



"OH, MAMMA, I'VE BEEN TAKING GOOD CARE OF YOUR JAM." -Rocky Mountain News (with apologies to Jack).

CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

Why Popular Vote Should Elect Senators.

PRESENT CASE IN POINT.

The Rascally Act of Taylor in Kentucky.

GAGE GLORIES IN HIS SHAME.

Sure That the Republican Congress Will Not Convict Him, He Cares Naught For Public Opinion - He Should Be Impeached - Kentucky Republicans Resort to Assassination - Federal Judges and Trusts.

(Special Washington Letter.)

Reasons multiply on every hand why senators of the United States should be elected by popular vote, as governors and other officers are now elected. The last small bore politician, accidentally in a position to unwittingly contribute to the success of a good cause by a bad action, is Governor Taylor of Kentucky. In order, as he thought, to aid himself in his fight with Goebel, he, so the papers say, proposed to refuse a commission to Senator Elect Joe Blackburn. Honest men will have to pinch themselves to see if they are awake when they read that announcement. No man in the United States ever had a clearer title to a seat in the senate than has Mr. Blackburn. He received a large majority of both houses of the legislature - larger than nine-tenths of all the men ever elected to that high office received. There is no taint or charge or intimation of fraud, intimidation or corruption made as to Blackburn's election, yet by the mere ipse dixit of a governor whose title to his own office has been declared illegal, Blackburn's commission, under the present system, was to be held up and he forced to go into the courts to secure his rights and the rights of the people of Kentucky or institute a contest before the senate. This is done, this outrage is committed, mark you, for the corrupt purpose of forcing Blackburn and Blackburn's friends to assist Taylor to hold on to the seat which by this one act, if no other, he thoroughly demonstrates his utter unfitness for. Surely he is a beautiful, a lovely, sample of that purity, patriotism and holier than thousness which the G. O. P. arrogates, and falsely, to itself!

Not the Only Rascal.

But Republican Governor Taylor is not the only rascal who, doing evil, has seen good come of it, and I miss my guess if his unseemly and unpatriotic conduct does not help along the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people, a consummation devoutly to be wished. There is something invigorating in a contest before the people. It tends to develop capacity and courage, but the present system has none of that exhilarating effect.

At the same time that the Republican governor of Kentucky is refusing Blackburn his commission the Republican governor of California is calling an extra session of the legislature to elect a senator at large expense to the people of that unfortunate state because at the regular session of the legislature Dan Burns and other hoodlums prevented the legislature from electing a senator, as it was in duty bound to do.

Perhaps that failure to elect a senator by reason of the lavish use of booze and the subsequent calling of a special session of the legislature may set men to thinking of how frequently the present system of electing senators of the United States fails of its object.

Glorying in His Shame.

One of the New York papers remarked lately that Lyman J. Gage was the most miserable man in Washington. I don't believe a word of it. He belongs to that strange class whom St. Paul describes as "glorying in their shame." He well knows that a Republican house will not impeach him and that a Republican senate will not convict him, and, as to moral opinion, he cares no more for that than a duck cares for water poured on its waterproof back. The only public opinion that he would care a rap for would be such a unanimous public opinion of hostility as to force President McKinley to part company with him as he was forced to part company with the beloved Alger, and, as he thinks he can control the information which is to go to the public, he thinks he can hold public indignation down to such a degree that the president will not feel compelled to pronounce him in order to have any hope of winning the next election. So Lyman goes on feathering his nest and the nest of the beloved Hepburn and his gang, thinking, no doubt, what William H. Vanderbilt bluntly blurted out, "The people be d--d!"

The most we lost in losing this house was the opportunity to probe the scandalous conduct of Lyman to the bottom. That he ought to be impeached, I think, beyond all cavil; but, as it takes a two-thirds vote to impeach, it won't be done - can't be done - as we were in minority of 13 before Hon. Joseph C. Sibley went to the defense of Lyman, which left us in a minority of 15, as one going over counts two, and since Mr. Roberts was bounced we are in a minority of 16. So Lyman will probably swagger around and repeat Boss Tweed's famous question, "What are you going to do about it?" Tweed found out to his sorrow, and let us

hope that Lyman may find out to his sorrow.

Depends on His Fall. Lyman depends on his political pull, just as Tweed depended on his. It will ultimately fall Lyman, just as Tweed's failed him. It will avail him a little while, and I predict that unless President McKinley throws this modern Jonah overboard the Republican ship, with the whole crew aboard, will be engulfed. So mote it be.

Mr. Sulzer of New York introduced a resolution providing for a special committee to investigate Lyman's transactions. Sulzer's resolution was referred to the committee on rules, which reported it back, striking out the special committee feature, referring it to the committee on ways and means, authorizing it to do the investigating. So Sulzer has to his credit the barren victory of ordering an investigation, while the investigation will be done not by such committee as Sulzer wanted, but by one composed largely of the political friends of the secretary. First thing Lyman knows somebody will plump a resolution into the house providing for his impeachment, which he richly deserves. There is a hot time in prospect aent Lyman and his doings.

On the proposition to refer the Gage business to the committee on ways and means Hon. James D. Richardson of Tennessee, leader of the house Democrats, said in part: There must be some reason why the secretary of the treasury, when he sold the custom house property in New York city to the National City bank, did not complete the title by conveying the property to that bank, but took paper credit with that bank for a considerable part of the purchase money - \$2,210,000, the total amount being \$3,200,000 - leaving the pitiful sum of \$1,000,000 unpaid or uncredited. Why was this done? I insist that the reason was the intention of the secretary of the treasury, by agreement with the National City bank, to excuse that bank from paying taxes to the state and city of New York. It is true that the secretary of the treasury has in his official capacity entered into a personal partnership with a favored bank in the city of New York to prevent the city and state from the collection of taxes, no man on this way, I take it, will contend that he does not deserve condemnation.

The statement made shows that a large amount of money has been taken by the secretary of the treasury's action. It shows that the government of the United States did not receive purchase money, for a large amount was retained in the National City bank, and the state and city of New York were not allowed the opportunity of taxing its property. The whole amount, I am informed, reached something like \$37,000 that this government juggling on the part of the secretary of the treasury has enabled this bank to make.

On the same subject Mr. Sulzer of New York said in part:

There are matters of much greater significance and of a more infamous character regarding the administration of the treasury department that will come out on a fair investigation.

We want to subpoena the secretary of the treasury permitted himself to be used by the Standard Oil trust to aid it in manipulating the stock market in Wall street, to the injury of its competitors and to the advantage of the Rockefeller.

The people of this country will never consent to the treasury being turned over to the Standard Oil trust for speculative purposes.

We want to subpoena the directors of the National City bank and find out from them just what aid they rendered the Republican party in the last national campaign and just what favors they have received from the Republican party since March 4, 1897.

Republican Assassination.

The Republicans of Kentucky have added assassination to their office getting methods. Republicans have never scrupled to steal any office from that of president down to constable. Now they have taken to shooting down in cold blood their opponents. Whether Goebel is right or wrong has nothing to do with it. He had a perfect right to contest Taylor's title to the governorship of "the dark and bloody ground." Every candidate for office in any state in the Union has a right to contest when he deems the law and the facts on his side. We hear a great deal of talk against lynching, but it ought to be remembered that it is as much a lynching to shoot a man as to hang him. The result is precisely the same to the victims. Save to me that Republicans will have to haul in their horns on that proposition. They will also have to sing smaller on their much vaunted moral superiority over the rest of mankind.

Republicans and Trusts.

A witty Irishman once said that he was in favor of a certain law, but against its enforcement. That appears to be the exact position of Republicans as to the trusts. A very wise man once said, "Let me write the songs of a people, and I care not who makes their laws." The trusts seem to say, "Let us select the federal judges, and we care not what laws state legislatures pass." That they would be safe in proclaiming such a theory is shown by the following dispatch:

Chicago, Jan. 29. - Judge C. C. Kohlman in the United States circuit court today decided the antitrust act of the Illinois legislature in 1893 void on the ground that the state contains both class and special legislation and is in contravention of the federal and state constitutions. The opinion of the court bears more directly on the case of the Union Sewer Pipe company than the act of 1893, but the validity of the whole act is also denied. The ruling was made in the case of the Union Sewer Pipe company against Thomas Costely, but applied as well to the case of the same plaintiff against William Deo, the two cases having been tried conjointly. The court took the case from the jury and gave instructions that the finding be in favor of the plaintiff. The state contains both class and special legislation and is in contravention of the federal and state constitutions. The ruling was made in the case of the Union Sewer Pipe company against Thomas Costely, but applied as well to the case of the same plaintiff against William Deo, the two cases having been tried conjointly. The court took the case from the jury and gave instructions that the finding be in favor of the plaintiff. The state contains both class and special legislation and is in contravention of the federal and state constitutions.

Guess the trusts think that there is nothing quite so reliable as "a friend at court" who is the court. This decision is on a par with the infamous income tax decision. Everything for the plutocrats, nothing for the people.

Cockran the Showman.

Hon. Bourke Cockran has got his name in the papers again. As an advertiser Hon. Bourke could have given the late lamented Phineas T. Barnum cards and spades and then beaten the greatest showman on earth at his own game. Three times since Bryan was nominated at Chicago has this bellowing blatherkite managed to thrust himself before the public by linking his own name with that of the illustrious Nebraskan. Twice he was paid to cut his capers before high heaven. The last time he evidently performed solely for the

purpose of receiving a free ad. But Bourke might as well make up his mind that genuine Democrats care about as much for his utterances as they would for the bellowing of the bull of Bashan, which he so much resembles in volume of voice. He is not going to see any of the faithful falling over themselves to do him honor. If he wants to come back, all well and good, but he must climb on to our platform.

Frequently in these letters I have quoted from the Washington Post, the most ably edited independent paper in America. It is for the gold standard and has a pronounced bias in favor of President McKinley. I think it really decries his re-election. With this preface I herewith quote from it the following editorial, remarkable alike for its awful skinning of Bourke Cockran and its philosophizing as to past legislation and future events:

DEMOCRACY IN 1900.

Mr. Bourke Cockran, arrayed in what is left of the bedraggled finery and ostentatious rags of 1890, comes gallivanting about the hedgerows and curbstones of the Democracy's domain, ogling the Hon. William J. Bryan and tampering him with the nodes and soles and cravats of the politician of the course. We have him paying fervent tribute to Mr. Bryan's integrity and simplicity of purpose, his steadfast courage and his indomitable convictions. We have him, in fact, hinting that the experience of an octave have not been altogether satisfactory and that he might be persuaded, if properly approached, to return to a life of the very severest party virtues.

Nobody in the Democratic ranks of course cares three straws for the alliance of such a swashbuckler as Bourke Cockran. His adherence to, like his antagonism, a thing of no account with any self respecting party organization. His opposition is as impalpable as his partisanship. His points are as worthless as his principles. A mere cavalier d'indiscretie in politics, he neither denigrates nor exalts any of the issues of the moment. He is a man of no account, and he is a man of no account.

It is always worth while to give a passing thought to the movements of political mercenaries. If they are not to be considered they may be themselves. The tendency of the bolters of 1890 - and there were conscientious men among them as well as cranks and mercenary - to return to the polls of 1900 means something, and that something is, can it be, for example, the Republican legislation which, by establishing the gold standard, made it impossible for any Democratic administration to renege the silver question? We think it is. The Republicans have deliberately eliminated the most potent factor in the success of the campaign. It was the honest and the patriotic thing to do perhaps, but certainly it was not shrewd. The gold of free silver has been laid upon the shelf. The shriek over the "dishonest dollar" has been stifled. It is no longer possible to get along with the gold standard and formally enthroned, to tighten capital into contribution and to array every substantial interest in the country against the silver propaganda. Suppose Bryan were elected, what could he do to disturb the monetary equilibrium and make a wreck of money? Even though the Democrats should secure a majority in the house the senate would be gold and legislation of a disturbing nature hopelessly impossible. The Democratic party, therefore, no longer handicapped by the nightmare of free silver, but, on the contrary, strengthened by the growing sentiment of anti-plutocracy, is in a far better position now than it was in 1890. Indeed it is in a position to attract all the professional free lances and place hunters who, through long practice, are able to see their way through the maze.

The Fighting Stage.

The combatants had moved about the meadows, much as expert boxers would, though after a quarter of an hour's fighting weight had told its tale, and the smaller stag had to retreat more frequently than ever, as the adversaries were fast approaching the edge of the forest at the latter's back. Here a last stand was made by the defeated one, and a ten minutes' tussle ended by bringing both on to their knees, and here, too, the repulsed one received his death wound, though I failed to see exactly how it was inflicted, the movements being so rapid and the light too indistinct.

It appeared to me, however, that the weaker stag, on regaining his feet first, made a dash at his foe, but from some cause or other his lunge missed its aim, and while the impetuous carried him past his still kneeling adversary, his whole flank was exposed to the thrust of the latter's horns. The next second he was down, too, but this time with a heavy thud, stretched out at full length, just out of reach of the kneeling victor's horns, who, too exhausted to rise, kept butting at the body which he could not reach.

A minute later they were both up again, but the battle was decided, and the wounded hart fled into the forest, where I found him the next morning dead, with a ghastly slash two feet in length, that had ripped open his side and penetrated to his vitals. "Gair" and "Life in the Far West," by Baillie Grohman.

Advertisement for agricultural machinery including 'WESTERN CLIPPER', 'WALKING PLOW', 'WESTERN ALL STEEL', 'CULTIVATORS', and 'Heavy Team Harness'. Includes illustrations of various machines and a horse-drawn plow.

Advertisement for 'SENT IS ONE DOLLAR' featuring 'THE PARLOR ORGAN'. Includes an illustration of the organ and text describing its features and availability.

Advertisement for 'Five Subscriptions Until January 1, 1901, For \$2.50'. Includes text about the benefits of the offer and contact information for Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Advertisement for 'PIANOS and ORGANS Picture Framing, Etc.' featuring 'Estey and Baldwin'. Includes text about piano quality and contact information for Arthur Betz.

Advertisement for 'Roy's Drug Store' located at 140 North Tenth Street. Includes text about general drug business and prescription work.

Advertisement for 'Burlington Tourist Cars to Seattle... Route'. Includes text about the service and contact information for the Burlington Depot.

Advertisement for 'SULPHO-SALINE BATH HOUSE AND SANITARIUM'. Includes text about the facility and contact information for Drs. M. H. and J. O. Everett.

One Attended

It seems a little remarkable that, after all the blow and bluster regarding the board of transportation, only one stock shipper should be present at the meeting on February 6, when the master of recinding the car-load order of 1897 was taken up. F. B. Hibbard of Irvington was the only stock shipper present, if we except Auditor Cornell and Treasurer Meserve, both members of the board.

Mr. Hibbard believed the "cents-per-hundred pound" method preferable to the "car-load" system, but was certain that considerable reduction should be made from the present rates.

Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is the remedy on which you can depend for the cure of a protracted cough or lung affection, brought on by exposure to cold. It is the most excellent medicine sold. A bottle costs only 25 cents.

The total real estate mortgage indebtedness of Nebraska on July 1, 1899, as shown by the report of Sidney J. Kent, deputy commissioner of labor and industrial statistics, was \$154,047,326.63. During the eighteen months from that date (up to December 31, 1899) the net reduction of indebtedness was \$9,036,942.58, leaving \$145,010,384.05 as the total mortgages, both on farms and city and town property, in force December 31, 1899. A statement of mortgages recorded and released is as follows:

Table with columns for 'FAIRMORTGAGES RECORDED', 'RELEASED', and 'TOWN AND CITY MORTGAGES RECORDED'. It lists mortgage statistics for various dates in 1899 and 1900.

The Critic Criticised

Editor Independent: I read with deep interest in your issue of the 1st of February an article from Mr. Walter Johnson which appears as a criticism of an article in the World-Herald of Jan. 9th by W. H. Ashby.

My object in writing is not intended as a defense of Mr. Ashby's ideas, as that gentleman is abundantly able to defend the children of his fertile mind. But agreeing with Mr. Johnson that agitation will attract the attention of the people to a question upon which the weal or woe of humanity depends, induces me to criticize Mr. Ashby's critic, trusting that it may be received in the same kindly spirit with which it is sent.

That the power of good and evil of money under the present financial system of the world as well as that of a production and distribution is but too understood by the great majority of the people, there is no gain-saying and even those who have given the question thought for the purpose of ascertaining resultant wrongs, to, in conclusions, entirely antagonistic to each other, and so long as the Dr.'s disagree in regard to the disease of the patient, we are justified in having little faith that they will agree upon a curative remedy.

Years of experience have taught me that one of the greatest drawbacks to success in the educational fields of money reforms and by and through it land labor and distributing reforms, is the juggling of words, terms, and phrases, such as price, value, utility, units, standards of value, parities, etc. Our word collectors and taxonomers, must make sharp and fast, so that the average man may know when black means black and when it means something else. Common acceptance of the meaning of words are rarely brushed away, and complications set up, to mystify and confuse.

This in a sense is true but not in the sense that Mr. Johnson uses it. He says: "The value of a thing, is the amount received for the thing when sold."

This is certainly erroneous. It may be much less and it may be much more, which we will try to prove further on. Again Mr. Johnson says: "There are too many of us who believe that the only function money has is to pay debts."

Now will Mr. Johnson kindly cite me and other seekers after truth, how, when, and where, money can, without being prostituted, be used outside of voiding of obligations, between use citizen and between the citizen and the government.

Mr. Johnson says that we always estimate values and then proceeds to say that the price paid, is the value, and yet also states that we may fix a price higher than its value. Why not lower Brother Johnson?

I am afraid that Mr. Johnson has unwillingly fallen in the error or weakness of not only the republican party that he thinks Mr. Ashby has fallen in, but also into that of its twin, the democratic party. Let us see, when we estimate height, length, breadth, depth, weight, or value, we must have a positive base, to estimate from, no correct estimate can be made from a fluctuating standard, price being arbitrarily fixed in various ways, it is certainly impossible to make anything like a true estimate by this method.

The money gamblers of the world throughout the ages, have unceasingly labored to indelibly impress on the minds of mankind, that gold and silver, singly at times and jointly at others, were the best and in fact the only true standard by which to estimate all other values, and its acceptance has brought a continued harvest of confusion and ruin.

Value and utility as used by the English speaking people are synonymous, each applying and going with the other, when either is used in its legitimate sense, the misuse of the word value is what the trouble originates. The true and only base of value is human life, and the most urgent needs, to sustain, prolong, and reproduce the race, must hold within themselves the root and basis of value, as well as of utility.

Gold and silver not filling as urgent needs of humanity as does iron, gold, and silver, are thus of less value as well as of less utility.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bismuth Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

W. H. DEOH.