

# CURRENT TOPICS

THOMAS W. LAWSON, the Boston speculator, attracted public attention for a few hours by announcing that he would raise a one million dollar campaign fund for a ticket composed of Governor Johnson of Minnesota for president, and Mr. Bryan for vice president. The Minneapolis correspondent of the New York World quotes Governor Johnson as saying, with reference to Lawson's offer, "that sounds like a very excellent proposition."

A NEW YORK clergyman has devised a novel cure for gossiping. A Utica dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald says: "Rev. Henry MacIlravy, who for several years has been the pastor of a Little Falls church, told his congregation last evening that he was going to curb the gossipers who live in the town. He was of the opinion that in Little Falls there are just twelve fountain heads of gossip, and he said that these twelve might well be matched against all the other gossipers of the country, they having qualities and faculties amounting to genius in gossip, and at least they would win prizes in a contest. In order to curb loose tongues Mr. MacIlravy announced that he had decided to set apart one Sunday of the month to squelching gossipers. He will on that day recite the gossip, without the names of the victims but with the names of the gossipers. In this way the public will become acquainted with the twelve gossipers' names, and some who are not far behind."

A CHICAGO dispatch dated June 22, and printed in the New York World follows: "Governor John A. Johnson's managers packed up their belongings at their Grand Pacific hotel headquarters today to go to Denver, there to make a last stand against the nomination of W. J. Bryan for president. They admit that Mr. Bryan has 'within thirty or forty' of the necessary two-thirds of the delegates instructed for him in the nominations in Georgia, North Carolina, Vermont and Montana, which will be held by July 1, he will get all the additional votes he needs, according to the Johnson managers' figures. Nevertheless the Minnesota candidate will be represented at Denver by a fighting organization. The effect of the nomination of W. H. Taft upon the democrats of the east is expected to aid the Johnson men. Delegates from the south who are bound by loose instructions may be impressed, it is believed, by the declarations of the New York World and the Brooklyn Eagle that they will not support Bryan, and that against the Nebraskan Taft would carry New York. An appeal to delegates to consider the success of the ticket as of more importance than their instructions may be made by the Johnson boomers."

GROVER CLEVELAND, twice president of the United States, died at his home at Princeton, N. J., June 24. The funeral took place at Princeton, June 26, President Roosevelt and a large number of distinguished men from all sections being in attendance. An Associated Press dispatch from Princeton, dated June 24, follows: "When death came, which was sudden, there were in the death chamber on the second floor of the Cleveland residence, Mrs. Cleveland, Dr. Joseph D. Bryant of New York, Mr. Cleveland's family physician and personal friend; Dr. George R. Lockwood, also of New York, and Dr. John M. Carnochan of Princeton. An official statement given out and signed by the three physicians gave heart trouble, superinduced by stomach and kidney ailments of long standing, as the cause of death. While Mr. Cleveland had been in poor health for the past two years and had lost a hundred pounds in weight, his death came unexpectedly. Some three weeks ago he was brought home from Lakewood, where his condition for a time was such that the hotel at which he was staying was kept open after its regular season because he was too ill to be moved. But when Mr. Cleveland was brought back to Princeton he showed signs of improvement and actually gained five pounds in weight. Although confined to his room continuously after his return to Princeton, it was not until yesterday that Mr. Cleveland's condition aroused uneasiness on

the part of Mrs. Cleveland. Undoubtedly affected by the heat, Mr. Cleveland showed signs of failure, and Mrs. Cleveland telephoned to Dr. Bryant, who came over from New York on the train, arriving here at 4:24 p. m. Dr. Lockwood followed Dr. Bryant from New York and when they reached here Dr. Carnochan, who had been Mr. Cleveland's local physician since the former president came to Princeton, was also called in. During the evening Mr. Cleveland seemed to rally, and Mrs. Cleveland, who also has been optimistic about her husband's health, felt assured that it was merely another of the many attacks Mr. Cleveland had suffered, and she informed those who inquired that Mr. Cleveland's condition was not serious. Mr. Cleveland became worse during the night, and Mrs. Cleveland was called to the bedside of her husband. The distinguished patient sank into unconsciousness, from which he recovered at times, only to suffer a relapse. This continued throughout the night and early morning. The last time he became unconscious was about two hours before he died. Death was peaceful. Just before he died Mr. Cleveland sought to say something, but his words were inaudible."

THE CAREER of the late Grover Cleveland is epitomized as follows: Born in Caldwell, Essex county, N. J., March 18, 1837; received an academical education at Fayetteville and Clinton, the latter in Onondia county, New York; father died in 1853, and he went to New York and was bookkeeper and teacher in Institute for Blind; moved to Buffalo in 1855; became clerk in a law office, and was admitted to the bar in 1859; assistant district attorney of Erie county 1863-6; sheriff of Erie county, 1870-4; elected mayor of Buffalo in 1881; elected governor of New York the following year; elected president of the United States in 1884; broke all records by vetoing 115 out of 987 bills; married Frances Folsom in the White House, June 2, 1884; during his term Washington, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota were admitted to statehood; was nominee for same office in 1888, but was defeated by Benjamin Harrison; again elected president in 1892; settled Venezuela boundary dispute in 1895; retired to private life, but always was prominent in movements for public welfare; elected trustee Equitable Life Assurance Society of United States June 10, 1905; died at his home in Princeton, N. J., June 24, 1908.

THE FUNERAL ceremonies for the late Grover Cleveland were simple in character, agreeable to the wishes of Mrs. Cleveland, and in harmony with the unostentatious life. An Associated Press report said: "Mr. Cleveland was buried with all the simplicity and privacy that he himself might have wished as a private citizen rather than as the former chief executive of the nation. There was nothing that savored of the official and the military element was injected solely as a measure of precaution in protecting President Roosevelt. The president arrived at 4:38 p. m. and was met at the station by Governor Fort. The president, Governor Fort and Secretary Loeb were driven at once to Westland. Upon his arrival at the house the president went to Mrs. Cleveland, offering his sympathy and expressing keen regret at Mr. Cleveland's death. The president then returned to the reception room where the body lay. A few minutes later the four clergymen who officiated came down the stairs to the hall leading to the reception room followed by Mrs. Cleveland and the children. The services began with an invocation by Rev. Sylvester W. Beach of the First Presbyterian church of Princeton, which was followed by Scriptural reading by Rev. Maitland of the West Farms Presbyterian church of New York, a former pastor of Mr. Cleveland, who read from the fourteenth chapter of the Book of John and twenty-second chapters of Thessalonians. 'And they shall see his face,' read Dr. Bartlett, in closing, 'and his name shall be in their foreheads; they shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light upon them, nor any heat, for the lamb which is the midst

of the throne shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of water, and God shall wipe all tears from their eyes.' Dr. Henry VanDyke then said that 'according to the request of one whose slightest wish at this moment we all respect, there will be no address or sermon, but there was a poem written more than a hundred years ago by William Warasworth which is expressive of his character.' He then read the poem, 'Character of Happy Warrior.' This was followed by readings from the Presbyterian book of common worship, the services at the house concluding with prayer. The services were concluded at 5:30 and five minutes later the casket had been tenderly carried to the hearse and the procession started on its way to the cemetery. Along the streets from the house to the cemetery national guardsmen, mounted and on foot, policed the way. The cemetery was reached a few minutes before 6 o'clock. The members of the family alighted from their carriages and with the four clergymen in the lead walked slowly down the graveled path leading to the open grave and the rose-strewn grave of Ruth, both almost hidden in the profusion of green boughs and flowers. Mrs. Cleveland stood with Esther and Richard and Dr. Bryant as the coffin was slowly lowered into the grave."

THE LAST honors paid the dead statesman were strictly private, both at Westland, the Cleveland residence, and at the cemetery, in compliance with the wishes not only of Mrs. Cleveland but those of Mr. Cleveland as well. The services at the house, which began at 5 o'clock (eastern time), lasted about half an hour. The clergymen alternating in the ceremonies there and at the grave were the Rev. Henry VanDyke of Princeton university, the Rev. Dr. William R. Richards of New York, the Rev. Chester Burch, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Princeton, in which Mrs. Cleveland is a communicant, and the Rev. Maitland V. Bartlett, a former pastor of Mr. Cleveland and the present pastor of the West Farms Presbyterian church of New York. The active pallbearers were George B. McClellan of New York, Commodore E. C. Benedict, Dr. Richard Watson Gilder, John P. Finler, Prof. Paul VanDyke of Princeton graduate seminary; Paul Morton, ex-secretary of the navy; Prof. Howard McClenahan of Princeton university, Prof. Andrew F. Wheat of Princeton, and Archibald D. Russell, Junius S. Morgan and Bayard Stockton, trustees of Princeton university. Mrs. Cleveland in issuing invitations to the funeral, considered first Mr. Cleveland's own friends and neighbors of recent years and also selected from among them the list of active pallbearers. No official distinctions were recognized. The word was given out: "Mrs. Cleveland has many personal friends who, perhaps, might have desired to attend, but because, she declares, Mr. Cleveland lived as a private citizen, she wished a private funeral with only friends who knew him in attendance."

M. R. TAFT, who is a graduate of Yale college, witnessed the boat race between Harvard and Yale college crew, June 25, in which Yale was defeated. The Associated Press said: "Amid a deafening din of steam whistles and horns and the shouts of collegians, the Harvard 'varsity eight shot their boat over the finish line tonight, winning from the crippled and distanced Yale crew that classic of American college aquatics, the Harvard-Yale boat race. But instead of a race Harvard finished the last mile and a half alone, while far behind Yale limped along with but seven men at the oars, while Griswold, the stroke—the man who had been relied upon to set the winning pace—bent forward, limp and faint from the terrific strain of the opening two miles. Up to this unexpected climax it had been a strong struggle, worthy of the best traditions of the old antagonists and with the fitting setting of a marine spectacle such as has seldom been equalled along a regatta course for brilliancy and magnitude. For the first time, too, the president of the United States was taking keen and active interest as a champion of the crimson colors, and although