

Admiral Dewey and the Politicians.

"Dewey, the fame-crowned hero! Dewey, the statesman, who believes, as Mr. Bryan has so courageously and eloquently proclaimed before the people, that we have not outgrown the Constitution nor outlived the Declaration of Independence! Dewey, the American."

"He is fit, he is able, he is honest, he is fearless, he is independent, he is invincible. His nomination would be equivalent to his election. His election would be a patriotic jubilee, not a party victory. It would end the nightmare of Imperialism."

Poor Admiral Dewey! He is by education and training a thorough sailor, and apparently one of the most modest of brave men, with an expressed belief in his absolute unfitness for a political career. After his long voyage he probably desires only to rest and enjoy the comforts of home. But popular applause of his achievements has induced some of those who dabble in public affairs, and think they are versed in the science of government, to make an effort to launch the conquering hero on the sea of politics. The above extracts from a New York paper are chock full of fervor and intensity of feeling. However, Admiral Dewey is reported as stating that under no circumstances would he consider or accept a nomination for the Presidency. Some one else will have to deal with the "new issues of the new country." But petty politicians will probably exhaust all their cunning in the effort to rob the sea of a good Admiral for the sake of running him into the White House, where he might be a conspicuous failure.

Sir William Van Horne's Proposal.

In June last, when commenting on the valediction of Sir William Van Horne to the presidency of the Canadian Pacific Railway, we ventured to predict that, although he has earned the rest he then claimed to desire, his activity would lead him into fresh fields of labour. He is able to look backward upon years of continuous railway work, during which he watched the construction, growth and wonderful success of that road from ocean to ocean, which, taken in conjunction with our magnificent waterways, more especially the unrivalled river which runs from the port of Montreal to the sea, fully warrants his belief in the future prosperity of the Dominion.

But the the ex-president of the great Imperial highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific is not yet satisfied, and, unless the special London correspondent of the "Gazette" is misinformed, Sir William Van Horne proposes "that the C. P. R. should establish a fast mail service and control the entire route from London to Japan and Australia." The project is said to have attracted a good deal of attention in London, and, vast and difficult as the scheme is, it is very favorably received, and the belief is entertained that in due time we shall see it carried out. Its great importance politically as well as commercially is thoroughly appreciated, and it is pleasant to find on all hands an unbounded faith in Canada's spirit and ability to ac-

complish a great imperial scheme which the "Globe" (Eng.) says: "Will be of such value to this country and its colonies, by giving cohesion to the empire in thus linking together in one vast homogeneous system its most distant units."

The "great imperial scheme" may safely be left in the hands of one who has done so much to make the transport facilities of Canada such as are unsurpassed by those of any other country, and Canadians will have "unbounded faith" in Sir William Van Horne's spirit and ability to accomplish whatever he undertakes. That the Canadian Pacific passengers will be conveyed across the Atlantic by a special line of steamers seems as certain as the existence of the company's splendid vessels for carrying passengers from Vancouver to Hong Kong. When resigning office in favour of his capable and energetic successor, Sir William Van Horne remarked that the C. P. R. company was "in a splendid position in every way," and, he added, "its prosperous future seems quite assured."

That this great corporation will add to its prosperity by controlling the route from London to Japan and Australia cannot be questioned.

Consumption.

In recent numbers of THE CHRONICLE attention has been directed to the methods now being adopted to induce people to regard consumption as a communicable disease. Last month we reported the case of a physician in Detroit, who, having failed to report his attendance upon a patient suffering from tuberculosis, was fined \$50 and costs for neglecting to comply with the regulations of the board of health in that city. The doctor intends to legally question the right of the health officers to classify consumption with small-pox, scarlet fever and other diseases, the outbreak of any new case of which has to be reported to the health authorities.

Following close upon the action of the Detroit officials comes the news that the health authorities of California want to exclude consumptives from the State by quarantine. There is evidently a great diversity of opinion as to the necessity for taking such precautions. While some papers advocate classifying consumption with cholera and yellow fever, others characterize the proposed exclusion of consumptives from the balmy climate of California as "the brutality of fear." The "Daily States" says:—

"The plan is exceedingly cruel and the fruit of a senseless scare. Consumption is a disease that is as old as the human race, and has carried off millions of people, entering families and placing the finger of death on some beloved member, while others escape the scourge. If consumption is as contagious as latter day science has pronounced it to be, it is a wonder that there is a single person alive on the earth to-day. For many years invalids from consumption have sought California because its balmy climate relieved their suffering, and in hundreds, we may well say thousands of instances, effected permanent cures. To shut these sufferers out of the State as though