these disasters would have been fewer and of less magnitude, but in that, of course there was the same possibility of mistake as confronted republicans who honestly believe dthat confidence and prosperity would at once follow the announcement of McKinley's election.

There have been more failures of banks and business houses since election than before, and no one suspects that failures have stopped. Thoughtful men of all parties tremble for the future, immediate and remote. As Bryan's administration would, had he been elected, have been chargeable with responsibility for the disasters, so is now the administration of McKinley. Perhaps it is responsible jointly with its yoke mate, the Cleveland administration As far as the finances of the country are concerned-and it must be a stubborn man indeed who will not concede that it iss the finances of the country that ar ailing-they are both of the same stripe and off the same bolt. If there is any credit accruing to anyone for the results of the gold standard policy, they are certainly entitled and welcome to it. II. on the contrary, itseffects have been and continue to be baneful and its results are disastrous, they must bear the blame.

When the president betrayed his party and followed the dictates of Wall street and the boards of trade, the democratic party had the manbood within its ranks to repudiate him and his administration, and to proclaim anew the true principles of which democracy was born and

Nebraska Independent by which it must ever by guided. It was a glorious victory for democracy when it turned its back upon plutocracy and reasserted in unmistakable terms the great principles taught by Jefferson, and went out to battle under its own proud flag, challenging the trusts, corporations, syndicates, arrogant affluence, foreign domination, greed, avarice, selfishness, corruption, coercion and deception, arrayed under the standard of republicanism, to the struggle.

Thousands of men who believed in the principles of democracy were beguiled by alse hopes; thousands were directly or indirectly bribed, and many thousands were coerced by cruel masters to forsake their principles and stifle their own judgment. These men all note the result of their waywardness today. Thousands who voted for McKinley are awakening to the gravity of their mistaken course.

The cause of true democracy was never so strong as today. The rank and file of the party, instead of being disheartened by its so recent defeat, is more confident today of the justice of democracy's cause and of its certain triumph four years hence than have ever been the advocates of any cause.

Democrats will go into the next quadrennial conflict with no traitorous administration for whose sins they must answer and whose power as a patronage dispenser is being used to compass their own defeat. The rejuvenated democracy, cleansed of its putrid Clevelandism, reed from the dictation of Wall street, deaf to the influences of corporation and trust agents and united against the rule of capitalistic combinations, and finally demanding the immediate and unconditional restoration of bimetallism, will sweep the country in 1898 and tury will witness the inauguration of a president committed to bimetallism, and his name will be William Jennings

These will be the certain results of the recent defeat. Well, indeed, has it been said, "Sweet are the uses of adversity."

#### THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Outside of its remarkable length, the message from Governor Holcomb to the legislature is a model state document. With a candor that must command the admiration of every Nebraska property owner, the governor points out the evil that have infested the various branches of state government and recommended such remedy as in every case commands itself. His strictures upon the methods that have characterized the manipulation of state funds, severe though they are upon the retiring state treasurer and his predecessors, are so well-founded that even the leading local journalistic exponent of the retiring party did not see fit to question them, but rather, in a commends them.

A notable feature of the message is the governor's storng arraignment of those who, from partisan disappointment and out of partisan spite, have sought to create the impression that the state government has fallen into the hands of those who would not legislate for its best interests. His reference to these defamers of the state are dignified, but decisive in their denial of the calumnies uttered, and this pas sage of the message is doubtless included in the favorable general criticism of the message by the editor of the State Journal, who has too often joined in the unreasonable clamor that was designed to create a fearful prejudice against populism as not only likely, but sure, to hurt the state and to wage unreasonable war upon capital and capitalists.

The message is decidedly conservative in tone and substance. It recognizes every worthy interest and bespeaks liberality in the treatment of every one of them from which the dominant party has had little to expect except contumely. It touches upon the needs of the state in a most dignified, intelligent way, indicating the wholly adequate conception the governor entertains of the duties of the office. The reforms he advocates are such as are prompted only by a desire o conserve the interests of the state and the people and such as commend themselves at once to the thoughtful citizen. To many of them THE INDEPENDENT will have occasion to hereafter refer, as it has referred to some of them heretofore, The message is one which ought to be carefully read in every home and office in the state. It should be circulated wherever rabid republicanism has sought to discredit populism and democracy. It will shield the credit of the state from unwarranted assaults by exasperated and disappointed republican spoilshooters.

### SILAS A. HOLCOMB.

All had the unassuming man whose aim Is duty as he sees it, beeding not The plaudits or the binmes of fickle throngs. The man who goes unheralded by sound Of blatant praises, to do the work his hands Are set to do. The man of brilliant parts Has faults as equal great, but he who walks The pathway nearer earth has sympathies With humankind, and holds the hearts of

Rich treasures in the coffers of his breast. Today Nebraska welcomes such a man To head her fortunes to a ponderous flood Her people point with pride to him, nor say "There goes a hero," but they cry instead: "Behold an honest, God-created man." WILLIAM REED DUNBOY.

Ripans Tabules cure dyspepsia.

By Captain RALPH DAVIS.

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#### CHAPTER XI. THE MUTINY.

The captain's decision was carried forward to convicts and crew, and I looked for an outbreak within an hour. Perhaps the reason it did not take place was because they feared the whaler might show up again. I felt that it would not long be delayed, however, and Captain Clark, Haskell, Williams and Roberts agreed with me. Saunders, Smith and the two single women stuck to the doctor, and thus we were divided into two factions.

The ship was never more quiet than during the remainder of that day and all through the night. The sailors were prompt to respond to every call, but moved quietly and spoke in low tones. This might have been attributed to their fears of the pestilence, but I realized that there was something back of that. I had the watch on deck from 8 to 12, and I noticed many little things which satisfied me that if the whaler nor other sail was in sight when morning broke the climax would come.

When I was relieved by the second mate at midnight, I had a bit of a talk with him. His name, as I don't remember to have told you before, was Cortrite. He was a middle aged man, well up in his duties, and I have said nothing of him simply because I had not taken him into my confidence, I don't mean that I mistrusted him, but that I to as few persons a possible as long as forward to assist the rest of the prisonin the cabin had of course brought him best to be done. On our side we barred a knowledge of the situation, and there the cabin doors, put the iron shutters was no doubt that he could be thoroughly depended on. The bo'sun might zled men and frightened women just or might not be with us. When I asked what had occurred and what we proposed Cortrite his opinion of things, he re-

"Mr. Tompkins, if I hadn't known that you were watching the run of Haskell, Williams, Saunders and Smith. things I should have posted you a bit. Mr. Williams was an old man and It's my opinion that the two women counted for nothing. Both cooks, the have been won over and that they have steward and the bo'sum joined with the also made a tool of the doctor. If there's mutineers. Not a single man among the nothing in sight when the sun comes

up, then God help us!"
"You think there'll be an outbreak a mutiny?"

aboard. If I might be bold enough, I'd to come.

When I went into the cabin, I found ing for me. I told him what Mr. Cortrite had said, and he replied:

I overhaul the firearms."

It was a quiet night, with only The exception was in the case of the v. and fortunately for us the dolt of midnight to 2 o'clock. The provisions ward of the cages, as was also a number of the water casks. Those for cabin use were stowed in the lazarette, and there were other water casks ballasted between the bulkheads of the passengers' cabins and the one hiding the aftmember that this bulkhead or partition was pierced for musketry.

We could come at water and proservice Captain Clark looked about and

greatest care now will be to guard they had done and the position of all of against any sudden rush aft."

Neither of us turned in that night, and both of us were on deck at dayvain for sight of sail. The fellow could felt that the hour of peril was close at hand. The demeanor of the men as they erts we could plainly see from the portwashed down the decks was defiant, and had the convict gangs come up as usual the outbreak would have occurred with the advent of the first. The captain ordered that they remain below until after the doctor's morning inspection. In view of the supposed pestilence this order did not seem to excite any great surprise.

When the passengers gathered for breakfast, all were surprised to observe that the cabin had been put in a state of defense. I may add that Dr. Haxton and those who sided with him were also cynical and inclined to joke about it. As the iron shutters were fitted inside. no one forward could know about them. We didn't want them to know, and I kept watch of the two single women as they went on deck after breakfast. I



We saw Roberts knocked down privately told Mr. and Mrs. Williams

and Mary to remain below, and the other women somehow got warning and gave up their usual morning promenade, though the weather was beautifully fine.

As Dr. Haxton went forward to pay his morning call Roberts accompanied him. There were three children on the poopdeck, and I sent them below just as Haskell came aft, bringing his musket with him and working away at the lock as if it was in need of repairs. He gave me a look which signified that the time had come. Forward, there were the sailors of the morning watch, the guard relief, the doctor and Roberts. Aft, we had the captain, second mate, Haskell, all other passengers and myself.

As Dr. Haxton descended to the cages Captain Clark ordered the two single women below, speaking so gruffly that they obeyed at once. Then he turned to Saunders and Smith, who were smoking and lounging, and said:

"Gentlemen, please step below for a minute, and don't stop to ask questions. Go now-at once!"

Something in his tones warned them of peril at hand, and they were out of sight before you could count 20. Ten seconds later a sound came aft which I can only compare to the confusion in a menagerie when the animals become excited. It was the convicts making their rush from cage No. 1 as the doctor opened the door to pass in. Most of the sailors rushed forward to the hatch, the guards called out and aimed their muskets, and then men in convicts' uniform began to appear on deck. We saw Roberts knocked down, heard cheers from the other cages, and then we made a dash for the cabin just as sailors and convicts were preparing to rush aft. The mutiny was on.

When sailors and convicts saw us disappear in the cabin, they realized that we were prepared for the revolt and could not be surprised and overpowered thought it wise to confine my suspicions at a dash. They therefore returned they were only suspicions. The meeting ers on deck and consult on what was over the skylight and informed the puz-

There were only seven men of us in the cabin-the captain, both mates, sailors came aft to cast his lot with us, though we had looked upon some of them as steady, honest fellows.

You may think there was great ex-"I'm as sure of it as that I stand citement among the women and children here. I understand that we have arms when they came to know the worst, but I can tell you that they were very quiet advise you to make ready for what is over it. Helpless people are always that way in the face of great peril. They were white faced and trembling, but Captain Clark up and dressed and wait- there were no wailing and wringing of hands. The cabin lamps were lighted, and the women and children sat about "We can't begin too soon. You on the chairs and lockers, while the men quietly fasten on the iron shutters while made final preparations for defense and spoke in hushed voices.

enough wind to give the craft steerage two single women. They had certainly a man Hawley was at the wheel from attachment with such villains, but it was plain that they had never contemfor convicts and sailors were stowed for- plated a mutiny and the horrors that might follow. When they realized what had occurred and witnessed our grim preparations for defense, they became conscience stricken and hysterical. Miss Foster admitted that her sympathies had been worked on until she had come er iron cage from view. You will re- to regard Ben Johnson as a martyr and had filched the bottle of croton oil from the dispensary at his request. She did not know the use he meant to make of visions without leaving the cabin or ex- it, however. Miss White confessed that posing ourselves, and when we had the she thought the doctor had been unjustshutters up and the firearms ready for ly treated, and she had encouraged him to stand on his dignity and at the same time had fallen in love with the villain "Ralph, we cannot only make a good York and become carried away with his fight for it if attacked, but I think the tales of romance. Now that revolt and advantage will be on our side. Our mutiny had come they realized the evil

The mutineers gave us about half an hour in which to prepare for them. light. At sunrise a man was sent aloft During this interval they got their with a glass, but he swept the sea in breakfasts, passed about bottles of rum, which must have been smuggled aboard not hide the exultant look in his eyes at the Cape, and sailors and convicts as he came down and reported, and we fraternized in a way to prove that they were not strangers to each other. Robholes in the front of the cabin. He had been knocked down and bound hand and foot, and his protests and entreaties were laughed to soom. The half hour was nearly up before the doctor was hoisted into view from below. As he was the direct cause of the mutiny and had been overly kind to the convicts, he might have looked for decent treatment at least. To our surprise his hands were bound behind his back, most of his clothing tern off, and the blood on his face and neck proved that he had been brutally used.

The first move aft was made by York and Ben Johnson, one representing the sailors and guards and the other the convicts. They could not have known nickels for it, ma? Ma-What for? how well prepared we were in the cabin, but York displayed a flag of Willie-No ma'am; that's just it.truce as the pair broke away from the crowd around the fo'mast. When they had come up to within ten feet of the cabin entrance, they halted, and the sailor hailed us with:

"Hello, in the cabin! Captain Clark, I have a few words to say to you!" "You infernal pair of scoundrels! But I'm a mind to shoot you down in your tracks!" shouted the captain in reply.

"Go easy, captain!" called York, while Ben Johnson laughed his contempt for the threat. "You know what has happened for'ard, of course. We are in possession of the bark. As we are not a crowd of lambs, we thought you might prefer to take the boats and go voyaging on your own account."

'That is, the most of you,' added the convict leader. "I've got an old score to settle with Tompkins and Mary Williams, and they needn't pack up to

go along. "Yes, I know you have got possession of the craft," said Captain Clark as he choked back his onger, "but if there is any taking to the boats, you'll be the one to go! If at the end of 15 minutes the convicts are not under lock and key and the sailors down on their knees and praying for my forgiveness, we'll open fire on you and sweep the decks of every living man."

"That's big talk, captain," sneered York, while the convict shrugged his shoulders and laughed loud and long.

They seemed to feel that it was the captain's ultimatum, however, and turned and walked forward. Five minutes

halted within speaking distance, "the pumped up. sailors have mutinied, and the convicts

fight to the last, no matter what becomes of me. '

tineers, and they were pulled down and would drift off with her head to the for it, too. breeze. They had to do this for their It is practically agreed among those

them set about their work. Johnson lost all control of the men be- country of Eugland. This is accountfore the mutiny was an hour old. There ed for by the fact that dowsing has dancing, and of course they must hoist for centuries. It is claimed that some up water and provisions with reckless dowsers are able to tell of the presence at us in the cabin, and everybody wanted to be boss, and long enough before twig, or divining rod, as it used to be noon there had been hard fighting called. Such a faculty would, of

### (Continued next week.)

# A New Life-Saving Device.

An interesting device for insuring the safety of lives at sea has lately been tried with an encouraging measare of success. It is a new bulkhead water-tight door. This door is globular in form, and can be made any size. while it is fitted on a casting formed in two parts boited to the bulkhead. A spindle is attached to the door, connected with a lever on deck. The appliance enables a man in the stoke hole, on deck or on the bridge to close the water-tight doors instantaneously by turning a simple lever. The doors, which are constructed of metal, are sharp enough to cut through, in their rotation, any obstacle in their way, There is, therefore, above each door an electric bell, which is turned on as a warning to those who are about to pass through the opening that the door is to be closed. The bell can be turned off down below, when all the men are through the o; ening. - American Artisan.

### Wit and Satire.

Gibson Girl-Why are so few of your members of the nobility present? I came over expressly to meet them. Du Maurier Girl-Why, most of them are in the United States on business .--

Mr. Dunn (unpaid bill in his hand) -When shall I call again, Owens? Mr. Owens-Well, it would hardly be proper for you to call again until I have returned the present call .- London Tid-

Willie-Papa gave me a dime to put in my dime savings bank. Gimme two You can't put nickels in your bank. Philadelphia Record.

American girl (at Windsor castle)-Porter, is there any chance to get a glimpse of the queen? Gentleman at the gate-I am not the porter. I am the prince of Wales. American girl-How lucky I am! Is your mother in? New York Weekly.

Teacher - Suppose, Johnnie, your mother cut, a pound of meat into eight parts, what will each part be? Johnnie Chaffle-One-eighth of a pound. 'Correct. Now, suppose she cuts each sighth in two-what will each part be then?" "One-sixteenth of a pound." 'Just so. Now, suppose she cuts each sixteenth in gix pieces-what will each piece be?" "Hash."-Texas Sifter.

MYSTERY OF THE DOWSER

THE PROFESSIONAL WATER FIND-ERS OF ENGLAND.

Streams Four Hundred Feet Beneath the Earth's Surface Located-Employed by Land Owners.

SYCHOLOGICAL sharps have been deeply stirred the past few weeks, says a London letter in the New Orleans Picavune, by attempts made to fathom later the doctor and Roberts were sent the mystery of the "dowsers." You aft to talk to us They had their hands may not know what a dowser is, and tied behind their backs, and to prevent when you do know, you will probably them from making a dash into the cabin discredit the existence of such a pereach had a rope attached to him and the sou. A dowser is a man, or woman, free end held by two mutineers. Rob- who is possessed of some curious ocerts was only a countryman of limited cult force which gives the owner the education, while you will be ready to power to locate hidden streams of believe that the doctor was a man in water flowing 200 or 400 feet beneath whom no one need look for the heroic, the surface of the earth. A dowser There was a surprise in store for us as can walk over an unknown piece of they came aft. The doctor had been country and point out the exact spot made spokesman. Brief as the time had where a well or pipe can be snuk. He been, he fully realized the situation and can tell the exact depth at which knew that he alone was to blame for it. water will be found, an i also the num-'Captain Clark," he said as the pair ber of gallons an hour which can be

Dowsers are scientifically termed have been turned loose. I have been hydroscopists. The presence of subtold to say to you that if you will con-terranean water has a peculiar effect sent to go away in the boats the two of upon their nervous systems. The us can go with you. If you refuse, we dowser, when prosecuting his work, are to be put to death, and they further always carries a hazel twig in his declare that not one of you will be hands. When he reaches a spot where water is flowing underneath the hazel 'You see what you have brought us twig bends and points downward. to," replied the captain, though his This sounds fantastic and unreal, but voice was more kind than reproachful. | the truth of it must be acknowledged "It is all my fault," continued the or the testimony of some of the most doctor, "and I am here to tell you to respected British peers doubted. The psychic folks, who have been investigating the dowser mystery, have col-"And the same with me!" shouted lected a mass of corroborative facts from scores of great land owners and The doctor was about to speak again men who stand high in the opinion of when the ropes by which the pair were the public. These men are either liars held were viciously jerked by the mu- or the doings of the dowsers are real.

There are five or six professional dragged forward. They would have dowsers in England, and the leader of been killed at once but for Johnson and these is a young man of thirty, named York, who had sense enough to realize Leicester Gataker. He is accumulatthat this was but the beginning and ing a fortune by his curious work, and that they might be made useful later he is kept so busy that he employs on. They received many a hearty kick forty assistants, who complete the and blow, however, before they were work his strange faculties map out. bundled down the forehatch to be locked Dowsers have recently been employed up in one of the iron cages. As I have by such august personages as the told you, there was but little wind, Dake of Rutland, the Duke of Beauwhich was a fortunate thing for every. fort, the Duke of Grafton, Lord Jorbody, as the man at the wheel deserted sey, Sir E. Welby Gregory, and a host his post when the outbreak occurred of others of like prominence. Dowsers and left the craft to sail herself. As demand rich pay, and it would seem soon as they had disposed of their pris- that if people of the caliber of those oners, the mutineers took in every sail just named did not have faith in the and made all snug aloft, and the wheel art they would not take cognizance of was then lashed so that the Hindu it by patronizing it, and paying well

own protection as well as ours, but we who have studied the matter that the were greatly relieved when we saw gift is not only racial with the British, but sectional, as all of the dow-As was to be expected, York and sers come from the west and south were singing, shouting, laughing and existed in the Cornish mine sections d. Everybody had a plan for getting of tin and other metals beneath the earth's surface by using the hazel among them and no little blood spilled. course, be of vast benefit to a mineowner, as he could discover the presence of metal without first going to the expense of sinking a shaft.

More than a score of books have been written on the subject, several of them by American students of the art, and from some of these it is learned that in olden times wielders of the divining rod used it for a variety of purposes, often times with success. It was commonly employed for the solution of mysterious murders and for the hunting down of criminals. In France it was used in the last century, but the priests frowned upon it, and eventually the practice was abolished. It may be mentioned that in the time of the inquisitions, dowsers were put to death as workers in the black art.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries dowsing was evidently an extensive industry. There is a book written in 1643 by the Baroness of Beausoleil, in which she gives a list of 150 mines discovered by herself and her husband by use of the divining rod. From 155) to 1700 no less than forty-six separate works on the subject of dowsing were published, and when it is remembered that book writing and printing in those days were rare things, the importance of the subject can be imagined.

### NOT A BARGAIN.

"You want as much for this thermometer," said the woman who had arrived before the store opened so as to be the first at the bargain counter, "as you did for those you showed me last August."

"Of course," the salesman answered. "It's the same thermometer."

"No, it isn't. There ought to be a reduction in the price. Those others had nearly twice as much mercury in them as these have."-Washington

## Ho For Colorado.

Would you like to own a Fruit Farm, a Berry Farm, a Vineyard, a Potato Farm, a Melon Farm, an Alfalfa Farm, a Stock Farm, a Dairy Farm, a Bee Farm, a Farm or Country Home, for profit, health and independence, with the best soil, best climate, best irrigating canal, best water supply, best railroad facilities, best markets, best titles, and the most rapidly growing country in America? The Colorado Immigration & Development Co., 1621 Curtis St., Denver, Colo., is a state organization for assisting people to just such locations. Write them fully and receive by return mail handsomely illustrated literature telling about the climate, irrigation and won-derful profits to be made in Colorado by growing fruit and other farm products. Prices on fine irrigated farm and orchard lands were never so low as today, and those who take advantage of the opportunities now existing will never regret their change.