

FLUNKYISM AND FLUNKIES.

The feverish young gentleman from Kentucky, used the term "flunky" or "flunkyism" in nearly every spasm of that delirious tirade on the floor of the house, in which he insulted the state department, the British legation, the German Empire, Prince Henry, Miss Roosevelt and the President, each in quick succession, and with a bewildering disregard for history, common truth, common courtesy and common decency.

Undoubtedly his purpose—if a man with hydrophobia can be said to have purpose—was to depict the self-respecting officials and private citizens of the greatest government under the sun, as groveling at the feet of royalty. This remarkable spasm was brought on simply and wholly because common courtesy and common decency have prompted Americans, who are not afraid of being seduced, to extend hospitality to a relative of the ruler of a great friendly nation, from whose people have been drawn a goodly proportion of our best citizens. The sturdy, frugal, honest German-American is thus taught that even the highest of his countrymen are deemed unfit to set foot upon American soil even for a brief period; or, doing so, must be left to their own devices, or quartered in some second-class boarding house and totally excluded from society.

While such a program might meet with the approbation of Mr. Wheeler, and those who applauded his late effort, the great bulk of Americans are neither so narrow-gauged nor so ignorantly vicious, as to allow any such disregard for the proprieties.

Proud of their country and its resources, and anxious to show visitors that we are not the barbarians which some Europeans consider us, they propose to put the best foot forward and make a good impression upon the mind of our noble guest, hoping that their hard efforts may partially offset the boastful vaporings of the swelled-chested gentleman from Kentucky, and his cohorts.

Besides, the term "flunky," in one sense, means simply a servant, which to Prince Henry we indeed are, just as any hospitable host, together with his household, is always the servant of those he entertains.

But there is a flunky whom the best class of citizens has learned to despise; the crawling, cringing toady, who would barter his very soul for the favor of his thoughtless constituency; who plays upon the passions of men for his own advancement; who arrays man against man, class against class, and nation against nation; who delves deep in his store of carefully hidden knowledge seeking an excuse

to insult the highest officials and common peoples of his own and other governments; who is so consistently and unalterably opposed to servitude anywhere, that he refuses to allow his tongue to act as the servant of his conscience and speak his own true thoughts, but rather studies the baser instincts of mankind and uses them to forward his own ambitions. A servile, crawling, cringing, fawning supplicant, groveling in the dust at the feet of his master—the excitable voter—and, hidden in a fog of his own raising, barks his diminutive defiance at men whose shoes he is not fit to blacken. Such a flunky is Wheeler of Kentucky; whether or not his constituency is of that ilk, will be known when it has either indorsed or repudiated Mr. Wheeler and his tremens.

Meanwhile, the country will continue to recognize the fact that a man may be a German, and still a man for a' that; also continue to extend fitting greeting and proper entertainment to the highest naval officer of a friendly power, even as the foreigners greeted and entertained Admiral Dewey throughout his late triumphal tour from the antipodes to our own shores. Henry of Prussia, the "Sailor Prince" occupies as high a position, officially, and in the hearts of his countrymen, as does Dewey, and an insult to him is an insult to all Germans, both in the Fatherland and in America.

By all means expunge this mess of buncombe from the congressional record, and if it must be preserved as an article of virtu, let it be framed and placed in the national museum, where it belongs. William Pitt once said of his countrymen: "We were once as savage in our manners, as degraded in our understandings as are these unhappy Africans."

This severe arraignment of former Britons was perhaps the result of taking a one-sided view of those statesmen who had lived before Pitt. It will not do to allow posterity, after reading the maudlin speech of this Kentucky barbarian, to pass a similar judgment upon the character of present-day Americans. By all means expunge the speech, and if possible the speaker.

THE HIDDEN HAND.

In St. Petersburg, the Anglo-Japanese treaty is received with an equanimity which, however, fails to deceive. At Paris there is more excitement, and Berlin is not indifferent. Public men of all the governments interested find it impossible to discuss the matter without reference to the United States, and everywhere there is the same suspicion that this government is bound hard and fast in the compact. Neither England nor

Japan finds it convenient to waste time in dispelling this suspicion; the suspicion serves their purpose as well as would the reality.

Europe will save itself from insomnia and possible nervous prostration, by simply pausing to reflect that American traditions forbid the engaging in entangling alliances for any purpose whatever. True, we stand for the open door and the integrity of China; so do Russia, Germany and France, if their statesmen are to be believed. While the alliance is strictly in line with our interests, and conditions might arise which would induce us to give our moral, perhaps actual, support to England and Japan, still no nation which does not consider China a vast grab-bag need fear any interference from America, either alone or in collusion with other powers.

It is the guilty conscience needing no accuser which prompts Europe to distrust the United States in the Orient. This distrust, however unjustified it may be, serves a good purpose, giving added weight to the declarations just published, and acting as a safe-guard to American interests, with no effort on our part.

SUPPRESSED.

Hon. T. J. Phillips, late democratic candidate for governor, in the state of Iowa, recently faced a heartless judge who fined him \$25 and costs for kicking a common editor. Thus one by one the freedman's sacred liberties are abridged. To be denied the indulgence of a passion for the time-honored sport of kicking editors, a sacred right jealously guarded by our fearless ancestors, is the last and most diabolical of a succession of dastardly blows aimed at liberty—as the Phillips wing of the Iowa democracy sees it.

PACIFIC CABLE.

Congress seems inclined to reject the propositions submitted by rival companies for the laying of the Pacific cable, and all signs indicate that the Orient and the Occident will be wired together at government expense. As it has been shown that the system can be placed in operation for about \$10,000,000—much more cheaply than had been supposed—it seems that it would be economy for the government to own, rather than rent, besides the obvious advantages of having absolute control of the cable at all times, thus insuring its efficiency and secrecy in peace or war. The proposition of the Commercial Pacific Cable company, to lay the cable, and, after its completion, to sell same to the government at its actual cost, seemed fair, but did not win the approval of congress. As a choice between granting a subsidy for a long term of years, virtually paying for the cable, yet not owning it, and of absolute ownership and control, the latter seems preferable.