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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

IT SEEMS that when Dewey said in Greensboro the other day that it did not take a man of much sense to be a President, he was not joking so much as we thought he was. For within twenty-four hours after the utterance in Greensboro he said the same thing in New York and followed the statement by declaring himself a candidate for the nomination for the Presidency. Well. There will be a bigger sinking of hopes in his heart before he is much older than there was of the old rickety ships in Manila bay two years ago, if he means the thing in earnest. Dewey has played his little part and has stepped off the boards, and he had better not return for the encores. In the first place, Dewey could not for the life of him, decide which party he would look to for the nomination, and he has no settled convictions on the issue of the day. His only statement in regard to his policy being that he would obey the wishes of Congress as he had obeyed the orders of his superior officers, and a pretty mess he would make of it. The truth is, he expects to ride into office on the strength of his morning's work over at Manila, and is going to find that his steed will buck worse than a mustang when he starts for the White House, for the American people are as soon to forget as they are ready to applaud.

The Methodist Church and especially Christianity has received a severe blow in the action of J. W. Lee, the "Irish Evangelist." Such men, by such actions, do more to crush out that respect for the church and the ministry which is so vital to the future of our religious existence, than all the scoffing of infidels could accomplish in a life-time. We love to think of the ministry as being holy—a mouth-piece for God to reveal his love, and way of salvation to a lost and sinful world, and the church as a sacred dwelling place of the Great Jehovah where we can gather together in sweet communion out of the reach

of the world and its scoffings. But every day some new evidence is coming to light to show, that instead of the ministry being strictly the mediums and members of the Lowly Nazarine and the church his sacred tabernacle, it often becomes the subterfuge of Satan, and instead of the voice of God, and the prophet, it is often the braying ass we hear, and instead of the holy sanctuary it is a screen for his Satanic Majesty's cloven footed representatives. But there is no man who is a close observer of events, who can fail to appreciate the truthfulness of the utterance of that man who said, the devil persecuted the church until he found it was still going ahead, and then joined the church and began business for himself as one of its authorized agents.

There is no discussion going on in the Fifth District, as to who shall be the nominee of the Democratic party for Congressman from that district, for there is no discussion needed. Hon. W. W. Kitchin has so endeared himself to the people of his district that it would not only be an impossibility for the Republicans to defeat him, but it would be an impossibility for another man to be nominated in his stead, on the Democratic ticket. We love Mr. Kitchin for his pureness of character, for his noble official record, his political record, and for his gentlemanly principles in general. Hon. W. W. Kitchin will be our next Congressman from the Fifth District to succeed himself.

We have not seen where Col. John S. Cunningham has given out that he would accept the nomination of Lt. Governor, and we object to having him thus side-tracked. Col. Cunningham has hundreds of friends who are not so sure but that he would have received the nomination for Governor this year, and all will admit that his nomination in the next go-round would be certain if he refused to take second place this year. But if he is nominated as Lt.

Governor, his chances for being nominated as Governor four years hence would be greatly lessened. We contend that Col. Cunningham is good material for a Governor and we object to the timber being thus sacrificed.

Worse and worse. It has been suggested that Bryan and Gov. Cleveland head the National Democratic ticket. This will be too much of a compromise. Better make it Bryan and McKinley.

General Lew Wallace, who served as a delegate to the St. Louis Republican Convention and was one of the original McKinley men in Indiana, has addressed an open letter to the Republicans of his State in which he charges that President McKinley is attempting to make colonies of Puerto Rico and the Philippines to be governed by him. He declares that the President is negotiating for the islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix and that he is controlling Congress through patronage. Gen. Wallace's letter contains a draft of an amendment to the Constitution, which he suggests should be adopted as a bar to the President's purpose.

Opinions to order while you wait! Some time ago, Mr. Magoon, law officer of the War Department prepared an elaborate argument to show that the Constitution followed the flag. After he had showed it to perhaps a dozen, it was called in and another was prepared, equally elaborate, proving conclusively that the Constitution did not follow the flag. Now Representative Richardson of Tennessee, is trying to get hold of the first report. But he will not do it.

Three men serving sentences on the chain gang, of Guilford county, made a break for liberty from the guards near Gibsonville, last week. The guard fired, and two of the men being in line, the ball passed entirely through the body of one of them and mortally wounded the other.



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