

WOOL GATHERING.

...Mindfulness of Business Men When They Lunch Down Town.

"Do you know that many business men are half crazy when they enter a restaurant at noon for lunch or dinner?" This was said to a reporter by the owner of a well known restaurant, who continued: "Their minds are not upon what they are doing; their brains are busy as can be figured and planned. Their bodies left their counting rooms, but their heads remained. They, as a rule, eat hurriedly, and any number of them do so mechanically. I have seen them do the most absurd things possible. Often it happens that one will throw down one cent at the cashier's desk with a seventy five cent or fifty cent check, and wait for a minute or two for the change. And these are sharp, shrewd, calculating business men, who, if you entered their places of business, you would find alert enough, and who would never make a mistake in giving out or receiving money.

"They show their want of abstraction in various ways. One will come in, and with deliberation place his hat beneath his chair, yet when he has done eating he will rush to the rack, and, seizing somebody else's hat, go out, probably not discovering his error for a day or two. It is a positive fact that not long ago a man with a red head wore out of my place a blue hat, which would scarcely stay on the top of his head. Nor did he discover his mistake until he reached his office.

"One day a man stepped up to my desk and complained that he had lost his hat, a very fine one which had cost him \$7 or \$8. His hat had been stolen, he charged, and he was excited and angry. Would you believe it? It was he who had stolen one. I discovered a few minutes later that two days before he had taken the hat of another, leaving his own. The one he took was of the same material, but had been worn an entire season, being greasy and soiled; still, he wore it without discovering the fact until the time he made the complaint, although his own hat was a fine, brand new one.

"It is truly odd how men will behave about hats. Frequently one will come holding one in his hand and tell me he did not wear that when he came in. I look at the faces of these men, and if they have but just been shaved, tell them they made the exchange at the barber's and did not discover their error until they came in here. One man made a great ado because, as he said, some one had carried off his hat, when investigation showed that he had worn another man's hat to the restaurant, picking it up as he left the office, but not detecting it until he had gone home. Going out to eat at noon is not an interval of rest to most business men, because there is no rest. They must supply the wants of their inner man, but they do it without any rest of the brain. Their occupation is before them all the while, as their far away looks show. They say and do things in the most mechanical manner, and will skip from twenty-four to forty-eight hours in their computations. A loyal headed man of business insisted up and down, while holding his own hat in his hand—a nice silk one—that it did not belong to him. He knew what he had worn down town—it was a white one, he declared. He probably had done so the day before, but would not be convinced of his error until the name on the inside of the inner band revealed it to him. A man picks up a heap of human nature in our business, because all sorts of things occur, particularly at the noon rush, when men do some of the most absurd things in the world, and are often most unreasonable because of their self absorption."—Chicago Herald.

Tarring and Feathering.

Philologists have long observed that many words popularly known as "Americanisms" are really good old English terms brought over by the Pilgrim Fathers, the early settlers on the James, etc., and retained here when forgotten in the country of their birth. Similarly, not a few Dutch words—boss, boodle, etc.—brought over by the early settlers of New Amsterdam, have spread from their original American habitat, till they have become part of our speech. It is not less interesting to note that certain customs, forgotten in their home land, but retained here, and, therefore, characterized as "American," are really importations from Europe.

Not one of these customs has been regarded as more distinctively "fanciful" than the venerable one of "tarring and feathering," and yet has been known to "Annals of the American Republic" of the venerable English historian Hoveden (living in the Thirteenth century and court chaplain to Henry II) that the custom is at least as old as the time of Richard the Lion Hearted. He tells that Richard, on setting out on the third crusade, made sundry enactments for the regulation of his fleet, one of which was that "A robber who shall be convicted of theft shall have his head cropped after the fashion of a champion, and boiling pitch shall be poured thereon, and the feathers of a peacock shall be shaken out on him; so that he may be known; and at the first hand at which the ship shall touch he shall be set on shore." Whether the custom was earlier than this we have no means of determining. It is at least close on to 700 years old.—American Notes and Queries.

The Colonists in Liberia.

Capt. Rogers, of the Monrovia, says: "From what I have seen of the colonists in Liberia I believe their chances for success are equally as good as they would be in the south. It is true that the African fever, in many cases, renders them incapable to work for awhile, but when they become thoroughly acclimated they find no difficulty in making a living. A large proportion of them are prosperous and are hoarding up considerable wealth." Mrs. M. B. Merriman, a white missionary, differs materially from Capt. Rogers and is bitter in her denunciation of the cruel manner in which the negro colonists are treated. She said: "I have been among the negroes of the south, and I have seen them at their worst. I have been among the natives of Africa for years as a missionary, but never have I witnessed such abject poverty, squalor and wretchedness as prevails among the negro colonists in Liberia. It is true that a colonization society furnishes them with land to work and keeps them in food for six months from their arrival. But what does it avail them? They are there scarcely a month when they are stricken down with African fever. Some of them survive it, but in most cases it means death. When those who get well are able to go to work they find that their allotted time of support by the society has expired and they are paupers. This is not always the case. While not one has ever yet been known to escape the fever, some of them, who possess unusually good constitutions, get well and become quite prosperous. To the paupers the paupers look for their subsistence."—The Herald in Boston Globe.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The republicans of the United States, assembled by their delegates in national convention, pause on the threshold of their proceedings to honor the memory of their great leader and immortal champion of liberty and the rights of the people, Abraham Lincoln, and to cover also with wreaths of imperishable remembrance and gratitude the heroic names of our later leaders who have been recently called away from our country, Grant, Garfield, Arthur, Logan and Cooking. May their memories be faithfully cherished. We also recall with our greetings and prayer for the recovery of the name of one of our living heroes whose memory will be treasured in the history both of republicans and of the republic. The name is that of the noble soldier and favorite child of victory, Philip H. Sheridan.

In the spirit of those great leaders and of our devotion to human liberty, and with that hostility to all forms of despotism and oppression which is the fundamental idea of the republican party, we extend fraternal congratulations to our fellow Americans of Brazil upon their great act of emancipation, which completed the abolition of slavery throughout the two Americas continents. We earnestly hope we may soon congratulate our fellow citizens of Irish birth upon the peaceful recovery of home rule for Ireland.

WE AFFIRM OUR UNSWerving DEVOTION to the national constitution and to the indissoluble union of states, and the autonomy of the states under the constitution, to the personal rights and liberties of citizens in all states and territories in the union, and especially to the comprehensive and sacred right of every citizen, rich or poor, native or foreign born, white or black, to cast one free ballot, in the elections and to have that ballot duly counted. We hold a free and honest popular ballot and just equal representation of all people in the formation of our republican government and demand effective legislation to secure the integrity and purity of elections which are the foundation of all public liberty. We demand that the present administration and the democratic majority in congress own their existence to the suppression of the ballot by the corrupt and unscrupulous constitution and laws of the United States.

We are uncompromisingly in favor of the monetary system of free silver, and we protest against the destruction proposed by the president and his party. They serve the interests of Europe.

WE WILL SUPPORT INTERESTS OF AMERICA. We accept the issue, and confidently appeal to the people for their judgment. The protective system must be maintained. The government has always been followed by general disaster to all interests except those of the insurer and lender.

We denounce the "MILLS" bill as destructive to general business, labor, and the farming interests of the country, and we heartily endorse the consistent and able action of the republican representatives in congress in opposing its passage. We condemn the proposition of the democratic party to place upon the free list and insist that the duties thereon shall be adjusted and maintained so as to furnish full and adequate protection to that industry.

The republican party would effect all needed reduction of the national revenue by repealing the taxes on tobacco, which are an oppressive burden to agriculture, and the tax upon spirits used in the arts and for mechanical purposes, and by a revision of the tariff laws, which will tend to check imports of such articles as are produced by our people, the production of which gives employment to our labor, and relieve from import duties these articles of foreign production except luxuries. The like of which cannot be produced at home, there still remain a larger revenue than is requisite for the wants of government, if internal taxes are not increased. We demand the right enforcement of existing laws against it and favor such immediate legislation as will exclude such labor from our country.

We declare our opposition to all combination of capital organized in trusts or otherwise to control arbitrarily the condition of trade among our citizens and we recommend to congress and the state legislatures in their respective jurisdictions such legislation as will prevent the creation of all such schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies or by unjust rates for the transportation of their products to market.

country, promote trade, open new and direct markets for our products and clean up the coast of transportation. We affirm this to be far better for our country than the democratic policy of loaning the government's money without interest.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. The conduct of foreign affairs by the present administration has been distinguished by inflexibility and cowardice. Having withdrawn from the senate all pending treaties effected by republican administration, for the removal of foreign burdens and restrictions upon our commerce and for its extension into a better market it has neither altered nor proposed any other in their stead. Profound adherence to the Monroe doctrine, it has seen with idle complacency the extension of foreign influence in Central America and of foreign trade everywhere among our neighbors. It has refused to charter sanction or encourage any American organization for constructing the Nicaragua canal, a work of vital importance to the maintenance of the Monroe doctrine and of our national influence in Central and South America, and necessary for the development of trade with our Pacific territory, with South America, and with the further coasts of the Pacific Ocean.

FISHERIES QUESTION. We arraign the present democratic administration for its weak and unpatriotic treatment of the fisheries question, and its pusillanimous surrender of all privileges to which our fishery vessels are entitled by Canadian treaties under the terms of the reciprocity act. The legislation of 1880 and 1881, and of 1882, which Canadian fishing vessels receive in the ports of the United States, is a violation of the policy of the present administration and the democratic majority in congress towards our fisheries. We demand that the national industry and an indispensable resource of defense against foreign enemy.

The name of American implies alike to all citizens of the republic, and implies upon them alike the same obligations of obedience to the laws, and the same duties of citizenship, and must be the panoply and safeguard of him who wears it. It should shield and protect him whether rich or poor, and should not be a right which should and must afford him protection at home and follow and protect him abroad in whatever land he may be on a lawful errand.

THE MEN WHO ABANDONED THE REPUBLICAN PARTY in 1884 and continue to adhere to the democratic party have deserted not only the cause of honest government, but of sound finance, of freedom and purity of the ballot, but especially have deserted the cause of reform in the civil service. We will not fail to keep our pledges because they have broken theirs, or because their candidate has broken his. We therefore repeat our declaration of 1884, to wit: The reform of civil service auspiciously begun under republican administration should be completed by a further extension of the reform system already established by law to all grades of the service to which it is applied. The spirit of the reform of civil service should be extended and the possibility that any man who honorably serves in the civil service should be eligible to all executive appointments, and all laws in variance with the object of existing reform legislation should be repealed, and that the dangers to the institutions which lurk in the power of special patronage may be wisely and effectively avoided.

The attitude of the nation to the defenders of the union cannot be assured except by laws. The legislation of congress should conform to the general principle of the reform in the civil service, and should be extended and the possibility that any man who honorably serves in the civil service should be eligible to all executive appointments, and all laws in variance with the object of existing reform legislation should be repealed, and that the dangers to the institutions which lurk in the power of special patronage may be wisely and effectively avoided.

The first co-ord of all good government is the virtue and sobriety of the people and the purity of their homes. The republican party cordially sympathizes with all working men whose property is seriously threatened by the free trade policy of the present administration.

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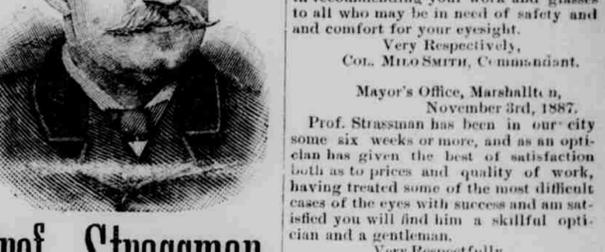
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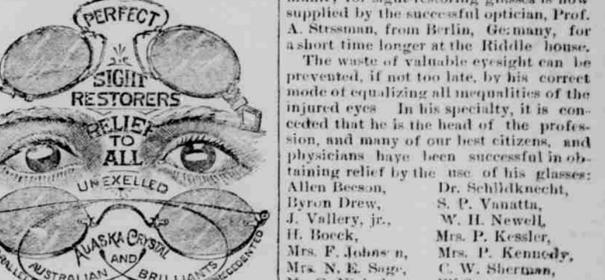
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Mayor's Office, Marshalltown, Iowa, November 18, 1887. Prof. Strassman has been in our city some six weeks or more, and as an optician has given the best of satisfaction both as to prices and quality of work, having treated some of the most difficult cases of the eyes with success and an satisfied you will find him a skillful optician and a gentleman. Very Respectfully, NELSON AMES, Mayor.

Prof. Strassman, a distinguished optician, now staying in our city, comes before us with the highest testimonials of skill and experience in his art, and I take pleasure in recommending him to my friends and the public who may be in need of his services, as one entitled to his confidence. J. WILLIAMS, M. D. Ottumwa, Iowa.

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