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GEORGE R. TSCHECHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of December, A. D. 1900. M. B. J. NEGRO, Notary Public.

That ominous rumbling is simply the noise of Bryan's new paper coming down the track.

The new century seems to be commencing its death record with the most shining names of the old century.

The warden of the penitentiary will hereafter insist on having advance notice of all legislative surprise parties that swoop down upon him.

West Point cadets have agreed to swear off on hazing. The suspicion is abroad, however, that it is a new year resolution not intended to last the year out.

Nebraska is not the only state blessed with a senatorial deadlock. Utah and Delaware are also balking daily to prevent Nebraska from becoming lonesome.

Champ Clark has discovered an irrepressible resemblance between Congressman Sutherland and Colonel Bryan. Champ should buy a new pair of glasses.

A bill has been introduced into the legislature to relieve the sureties on the Hilton bond from their obligations to the state. Of course the bill is fathered by Ransom.

There is no need of any smallpox scare in Omaha, as whatever cases of the disease have been uncovered here are well under control, with no danger of becoming epidemic.

It took more than two months to elect a senator from Nebraska two years ago. No need, therefore, of undue impatience over the election of two United States senators from Nebraska this year.

If salt is really the elixir of life, as is claimed by the new scientists in search of the fountain of youth, sailing up Salt Creek will be invested with new pleasure for the politicians of the future.

Real estate has been more active in Omaha according to the real estate dealers. This is only preliminary to a real estate revival that is certainly on the boards for next spring and summer.

Omaha has carried off the honors in the shooting match at Kansas City just closed. Kansas City must learn that it is not so much even though it was successful in overhauling the census man.

Everyone in Nebraska, irrespective of politics, is gratified to hear the encouraging reports from the bedside of Congressman Neville at Washington. It is to be hoped he may recover completely and resume service in behalf of his district.

No public prosecuting officer has a right to use his position for the purpose of political persecution; otherwise a conspiracy might be formed against any citizen to keep him constantly in the courts answering groundless complaints for fictitious offenses. There is a marked difference between persecution and prosecution.

Chicago has successfully blocked Omaha's efforts to secure the next annual live stock convention, but Omaha is by no means discouraged, because the campaign waged in its behalf has certainly made many friends. The convention will have to be located again for 1902 and the live stock men may as well count Omaha in it already.

Give Oil Inspector Gaffin credit for his excellent report of fees collected over and above the expenses of his office. Mr. Gaffin's report, however, must be regarded as a left-handed compliment to his great reform predecessor, Chairman Edmiston of the populist state committee. The republicans will let Edmiston and Gaffin fight it out.

Senator-elect Patterson of Colorado joined the populist party in 1892 and after getting all he could out of it deserted it in 1901. It is safe to say that if he made his declaration recanting populism and asserting his conversion to democracy before his election as senator instead of after, he would not have had such a smooth road to travel.

ECONOMY THE WATCHWORD.

While the legislature will not wrestle with the appropriation bills for some weeks to come the committees which have to pass upon the estimates of funds demanded for the various departments of the state and state institutions should not forget the necessity of economy.

One of the tests to be applied to the success of the government under republican control will be the financial test. Although without any just reason, the fusionists of this state have carefully spread the impression that republican state government is equivalent to extravagant state government, and their plea for reinstatement by the voters will be a promise of retrenchment and smaller tax burdens.

While the steady growth of the state will naturally require a corresponding expansion of state activity in all directions, which the people not only expect but demand, at the same time they have no sympathy or countenance for waste or unnecessary expenditure. The money of the state ought to be expended with the same regard to results and securing full returns for the outlay that would obtain in private business.

If the legislature will keep this constantly in mind it will avoid much complaint in the future.

THE RECIPROcity TREATIES.

Notwithstanding the plea made by President McKinley, in his annual message, for the ratification of the reciprocity treaties, there appears to be small chance of their receiving the approval of the senate. It is possible that a few of them, to which there is substantially no opposition, may be ratified, but the indications are that a majority of them and perhaps all will fail of approval by congress, thus making futile all the arduous labor of the reciprocity commission and defeating the purpose of the Dingley law for trade expansion by means of reciprocity.

SOME FRUITS OF FUSION.

The election of two United States senators as a result of fusion in Colorado and Idaho—one a populist and the other a so-called republican—only to have them declare, as soon as they had their credentials securely in their possession, that they had ceased allegiance to their former political organizations and would henceforth act with the democrats in name as well as in policy, must cause thoughtful populists to ponder over the prospects before them.

Senator-elect Patterson of Colorado, who since 1892 has been a pillar of the populist party and presided over the Sioux Falls convention only last June, in his renunciation of populism declared:

The principles of the Kansas City platform are those, in the main, for which the people and silver republican parties have contended. I believe a fight for them can be most successfully made within the democratic ranks. Those who are outside of them are outside of the fortifications and are but helpless lookers-on. I can see no present hope for the triumph of the principles of the Kansas City platform except through the democratic party.

Senator-elect Fred T. Dubois of Idaho was one of the associates of Charles A. Towne in the organization of the so-called silver republican party. Like Towne, he was ready to go over to the democrats immediately after the campaign of 1896, but with him was deterred from doing so at the wish of the democratic leaders, who thought they might be of more service to democracy by continuing the silver republican masquerade. Towne threw off the mask at the time of the Kansas City convention, whereas Dubois continued to wear it until he had landed the senatorship, which was the cause of his original adhesion to the silver triumvirate. But he has now declared with equal positiveness that as senator he will affiliate with the democrats.

By this time the allies of the democratic party in silver states like Colorado and Idaho have outlived their usefulness to the extent of being practically swallowed up by the democratic party, and the question naturally presents whether the populists of Nebraska have the same career mapped out for them or whether they can avoid assimilation by anything short of immediate repudiation of fusion. As to the silver republicans in this state, they never amounted to anything as a political party. What few there were have already either returned to republican ranks or embraced outright the creed of the democrats or the populists. If populism is to be used simply as a stepping-stone to office by disguised democrats, the original populists, who had as great, if not greater, aversion to the democratic party as to the republican, will soon have their eyes opened and refuse to be used for such purpose.

From these repeated announcements of populists backsliding in other states it looks as if fusion were no longer a serious problem except in Nebraska.

The assured re-election of Senator Francis E. Warren of Wyoming by the unanimous choice of the republicans in the legislature of that state is a well deserved tribute to his efficiency in the senate. Senator Warren is thoroughly representative of the western states and is always found standing up for western progress. That he will continue to be a useful member of the senate not only for Wyoming but for the neighboring states as well goes without saying.

Congressman Stark claims to have made the discovery that ex-Governor Boyd, whose eligibility to the position of chief executive of the state was once questioned on the ground of illegibility, is, under a more recent decision of the supreme court, eligible to the presidency of the United States as a native-born citizen. It is interesting to know that Mr. Bryan eligible for the presidency should the requisition be made.

Pat Crowe is wanted now simply as a social guest, and wanted so badly that his friends are willing to pay liberally for the privilege of his company. What other explanation could be put on the offer of a reward simply for his presence?

The official organ of the Nebraska populists says that "the peculiar senatorial situation has saved several seats to the fusionists in the legislature." This

portion of the Chinese Empire? This question is of as much importance to the United States as to any other country, because this nation has a large trade with the province of Manchuria. Some ten days ago the Russian minister of finance, in submitting his annual budget, said that the destruction of the railway caused Russia to send troops to Manchuria and he declared that his government was working for the pacification of the disturbed districts and for the restoration of good relations with China. He further said that so soon as Russia's immediate and urgent duties were accomplished she would reduce her military forces in Manchuria. He also said: "Russia has accomplished all that it was her duty as a Christian power to do in China. We were induced to act thus, not by any prospect of advantages, but by the consciousness of our solidarity with the whole human race, proving in an irrefragable manner that Russia is pacific, not because she is weak, but because she is conscious of her power." This was manifestly intended as an answer to the inquiry of the powers, or some of them, in regard to Russia's purpose in Manchuria and as no other response has been made is perhaps to be accepted as final.

At all events the indications are that Russia has no intention of relinquishing the recently occupied territory in Manchuria, which gives her the control of that populous province, with the privilege of closing it to the trade of the rest of the world. And in this, it appears, she has the countenance of Germany, which means all continental Europe. The great interest which the United States has in this matter suggests the question whether our government is giving it the attention which its importance merits.

The other senatorial aspirants only wish they had a legislative following as steadfastly loyal to the candidate to whom they are committed as the Douglas county members.

Real Thing in Totems.

The Sitka Indians have long quarrelled over their clan totems, but recently they elected a grand palaver and solemnly agreed to make the American flag their only totem.

Opportunity Recreating.

It is now expected that the recruiting stations for the new army will be opened in time to be of service to young farmers who desire to escape the spring plowing.

His Concern, Small Trick.

A trust has been detected in selling by short weight. It was only a trifle in each case, only a shortage of four ounces in a case of oil, but it appears by the judicial proceedings to have gained for the trust the very respectable sum of \$12,012 in its dealings with a single party, so that the aggregate of profit gained in this way must have been something handsome. The occurrence shows that a trust can stoop to very small things when there is money in them.

Punish the Plunderers.

The supreme court at last has decided that Neely must be tried in Cuba. Now, try him as quickly as can be, and Rathbone, too. Spare no officials, high or low, civil or military, that have sought to plunder Cuba. It has been asserted often that the American people are conducting in Cuba the most gigantic philanthropic enterprise the world ever has known. All the more shocking, then, is the conduct of our agents who have betrayed our trust and robbed the object of our charitable endeavor.

Better Than His Patrons.

It is perfectly certain that, despite the disputes which surround the calling of a usurper, men like the late Sam Lewis of London are a good deal better than most of their clients. Lewis, for example, loaned money to titled nincompoops who were not his equals in intelligence, in modesty or in charity to the needy. His requests to charity show that he had generous impulses. Could as much be said of the aristocratic spend-thrifts and dead beats who borrowed money from him?

Cost of Carrying the Mail.

The public has so long been told that the postal authorities pay three or four prices for carrying the mails that many have come to believe the story and to cite the statement as evidence of the power of railroad corporations over those who have the contracts. One of these statements is to the effect that 40 cents per ton per mile is paid for carrying the mails at only 20 cents per ton per mile paid by passengers and .82 of a cent per mile for carrying freight. The senate and house committee which has just investigated the matter, employing an expert statistician, reports that instead of 40 cents a mile per ton, mail-carrying cost only 12 cents. Thus one anti-railroad statement is destroyed.

THE LATE GOVERNOR MOUNT.

Indianapolis News: In war, in peace, in public and in private life, there appeared the same earnest effort to do the best that lay in him. Surely the much-quoted phrase, "Well done, good and faithful servant," can be said truthfully of him if ever it was said of any man.

Indianapolis Press: James A. Mount was one of the finest specimens of American citizenship that ever lived. His qualities can be produced: a citizens of the respect, a regard and an affection from the ranks to large sphere of influence, and who always used his powers for the best result.

Servant of God, well done.

The battle fought, the victory won, Enter thy Master's glory.

Chicago Record: Ex-Governor James A. Mount, whose sudden death causes general regret, was of a type of men whose participation in politics should be welcomed. Essentially a man of the people in habits and methods of thought, Mr. Mount during his term as governor of Indiana was the people's point of view and tried honestly to serve them as they would like to be served. As a result he held a degree of confidence and esteem which enabled him to take a stand against political intrigues, to improve the civil service and to administer the executive department on a business basis even when the politicians opposing his course were most insistent. His career has served to illustrate what satisfactory service may be given in public office by men who, even if they are without especially brilliant gifts, have honesty of purpose and firm regard for the interests of the majority.

Indianapolis Journal: To the dead ex-governor belongs the honor of putting the penal, reformatory and benevolent institutions of the state upon the high plane of modern civilization. The legislature may, if possible, but a less conscientious and resolute executive would have made the law ineffective. It was not an easy thing to do, but Governor Mount did it. His boards are made up of some of the best men in both parties, and the result generally recognized as a happy one in comparison with the conviction of the intelligent people of Indiana when he said, "Governor Mount's non-partisan administration of the benevolent, penal and reformatory institutions of the state is a class power. The needed increase in the United States regular force will not begin to put this government among the military powers of the world, which are weighed down by their fighting establishments."

states the proposition in a nutshell. If it were not for the senatorial complication the fusion members of the legislature who secured their certificates as a result of fraud would have been unseated without delay. The time is likely to come, too, before the session ends, when important party legislation is at stake, that the votes of a few more republicans would come in mighty handy.

Mayor Taggart of Indianapolis, who is high in the national democratic organization, has turned his back on Bryan as a candidate for 1901, saying that he expects the next democratic standard bearer to be a man of the Zach Taylor stripe. He fails to say whether he fills this description himself, and he also seems to forget that Zach Taylor ran for president and was elected against the candidate of the democratic party.

The compulsory resignation of Professor Howard of Leland Stanford makes another martyr to free speech that will be worked to the limit by the popocratic press. Here is another chance for the popocratic board of regents of the Nebraska state university to come to the rescue by making a fat job for Howard in recognition of his support of Bryan.

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STATE PRESS ON STATE POLITICS.

Weeping Water Republican: At Vinton, Ia., the school for blind, with an attendance of 112 pupils, was maintained for two years on a cost of \$40,000, while the one at Nebraska City, with only forty-five students, cost the state \$50,000 for the same length of time. The difference is the difference in the management of republican and fusion methods of economy.

Keosauqua Hub: The legislature should legislate carefully and wisely with reference to the beneficiary institutions that have grown up in the state. Where the law is weak it should be amended so that it will be necessary to strengthen these institutions and provide for the greatest security for their policy and certificate holders. The widest coverage should be given. It is better to have a few strong beneficiary and insurance associations than many weak and struggling ones.

Grand Island Democrat: We have too many laws rather than too few. We have too many politicians and too few statesmen. That's the reason we have so many laws. Politicians make new laws; statesmen improve what we have. There's the difference between those who want their country to do something for them and those who want to do something for their country. Here's a suggestion to the new Nebraska legislature: Don't add to the mass of burdensome legislation. Repeat much now on the statute books, elect the senators and go home.

McCook Tribune: The legislature will stand up for Nebraska by killing the sundry attempts already being made to unload the school property to the state for normal school purposes. Especially about all such efforts having Lincoln and the eastern part of the state as beneficiaries be promptly killed. Practically all the state institutions and schools in Nebraska are now located in the eastern part of the state. An effort to establish a state normal in Lincoln, where so many state institutions are now located has an aspect particularly gloomy.

Friend Telegraph: The average legislator betinks himself of the fact that he should during the session father at least a half dozen different bills. The fact is that Nebraska has at this time laws which had by far better be of the statute books, laws which are, and always have been, dead letters; laws which are a menace to good government. If the legislature would repeal a large number of these laws, pass reasonable appropriations, elect two United States senators of whom the great mass of the people would approve, and then adjourn and go home, there would be more cause for rejoicing all over the state than there has been for many years.

Waterloo Express: During the recent campaign when the republicans were the most able opponent to create a sentiment against Mr. Dietrich, every voter received or was shown copies of a circular written by a highly moral and virtuous clergyman at Hastings, who pointed out in impassioned language that the republican candidate for governor was a patron of prize fights. He pointed out the hideous probability that in case of Dietrich's election he would welcome the bruisers to Nebraska with open arms. During the first month of the new year the governor has received a telegram from Ohio asking if a big prize fight can be pulled off here. It must be a great disappointment to the Hastings clergyman to learn that the governor replied with a prompt and peremptory "No," and that he is determined to prevent any such exhibition in this state. It is not very important, but since everybody saw the circular referred to it may be slightly interesting to recall the circumstance now and keep history straight.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

Governor Dockery of Missouri is one of the few men left who wears boots.

E. W. Cernack, the new United States senator from Tennessee, is a journalist and for several years was editor-in-chief of the Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial-Appeal.

John P. Dunne, the author of the "Dough" papers has left, asking for his name where he was for some time desperately ill, and is enjoying his former good health.

J. D. Bullock, who died in Liverpool, England, the other day, acted as a confederate agent in that port during our war of the rebellion and negotiated for the building of the iron bridge at Alabama.

Charlotte Bronte was once the governess of the little boy who became the late Prof. Sidgwick. It is remembered that she did not particularly enjoy her days of tutelage in the Sidgwick family.

J. R. Burton, who succeeds Lucien Baker as senator from Kansas, was the only pro-republican in Kansas who, through all the free silver agitation, remained true to his advocacy of sound money.

The pet weakness of Hall Caine, the English novelist, is that he bears a strong physical resemblance to Shakespeare. He is said to be as proud of this alleged fact as Senator Cullom is of his fancied resemblance to Lincoln.

Colonel Goldsmith is the most distinguished Jew serving in South Africa. As an administrator he has gained the highest praise from Lord Roberts. He was once sent by Baron Hirsch to rescue from financial ruin the Jewish colonies in Argentina.

Colonel George M. Smith, the London publisher of the literary recollections, published in Cornhill, said that George Elliot got \$35,000 for "Romola," and might have had \$50,000 if her artistic conscience had allowed her to divide the novel into sixteen parts, as Mr. Smith wished.

BANK AS A WAR POWER.

America Still Near the Foot of the List in Army Strength.

Kansas City Star: The increase of the regular army provided for in the reorganization bill will not put the United States in the ranks of the great military powers. Under the terms of the act the army, on a peace footing, will consist of about 58,000 men, while it may be increased to about 100,000 at the discretion of the president. At its normal size the United States military force would be only three-quarters of one soldier to 1,000 persons. Taking population into account Great Britain has ten soldiers and France twenty-five to America's one.

On a war footing the United States would stand twelfth in the list of nations with establishments reduced to peace dimensions. If the American force is on a peace basis it falls to the twentieth place in the list. Yet the United States stands first in wealth and ability to support an army.

A table of the military establishments of various nations prepared by the War department shows that on a war footing the percentage of the United States army to the population is less than that of Brazil, Mexico, Denmark, Portugal and the Netherlands, among the weaker powers, in time of peace. Only .13 per cent of the total population of the United States would be in the military service in war. Belgium keeps .15 per cent, Italy .14 per cent, Germany .11 per cent, Norway .13, and France 1.6 per cent.

The great powers of Europe may be ruled out of consideration and the smaller ones used as a basis for comparison. The United States ranks last among the nations in the list of their forces that proposed for the conviction of the intelligent people of Indiana when he said, "Governor Mount's non-partisan administration of the benevolent, penal and reformatory institutions of the state is a class power. The needed increase in the United States regular force will not begin to put this government among the military powers of the world, which are weighed down by their fighting establishments."

ETCHINGS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Gossip About Men and Events at the National Capital.

Senator Vest of Missouri pays a handsome tribute to President McKinley in a recent interview with a correspondent of the Brooklyn Eagle. "Mr. McKinley's policy toward the south," said the senator, "has been a very wise one and what else may be said he is one of the best politicians that have been in the White House since the days of Martin Van Buren. He has done more to injure the democratic party in the south than all the other republicans together. His declaration in regard to the negro who has done anything to confederate dead and his appointment of prominent confederates to high commands in the army has done a great deal toward bringing the sections together and he deserves full credit for this. I think that about the only good thing so far that has come out of the Spanish war has been the placing of the northern and southern soldiers side by side, fighting in the same cause. Mr. McKinley was right when he complimented Booker Washington and approved what he was doing in Alabama. He is the only negro who has done anything toward settling the race question in the south. This question must be settled, not by legislation, but by industrial education and in teaching the negro to be self-supporting. The only hope for the settlement of the question properly is with the better class of the whites and blacks in the southern states. The negro has been given the right of suffrage and the only remedy is to qualify him for the exercise of that right. This can be accomplished only by the education of the negro on both sides and by conservative legislation. There will be scenes of violence and disorder, such as we have witnessed lately in many of the northern states, but no legislation by congress will help the matter."

The broad and expansive form of Congressman Shattuc of Ohio is decorated, not to say garished, with a beautiful red vest, reports the Washington Post. It is not the brilliant color of the golfer's coat, nor yet the red enough to suggest a coat of arms of a lacerated porker. It looms up from a somber surroundings in the house like a house afire.

Mr. Shattuc is the congressman who undertook some time ago to initiate his colleague, General Sherman, in the mysteries of the game of "craps." He knows all about "come seven, come eleven," and is proud of his knowledge. With much more pride, however, does he display his red waistcoat. He lounges in his seat, with his hands thrown back and his chest thrown forward, and his eyes are fixed on his ample form, swathed in red, suggests the glowing globe of a sun-revolving planet. It is a sight for the gods, worthy of a poet laureate's verse and destined some of these days to be commemorated in Homeric epic or Tennysonian ode.

Captain Smedley D. Butler, 19 years old, now in Washington, is a son of Congressman Butler of Pennsylvania and has served in the Spanish-American and Philippine wars and the march to Peking, says the New York Tribune. At the battle of Tien Tsin Butler, who was then a lieutenant, was shot while carrying a wounded private to a place of safety under the enemy's fire. The private died beside Butler when he was brought to a place of safety. Though his wound had not yet healed, Butler went to Peking, taking part in all the fighting. He was again wounded at the taking of Peking, but refused to go to the rear and was chosen to carry a message to Minister Conger. When he reached the minister the latter asked him what his wound was. On hearing it Mr. Conger exclaimed: "My boy, when I was in congress your grandfather was my friend and had the next desk to mine." After the battle Butler gave in and went to the hospital, where he had a severe case of typhoid fever. He was again sent to the hospital in the Philippines and was on the sick list of the transport Grant who sailed for San Francisco. He recovered on the way and is now in fair health.

The announcement that F. K. Richards of Washington had been appointed United States marshal of Alaska in place of C. L. Vawter of Montana, related, covers a sensational story, resigned by the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record. Vawter was appointed about a year ago on the recommendation of Senator Carter. From affidavits filed in the office of the attorney general it appears that last summer he called on Judge Noyes of the United States district court at Nome and said that friends had authorized him to offer Noyes \$20,000 in gold dust as a consideration for the removal of Alexander McKenzie, who had been appointed receiver to certain mining claims that were then in dispute and in charge of the court. Judge Noyes called in the district attorney and O. K. Wheeler of Minneapolis, his private secretary, and required Vawter to repeat his proposition in their presence. Vawter attempted to crawl out of the scrape, but finally agreed to place his resignation as United States marshal in the hands of Judge Noyes if the latter would let the matter drop. Judge Noyes agreed to do so, and forwarded the resignation by mail to Senator Carter, on whose recommendation Vawter had been appointed, with a detailed account of the circumstances. The resignation of Carter suppressed the resignation until he was prepared to recommend a successor, and then filed it with the attorney general.

Much has been written of the contrast between the old and the new century, but Representative Fitzgerald of Massachusetts probably takes the palm for the best condensation of the world's progress in a speech recently delivered in congress.

"Think for a moment," he said, "what the world has brought forth. This century received from its predecessor the horse; we bequeath the bicycle, the locomotive and the automobile. We received the quill, and we bequeath the typewriter. We received the scythe, and we bequeath the mowing machine. We received the sickle; we bequeath the harvester. We received the hand-printing press; we bequeath the Hoe cylinder press. We received the lithography, photography and color photography. We received the cotton and woolen loom; we bequeath the factory. We received gunpowder; we bequeathed nitro-glycerine. We received the tallow dip; we bequeath the arc light and the Standard Oil trust. We received the flintlock; we bequeath the repeating rifle. We received the quill pen; we bequeath the fountain pen. We received the quill pen; we bequeath the anesthetic properties of sulphuric ether, by means of which to a great extent human life has been saved and pain prevented. We received the beacon signal and the telegraph and wireless telegraphy. We received the ordinary light; we bequeath the X-ray. We received the old-fashioned sailing ship; we bequeath the ocean greyhound and the enormous freight carrier."

BILL TO DISCOURAGE HAZING.