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FREELAND, SEPTEMBER 7, 1899.

The Cuban Cable Monopoly.
From the Wilkesbarre Record.
A very general and emphatic demand is being made on Secretary of War Root to rescind the order given by Secretary Alger to General Brooke to prevent, by force if necessary, the landing of the cable of the Commercial Cable Company of Cuba. The order of Secretary Alger was clearly in the interest of a monopoly to the detriment alike of the business and commercial interests of the people of the United States and Cuba. The Western Union Telegraph Company claims the exclusive right to cable landing in the island, and if sustained by our government that company will necessarily have a complete monopoly of the telegraphic service between the United States and Cuba, a monopoly which is being taken advantage of by charging excessive rates. Commercial Cable Company disputes the exclusive right of the Western Union, and holds itself ready to prove that the concessions claimed by the latter were obtained by false and fraudulent representations.
It is neither just nor fair, nor yet good public policy, for the government of the United States to protect a monopoly of this description. The people of this country and Cuba are entitled to the advantages afforded by competition in cable service, as in everything else. The Commercial Cable Company of Cuba asks no special advantages, only equal privileges with the Western Union or any other company that may choose to lay a cable. The order of the former Secretary Alger is not only unjust and unfair, but offensive to the American spirit and it is hoped that the order will be promptly rescinded. There is no propriety in the United States government becoming the champion and defender of one corporation as against another.
As we understand the situation, the Commercial Cable Company of Cuba only asks the United States government to keep hands off and let the courts decide whether or not the Western Union has such exclusive rights as it claims, or that it has the right to prevent the landing of any cable but its own in Cuba.
The Western Union is resisting competition, as has ever been its policy. Competition means anti-monopoly, lower rates, and possibly better service. Ex-Senator George F. Edmunds struck a popular chord when he said in a recent opinion on the order of Secretary Alger: "It will certainly be amazing if the bayonets of the United States shall be used to maintain a disputed monopoly when the supposed or expected injury to it is purely one of carrying on the same business in the same country, and when the judicial power is perfectly available for the claimants of the monopoly to prevent a rival business being carried on." This is a matter in which the president might very properly interpose his authority, if it shall become necessary in the interest of justice, fair play and the public good.

I have been troubled with constipation for years. It was ruining my health, my comfort and my complexion, and I am glad to say that Celery King has restored all these, and this after trying many other medicines that were supposed to be good, but which were of no value whatever. I would like to tell every suffering woman what Celery King has done for me.—Nellie Gould, Medina, Ohio
Celery King cures Constipation and all diseases of the Nerves, Stomach, Liver and Kidneys. Sold by druggists, 25c and 50c. 3



A Cure for Constipation.
I have been troubled with constipation for years. It was ruining my health, my comfort and my complexion, and I am glad to say that Celery King has restored all these, and this after trying many other medicines that were supposed to be good, but which were of no value whatever. I would like to tell every suffering woman what Celery King has done for me.—Nellie Gould, Medina, Ohio
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CONSUMPTION

OUR CAPITAL LETTER.

GENERAL FITZ LEE'S TIMELY COMMENT ON CUBAN AFFAIRS.

War Department Got Something It Didn't Expect—Was Not to Its Liking and Suppression Was Ordered. But Truth Will Out—The Sampson Clique.

Washington, D. C., September 5.
General Fitz Lee gave the war department a little more than it expected when it asked him and the other department commanders in Cuba to make reports on condition of affairs under their jurisdiction, by adding the following recommendations to his report: "That a census of the island be taken as soon as possible; that the question of suffrage be carefully considered and a decision reached regulating the same; that a modern system of jurisprudence be introduced, so that elective officers can be voted for; that a general election be ordered for a president or a chief magistrate, a vice president and a congress or legislature, to consist of two branches, and all other officers of a republic, as well as municipal elections; all of which can be regulated, and prescribed by a convention composed of delegates in proper proportion from the different provinces, which shall meet as soon after the census is taken, as possible. In this way the pledged faith of the United States can be kept." Orders were given in the war department to suppress this report, but somehow it got out.

The Sampson clique in the navy department, which has been able to keep Sampson in command of the North Atlantic squadron, when other officers were entitled to that honor, will have him ordered to shore duty, after the Dewey reception, in New York, and it will also endeavor to prevent the arrival of Admiral Howison, who is Sampson's senior officer, in New York, whither he is bound from the South Atlantic, on the cruiser Chicago, in time to participate in the Dewey ceremonies. Not satisfied with having done so much for Sampson, the clique is still working to prevent Schley getting an important command, although he is clearly entitled to the sea duty he asked for many months ago.

In view of his close personal relations with Mr. McKinley, the statement in a report made to the war department, by General Leonard Wood, that the military control of Cuba will have to continue for a long time, is regarded as significant. That sort of opinion from our officers will be made to justify an indefinite military occupation of the island, notwithstanding present talk of municipal elections over there, in the spring, if the people of this country do not compel different action on the part of the administration.

Although Mr. McKinley only remained in Washington, from Saturday afternoon until Monday, when he went to Philadelphia to attend the G. A. R. encampment, where he hopes to put in some political ticks and incidentally to prevent a fight being made upon the present management of the pension bureau by the old soldiers, he found time to see some of the capitalists who, for purely selfish reasons, are trying to get the government to mix itself up in the revolution in Santo Domingo, by declaring a protectorate over the most turbulent mob of "niggers" ever known to exist in any portion of the world. With all his anxiety to please these capitalists, it is not believed that Mr. McKinley will do what they wish him to do. He has troubles enough now, without hunting for new ones.

The administration is crowing loudly because the August financial statement shows a surplus of a little more than four million dollars, but it is not calling anybody's attention to the fact that more than three millions of that surplus came from the sale of the old custom-house site in New York city; nor to the comparative smallness of some of the regular government payments for that month. There is nothing in the present state of government finances to do any crowing over.

How's This!
We offer One Hundred Dollar Reward for any case of Catarah that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, Ohio.

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Hall's Family Pills are the best. Special Reduced Fares to Bethlehem Via the Lehigh Valley Railroad, account of the Bethlehem State Fair, September 12 to 16, 1899. Tickets will be sold from Freeland to Bethlehem and return September 12 to 15 inclusive, limited for return to September 16. Special one-day rate of \$1.45 will be made Thursday, September 14. Tickets good going only on train No. 18 of that date, returning the same or following day.

Consult Lehigh Valley ticket agents for further particulars.
Elliott P. Kiser, Esq., of Hazleton, has presented to the Luzerne County Bar Association his private law library, said to be one of the most valuable in this section of the state. The gift is highly appreciated by the association.

BEARS DO HAVE FUN

Congressman Mondell's Story of a Tenderfoot's Experience.

A party on a hunting tour in Wyoming several years ago camped one evening at a point eighty-five miles southeast of the geysers. A lovely little prairie it was, surrounded by densely wooded hills; an ideal camping spot, with cool springs and abundant grass for the animals. Here the hunters left the wagon, took supplies on pack horses and went off for a few days' excursion among the ranges. The camp was left in charge of a tenderfoot who had enlisted as man-of-all-work.

It was at midnight, several days after the party had left, that this camp keeper was wakened by a desperate rumpus directly over his head. In regular camping fashion he had spread his blankets under the wagon. Crawling forth in great alarm, he looked up and saw an immense cinnamon bear in possession of the wagon, playing havoc with the party's stores. Tenderfoot took one good look; then his traitorous legs got the advantage of him and he rushed madly away into the surrounding scenery. When he felt himself safe as to distance he stopped to get his breath, to hear that bear chuckling over his easy victory; he also heard his lips smack as he took a fresh bite now and again, of the delicious sugar-cured hams, or diversified his repast with occasional taste of fresh venison. Tenderfoot was studying what course was best to pursue, and safest as well, and honorably concluded to go back to do what he could to retrieve the situation. By the time he regained the open prairie all the load was emptied out of the wagon and the bear was enjoying himself amazingly, prospecting among the various items that constituted the camp keeper thus looking on the bear made a rush toward him and the ex-wagonmaster incontinently forgot all sense of duty and fled.

This was Tenderfoot's first personal acquaintance with any bear. When the bear loomed up in the wagon he had a fearful appearance. Tenderfoot trembled in his boots then, and later, when the bear made at him, he lost his reckoning and naturally followed a backwoods trail that had been used only by Indians and wild animals. His astonishment can be imagined when he ran plump against another bear coming down the same trail. This one was young, not much more than half grown and not a graduate of any military academy. The young bear reared, and so did Tenderfoot, but soon as the latter regained his presence of mind he made another burst of speed that took him into the forest. He went and went until no sound coming after, he climbed a conifer to see what he could see.

He was surprised to find that he was not far from the wagon, as his course had been circuitous. His tree surmounted all the rest. Overlooking the bordering growths he could see the two bears at work, throwing the supplies about, helping themselves to the best there was, then tossing the rest in all directions. When appetite was satiated they uttered that inarticulate sound which in a bear signifies both satiety and delight. To the man up a tree it sounded better for being at a comfortable distance.

Having laid in full supplies, they began the most ungainly gambols and extravagant performance. They threw sugar-cured hams at each other; used potatoes as shot and shell; clapped and bugged and rolled around that wagon and over that prairie. In fact, they borrowed ideas from Indian life to make travesty of them. One managed to get hold of a green blanket and twisted it about his shoulders; reared on two feet and promenade about in great shape and exceeding good humor. Then the little one got hold of a red blanket and did the same. It was grotesque beyond words to express; there wasn't enough still life in it for an artist to work on.

When tired of this performance, the little one got his paw in a twenty-pound can of lard, licked it and licked it; but was not hungry enough to keep it. The result would take a pawful of lard and fling it at the big one. To hold his own the big one got possession of the can and snowballed the other. The lard held out until both were so spotted as to be able to pass for genuine polar bears of truest color.

Thus they scuffled among the tin pans and remains of the feast, gradually getting away from the wagon, rolling and tumbling about until they came directly under the tree where Tenderfoot was roosting. He had watched the performance eagerly, and was so delighted with the fun of it that he didn't grudge them all the supplies they had spoiled. This he could afford, as he had no financial interest in the matter. He had been leaning here and there, to get his eyes in range and find some position where he could see to best advantage, when he had the misfortune to lose his hold on the limb he had clung to, or it broke, and he fell, landing on top of one of the bears, which broke his fall. But as soon as that bear shook him off the other began to snowball him with lard, for in all these mad gambols they had kept the lard can close by.

It was so dark even by the moonlight that the bears couldn't well see in that pine forest. So they probably thought it was another bear. As Tenderfoot was soon covered with lard as they were, it was not easy to tell the difference. By this time Tenderfoot entered entirely into the sport of the game; tossed and rolled and threw lard as well as the best of them. How long it went on he never knew. All he did know was that he began to believe he had been changed to be a bear, and was having more fun than he ever dreamed of.

All at a sudden there came down the forest path a messenger who had been despatched to bring up something forgotten; he had travelled by night to be there at breakfast. As he came, shouting and singing, occasionally firing his pistol, the beasts took alarm; they tore off into the woods—and that is all Congressman-elect Mondell had to tell of that bear story. He was on that hunting party. The story will be all right if told half as well as he told it.

"It will hardly surprise you," said the timid lover, "to be informed that I love your daughter."
"Surprise me!" cried her father, "Do you think I'm a luncheon? You've been mooning around here long enough to let any idiot into the secret!"—Philadelphia North America.

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