

THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

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A CLEAR CUT DECLARATION.

On last Wednesday there appeared in the Brooklyn Eagle a letter of more than ordinary interest. The author thereof was Mr. Grover Cleveland, and the purport of the letter was to decline once for all the nomination for the presidency, which so many Democrats have desired to offer the ex-president.

The letter declares the man to be what he is: grateful to his friends for kindly feeling, yet keenly alive to the fact that the proprieties, both personal and public, forbid his acceptance of the next presidential nomination.

His declaration that "in the midst of it all, and in full view of every consideration presented, I have not for a moment been able, nor am I now able, to open my mind to the thought that in any circumstances or upon any consideration, I should ever again become the nominee of my party for the presidency," bears out THE FREE PRESS in the opinion that Mr. Cleveland could hardly be considered seriously for the high office of a third time chief executive—and this because the old man doesn't want the place.

However acceptable a candidate Mr. Cleveland would make to any element, his declaration that "my determination not to do so (become a candidate) is unalterable and conclusive" is calculated to soothe the fevered brow of all those who saw visions of the old hunter making for the white house. All such persons may now rest in peace, for Mr. Cleveland says in effect, that he prefers the pursuit of the duck, the goose and the grouse in the southern marshes, a good fishing tackle with plenty of bait, or his quiet home 'neath the shades of Princeton. It is noteworthy to remark that Editor McKelway, of the Eagle, will now support Judge Alton B. Parker for the nomination.

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

The first examination for the Rhodes scholarship will be held on the 10th of March, 1904, in Raleigh. The examination is not competitive, but is based on the requirements for Resolutions at Oxford University and is intended to give assurance that all candidates are fully qualified to enter on a course of study at that university.

The following committee has been appointed to have in charge the selection of the scholar:

Prof. E. Alexander, Chapel Hill; Prof. J. B. Carline, Wake Forest; Prof. J. L. Douglas, Davidson; Prof. Edwin Mims, Durham, and President F. P. Venable, chairman.—Fayetteville Observer.

THE FREE PRESS regrets to learn that Mr. Paul R. Outlaw, is to resign from the staff of the Greenville Reflector. The paper and the public will lose a valuable man.

Blue Mountain Tea.

The foliage and flowers of all the goldenrods, says the Philadelphia Press, are imbued with an astringent principle and are moderately stimulant, so that their suitability for the manufacture of a domestic tea was recognized by the American colonists as long ago as when George III. was king over them. One species, the fragrant leaved goldenrod, known sometimes as Blue Mountain tea, possesses in addition the favor of licorice. Drunk piping hot in the wilderness it makes a pleasant feature in the camper's limited menu. This especial kind of goldenrod begins to bloom quite early in the summer and is easy of recognition.

The Earthworm.

Among agricultural workers perhaps the earthworm receives the least attention. Its value to the land is seldom appreciated. It bores through the soil, making little tunnels in every direction, thereby admitting the air and moisture not only to the soil, but through the soil to the subsoil. During the process of boring it eats its way along, thereby grinding up the little particles of earth, rendering them finer and in better condition to retain moisture.

Asserted His Freedom.

"Well," said Tom sleepily to his roommate, "did you solve that puzzle?" "No," snapped Dick as he got ready for bed. "Eh! You said you'd solve it, if you had to stay up all night to do it?" "Well, I didn't have to stay up all night. This is a free country."—Philadelphia Press.

A Remarkable Case.

One of the most remarkable cases of a solid, deep-seated lung, causing pneumonia, is that of Mrs. Gertrude E. Funder, Marion, Indiana, who was entirely cured by the use of "One Minute Cough Cure." She says: "The medicine and treatment are wonderful. I feel like I can do anything now."

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

HOW THE REVOLUTION AGAINST COLOMBIA CAME ABOUT.

Precipitated by Refusal of Senate at Bogota to Ratify Canal Treaty. Other States May Join Movement. The United States' Position.

The successful revolt of the state of Panama against the government of Colombia and the setting up of an independent republic on the isthmus adds another interesting page to the history of the Panama canal. The cause of the revolution may be summed up as being the result of the action of the Colombian senate in rejecting the Hay-Herran treaty. The isthmians are solidly in favor of the construction by the United States of the canal, and it had been prophesied that Panama would secede if the treaty were rejected. Now it appears that Panama may not be the only state which is to be lost to Colombia in the event of the revolutionists being able to maintain a stable government.

It is said that the states of Bolivar, Cauca and Magdalena are also dissatisfied with the Bogota government and that it would take little to make them join the new republic.

In the movement to organize a separate government Liberals and Conservatives, who have fought each other for a quarter of a century, were united and worked together. While there has existed for many years among the inhabitants of Panama a spirit of independence, political differences have heretofore prevented the people from acting together. But the last blow struck at their welfare, the defeat of the canal treaty, which is said to have been actuated by the jealousy of the interior departments of their more fortunately situated neighbors on the coast, decided them to sink their differences and stand together.

The new republic of Panama has an area of 81,571 square miles and a population of 504,773. The territory to be embraced in the new state will extend to the Costa Rican boundary on the west, a distance of 225 miles from Panama city, and to a point some 225 miles



GENERAL HUERTAS, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

east, making the new republic about 450 miles in length. A prominent Colombian now in this country, discussing the revolution, said:

"It is not generally understood in the United States that there is and has long been a bitter feeling between the Colombians in the interior and those on the coast. They are, in fact, two very dissimilar peoples. Those in the mountain departments of the interior are narrow minded and unprogressive, while the people on the coast are progressive, energetic and more intellectual.

"Of course with these qualities and the geographical advantages enjoyed by the latter they are more prosperous than their compatriots in the interior. This has caused great jealousy, and the coast departments have had to submit to the continual oppression of the Bogota government. They have always contributed the greater part of the revenues without receiving any benefits."

The United States government has a stronger force on the isthmus than it has ever had there before, nearly 3,000 men being there or in the immediate vicinity. The Atlanta, with 400 men; the Nashville, with 200, and the Dixie, with 800 to 1,000, are on the Colon side of the Isthmus, while the Boston, with 400; the Concord, with 250; the Wyoming, with 400, and the Marblehead, with 300, will be stationed at Panama.

The policy of this government at Panama will be to preserve order and protect the traffic of the Panama railroad. The statement has also been made at Washington that the United States "will endeavor to prevent bloodshed," which means that as far as possible any clash between the revolutionists and the Colombian troops on the isthmus will be prevented. This policy will, of course, make more difficult the subjection of Panama by Colombia.

The flag of the new republic of Panama, which has been hoisted at Colon and Panama, consists of four squares. The first upper square to the left is blue. The first lower square to the left is white, with a blue star in its center. The second upper square is white, with a red star in its center, and the second lower square is red.

Colombia, it is said, has almost no chance to go to war over the Isthmus situation. Her treasury has been exhausted by the revolution.

NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR.

Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, King Edward's Envoy to This Country.

Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, who has been appointed British ambassador to the United States to succeed the late Sir Michael Herbert, is a man of different stamp and career than his three immediate predecessors in that office. They were trained in the foreign office itself and served in subordinate posts until regularly advanced to the top. All did their work in civilized capitals and abroad and at home were figures in society.

On the other hand, Sir Mortimer, as he is called in London, until he was sent to Madrid made his career in India and central Asia, and his work was mainly with half civilized peoples. In both India and England he is counted an Indian official whom the foreign office has taken to itself because of the merits of the work he has done.



SIR HENRY MORTIMER DURAND.

Sir Mortimer is a lawyer by profession, but has had a large diplomatic experience. He entered the British foreign service in 1873 and has held many important posts. He conducted the negotiations with the Chinese government which closed the war with Tibet in 1888, and in 1894 was appointed minister to Persia, remaining there until sent as ambassador to Spain.

The most notable feature of Sir Mortimer's selection is the fact that he is the first diplomat of ambassadorial rank chosen to represent Great Britain in Washington. Heretofore Washington has been looked upon as a post ranking at the foot of the embassies, and it has been the custom to promote a minister to be ambassador here. The state department sees in this a distinct recognition of the importance of the United States government.

Aside from his reputation as a diplomat Sir Mortimer has some fame as a writer. His novel "Helen Trevelyan" met with success, and he has also written a memoir of his father and a work on the Afghan war.

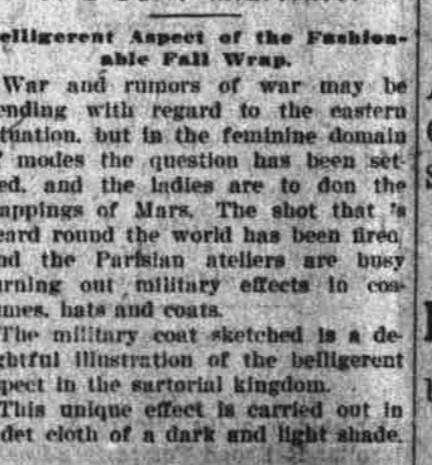
THE COAT MILITARY.

Belligerent Aspect of the Fashionable Fall Wrap.

War and rumors of war may be pending with regard to the eastern situation, but in the feminine domain of modes the question has been settled, and the ladies are to don the trappings of Mars. The shot that is heard round the world has been fired, and the Parisian ateliers are busy turning out military effects in costumes, hats and coats.

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