

# Nothing Short...

"Nothing short of perfection," says a mail order customer of ours who, after years of suffering from cramped up feet, found relief in our manish last Women's \$2.50 Shoe. We do not claim that it's the only easy-on-foot shoe; we do not claim that it's the only shoe made on the manish last; we do not claim that this customer of ours couldn't have found relief in any other shoe; but we do claim that this customer did, and we know and can tell you of hundreds of others who have been more than pleased with this special shoe. We do claim that it is the best \$2.50 woman's shoe in America for \$2.50. You can have your choice of soles, light or heavy; you can have your choice of sizes; you can have your money back if you're not satisfied with them after you get them home; you can have them fitted to your feet by expert fitters; you can have as many pairs as you want but they'll cost you \$2.50 per pair—no more—no less. If you'll wear more Nebraska shoes this year, you'll have less trouble with your feet.

Faithful Fitters of Footwear. This Catalogue is ready. Mention the Nebraska Independent When Writing



Omaha, Neb.

and tobacco trusts to the republican campaign fund. We will pass a bill giving you \$2,000,000 in charity. But the trusts must not be interfered with. We must have their aid or we cannot re-elect William McKinley."

After making that heartless proposition they got frightened on account of the flood of protests that came pouring into Washington. So there is a hold up until the leaders can figure out some way to fool the people and keep the trusts satisfied. They will do it. It is the easiest thing in the world to fool the unthinking followers of the republican party.

### SPANISH CRUELTY RENEWED

The Porto Ricans Who Spread Flowers in the Path of Our Soldiers Find That They Came as Oppressors.

We regret to see that there are high protectionists so blind to the teachings of experience that they would have the United States repeat the fatal blunder of Spain in Porto Rico and in the Philippines. They are talking about the ruin that will be wrought on American tobacco growers and beet-sugar growers if the free trade bill framed by the house committee on insular affairs, extending the tariff and revenue laws to Porto Rico should be passed. If that bill or something like it is not passed, the people of the United States will be guilty of one of the gravest economic and political crimes of the century. We have taken Porto Rico from Spain, and by that act deprived her of the benefit of the trade relations which she enjoyed with that country, and we have not opened our markets to her for a market for our food stuffs. Today there is a wall around her; she is isolated; and her last state is worse than her first. It is too late now to consider whether a group of producers in the United States will benefit or suffer by free trade with Porto Rico.

If that question were not considered and decided before Porto Rico was taken, it must be regarded as decided now and decided in favor of the Porto Ricans. No man with a comprehension of the problem involved can for a moment advocate anything else than the freest trade relations between the United States and their territory in the West Indies. The establishment of such relations was a moral obligation that we assumed the moment that we took the territory from Spain. And if we do not establish such relations, we have an established a rabbit warren of insurrections justified and excused by the same unjust exploitation of territory for the benefit of the home country that excused and justified the rebellion against Spanish extortion in Cuba. A fatal mistake will be made if we allow the bigger problem of statesmanship to be obscured by petty questions of Federal revenue or by the demand of one or two interests for protection against competition with people living under the same flag with them.

In the popular mind the Porto Rican case is different from that of Cuba or the Philippines. It came under the protection of the Stars and Stripes more than willingly—gladly. We can not afford to forget that we sent an army under General Miles to conquer Porto Rico. That army went prepared to meet the fiercest resistance, not only from the soldiers of Spain, but from the inhabitants of the island. What was the fact? From the landing at the port of Ponce to the entrance into San Juan the resistance was nominal and the welcome was generous. General Miles and his armies

were everywhere greeted as deliverers. When they entered San Juan the children, dressed in white, strewed flowers before the feet of our marching soldiers.

Suppose, when we were expanding so blithely in August, 1898, when the Porto Ricans were scattering flowers before our marching armies and shouting "Viva los Americanos" some cynic had said: "What fools! These people have seen their best days. Spain has been their true benefactor; Spain has made them prosperous. Under American rule their industries will decay, their laborers starve and the only way out will be their wharves; the Americans will let them go to ruin, lest they bother them in their markets. What should we have said to that base libeler of this country?"

Mr. Chairman, the present condition of Porto Rico would have been absolutely incredible and inconceivable to Americans of two years ago.—Extract from speech of Townsend Scudder in House of Representatives.

### For Sale

One black shire stallion, registered well bred fine individual shire, young and good action. Will give bargain if sold before April 15th 1900. Address, W. J. D. Counts, University Place, Neb.

### The Power of Trusts.

And now came the climatic contemps. The president, himself, ate his own words—violated the "plain duty" he had himself pointed out. He had to do it or the party was lost. It made no difference what became of the country and the Porto Ricans and the constitution, so the party was saved and the trusts held harmless. There was consternation in the ranks of the G. O. P. Recalcitrance was rampant. Never before was the party whip lashed with such hysterical desperation. The trusts had whipped the leaders, and the leaders had whipped the committee, and now the party whips must whip in the recalcitrants. There were hurried scurrings up and down the avenue, and the window panes in the White House rattled with the buzz. It was evident, even if the president had not said so, that the bill was narrow, and a veto would be fatal.

What else could the president do but veto it after having delivered himself of the "plain-duty" injunction? A veto seemed inevitable, but the resources of the sugar-tobacco combination were not yet exhausted. The president must come down off the "plain duty" perch. Would he come? Could he stultify himself thus? Humiliating as it is to an American citizen to confess it, the president came down. In their desperation a caucus was called on the night of February 23 to confer and persuade in and frighten in the recalcitrants, and among the many other things that happened was this. I read from the Washington Post of February 27: Representative Shattuck, of Ohio, was one of the first speakers after Chairman Cannon had opened the conference to order. "I am willing to defer my judgment to the judgment of the president," said he; "but I want some assurance besides whispering under somebody's hat that the president is for this bill. If no assurance can be given me to that, I wish to say that I shall not be bound by any decision this conference may reach. I shall feel free to vote as I please on this tariff bill." This brought Chairman Payne to his feet. "I saw the president this afternoon," he declared, "and the president told me that he had no doubt of the constitutionality of the Porto Rico tariff bill. He told me also that if the bill is passed by congress he will sign it."

There you have it on authority. This report of this caucus proceedings has not to this good hour been disputed. The president has surrendered. He had

promised to withhold his veto. It was whispered here that he had gone so far to leeward of "plain duty" as to send for members and ask them to vote for the bill. It at once reveals the power of the trusts and the shame of American people.—Extract from speech of John Wesley Gains in the House of Representatives.

### Where They Come From

The 109,320 votes cast for Judge Holcomb last year may be divided about as follows:

Populist (58 per cent)	63,406
Democrats (35 per cent)	38,262
Silver Republicans (7 per cent)	7,652
Total	109,320

Judge Reese polled 94,213 votes at that election. Does any sane or honest man believe that either the populists or democrats, by voting "I alone," could by any possibility carry any state office this fall? Do the populists of Nebraska want to turn the state government over to the Eugene Moores, the Ole Hedlunds, the Joe Bartleys? If they do, then middle-of-the-roadism will do it. It is undoubtedly true that fusion has driven a considerable number of populists and democrats, somewhere in the neighborhood of ten thousand, say, from the combined forces. A major portion of the 16,721 who did not vote for supreme judge last fall, after allowing for mistakes in making the list, were undoubtedly former democrats and populists who are opposed to fusion, and who cooperate with the republican party in county elections. Only twice since 1889 did the republican party poll as large a vote as was given Judge Reese, thus showing that those who failed to vote the head of the ticket were at least not full-fledged republicans. But that they voted with the republicans on county matters is shown by the fact that Reese ran considerably behind an average of the county ticket in nearly every county in the state, while Holcomb, running a little behind in some counties and a little ahead in others, ran only slightly ahead of the combined vote of all the counties.

But suppose fusion has caused certain democrats and populists to desert their respective parties and affiliates with the republicans, what difference does it make? There has never been a time when either the democrats or populists could by independent action carry the state. James E. Boyd scratched through for governor; but the democrats got nothing else. Let us look at the vote of 1892, when Sterling Morton refers to evidence that fusion and confusion are synonyms: Crouse received 78,426 Van Wyck received 68,617 Morton received 44,195 both 112,812

Total 191,238 Thus a triangular fight—the result of middle-of-the-roadism—gave Crouse a plurality of 9,909 over his highest competitor; but there were 34,386 majority against him by combining the populist and democratic strength. Suppose fusion had driven away ten thousand democrats and populists? The vote would look like this:

Republican candidate	88,426
Fusion candidate	102,812

Fusion majority 14,386 A union of forces has enabled the democrats and populists to accomplish something, notwithstanding the J. Sterling Mortons, the Stebbins, Lichtys, et al. Each of the parties to the fusion has without doubt suffered some loss, because there are some democrats so full of dirt for populists that they would not vote if they came in as a part of this body politic, with the political rights of American citizens, so that they could protect their own interests.

What is here proposed? We take these people—we do not let them govern themselves—they are not citizens, they are dependents of Spain, but we take them—and we govern them according to our own sweet will, in our own way, in our own discretion, and then we impose upon them, our people, belonging to us—and if they are not citizens, they belong to us by some means, when they are our people, who have no control over their institutions, who have no opportunity to protect themselves who cannot make, or administer economic laws—we give them laws, we make them as we like, and then, if, under those circumstances they can succeed, we put our feet upon their necks, and crush down, our own people. There is a vast, a glittering dream of empire. That it may be realized, plighted faith is to be broken, the constitution trodden under foot, human rights ignored. Have a care, gentlemen, have a care. Even as you grasp it—

With hopes, that but allure to fly, With joy, that vanish while he sips, Lethal Dead to tempt the eye, But turn to ashes on the lips! —Extract from speech of Charles E. Littlefield in House of Representatives on Porto Rican bill.

O'er No Conquering Race Long wave the flag so nobly borne The finest flag in all the world, The old Red, White and Blue! O'er the heads of the conquering race, Whose rights unheeded be, Shall float the flag we love to call The Banner of the Free!

A Straight Populist Brigadier General Davis, commanding in Porto Rico, seems to be a straight pop. He may not know it but his good, hard common sense has enabled him to see a way for the relief of the starving people of that island that will be endorsed by any old pop farmer in this state. In his report, page 7, he says: "The measures of relief I have had suggested to me, and which I deem of sufficient importance to submit to the government at Washington are the removal of all duties on trade between the United States and the island. This is his first recommendation. His second is:

"The authorization by the Washington government for the issue by the insular authorities of notes in small denominations to the amount of \$10,000,000, the notes representing money to be loaned solely on landed security to the extent of 30 or 40 per cent of the same, and no note to be issued save where a first mortgage on the land is behind it." Notes of small denominations thus issued would circulate as money and the notes would not take on new life. Free exchange of products with all the world and a plentiful supply of money will bring prosperity any where and at any time if there is any productiveness left in the soil at all.

Milk wanted, 40 gallons of Jersey milk wanted daily for which I will pay the highest cash price. 1837 O street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

lanthropy and benevolence—this philanthropy that takes out of a man's pocket with the right hand, and shifts it over to the left hand, and carries it back to his left-hand pocket, less expense of collection—marriage, philanthropy and benevolence, without a copper expense to the magnificent people who exercise the philanthropy and benevolence!—upon whom does it rest? It rests solely upon the producers of sugar and tobacco. Of course there are other industries, but these are the principle ones. It leaves the producers of sugar and tobacco paying all the tax, the coffee planters and all other property and business paying none of it. That is the practical proposition. Why is this suggested now? What is its purpose? What is its object? It is said that it is not to protect only American industry; it is said that it does not bear grievously upon Porto Rico; but what else is said? It is said that we are, here and now—and that is the great objection which I have to this bill—it is said that we are, here and now, the representatives of the Republican party, to announce to the world, our policy in connection with Porto Rico, and the Philippine Archipelago. And what is that policy? That policy is to protect the industries of the United States, against the industries of Porto Rico, and the Philippine Archipelago. That means what? That we are going to develop those territories? That we are going to give them an opportunity to blossom like a rose? It means this, and you may as well meet it here, as to meet it hereafter: It means that when any man raises sugar in Porto Rico he does not interfere with us, they can raise it and send it here. It means that when they raise it, so that it does interfere with us, we will put our foot upon their necks with a tariff, and stop it from coming here in competition with our sugar. It means that anywhere and every where, in Porto Rico or the Philippine Archipelago, any industry or any occupation, however much it may be developed under the flag, with our energy, and our enterprise, and our industry, the moment it comes into competition with anything raised or manufactured in the Republic, meaning the forty-five States, according to the new theory of sublimated selfishness, just that moment, the Republic will put its hand upon it and keep it down, so that it will not compete. How much will you develop Porto Rico and the Philippine Archipelago on that policy?

I say here frankly, I say here coolly, and I am not excited about this, that I do not believe that proposition will appeal to the good sense, the fair mind, honest judgment, of the people who have been in the habit of voting, loyally, the republican ticket. I care nothing about the other side. So far as we are concerned, I do not believe it will appeal to them. That is the proposition—that Porto Rico and the Philippine Archipelago are a danger for us to squeeze. The 12,000,000 subject people in these islands are simply, under this proposition, "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for 75,000,000 free people. How much American capital will go to Porto Rico, or to the Philippine Archipelago, if this proposition is to be sustained, when they know that any development they may make there, is subject to the repressing hand of an American congress? They are our own people in more senses than one, according to the theory of those who propose this bill—if they have no constitution, they are not citizens, they are dependents of Spain, but we take them—and we govern them according to our own sweet will, in our own way, in our own discretion, and then we impose upon them, our people, belonging to us—and if they are not citizens, they belong to us by some means, when they are our people, who have no control over their institutions, who have no opportunity to protect themselves who cannot make, or administer economic laws—we give them laws, we make them as we like, and then, if, under those circumstances they can succeed, we put our feet upon their necks, and crush down, our own people. There is a vast, a glittering dream of empire. That it may be realized, plighted faith is to be broken, the constitution trodden under foot, human rights ignored. Have a care, gentlemen, have a care. Even as you grasp it—

SILVER REPUBLICANS The silver republican convention met at the Lincoln Hotel at 8 o'clock Monday evening, March 19, and was called to order by Hon. J. N. Lyman, chairman of the state central committee. The room was filled with representative men from all over the state who listened with deep interest to an impressive address from Mr. Lyman. Just as Mr. Lyman was closing his remarks William J. Bryan appeared and was greeted with three rousing cheers. Mr. Bryan made one of his characteristic speeches giving more new ideas and solid arguments than some men could tell in all day. Mr. Fulton of Pawnee county was made permanent chairman of the convention and Lawrence Burnham of Omaha, secretary. George Maxwell, Frank T. Ransom, R. N. Wright, J. H. Cameron, Chas. Wooster, G. L. Laws, A. H. Parmalee were appointed a committee on resolutions. The convention at Kansas City being a mass convention it was decided to select the chairman of the county central committees as delegates and that all other silver republicans who desired to attend should receive certificates that could give them admission. F. J. Biers of Thayer county was designated as chairman of the Nebraska delegation. Frank Ransom of Omaha was elected national committeeman. It was unanimously agreed that on the evening before the meeting of the state convention a dollar banquet would be given. The silver republicans will be found a very important element in the 1900 campaign.

The Kimmel Institution of Magnetic Healing at 1516 O. St., is having well merited success. Patients that have suffered for years with Sciatic and Inflammatory rheumatism have been set free from pain. Men with private troubles and ladies with female diseases that have baffled the skill of specialists are made happy over the results of a few treatments. Diseases of eyes, ears, bronchial tubes, heart, lungs, liver, stomach, kidneys, bladder, urethra, spinal and nervous troubles, yield readily to the treatment; while the Doctor's reputation as a teacher and the hearty endorsements of his instructions, with his offer to start all his graduates in a lucrative business, is bringing new students every day. Teaching and healing by mail a specialty. Call or address J. W. KIMMEL, 1516 O St., Lincoln, Neb. Mention this paper.

HERWERS OF WOOD That is what the Imperialists intend to make of the People of Porto Rico and the Philippines. I now take the provision in this bill, in which the great fundamental proposition is involved. The amount at stake does not take time to discuss; I do not undertake to weigh in the scales of an apothecary, the integrity of the Republic, or human rights of people anywhere. If they are infringed, so far as I am concerned, by so much as a hair, I will not approve, or adopt, the proposition. This provision does what? It imposes a tariff of one-quarter of the Dingley tariff upon the products of Porto Rico coming into the United States, and upon tobacco. There is none upon coffee. The value of the coffee produced before this awful cyclone struck this devoted island was \$4,200,000 a year. The value of the sugar was \$2,700,000 a year. This imposes a tax for the revenue of Porto Rico upon two industries, sugar and tobacco, and leaves the coffee free, and coffee represents as much as them put together. And so far as this tax is concerned, conceived in the "good Samaritan" habit, in the "good Samaritan" theory of the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. Russell), out of great phi-

### STANDARD OIL TRUST.

It has at Last, Strange to say, Attracted the Attention of a Congressman. Representative Fitzgerald of Massachusetts has introduced the following resolutions:

"Whereas, it appears as a matter of public record that the Standard Oil company paid in the city of New York on March 15, 1900, the sum of \$19,000,000, this amount being an extra dividend in addition to the regularly dividend of \$3,000,000; and, Whereas, the matter of public record that this last dividend is \$5,000,000 in excess of the last quarterly dividend paid by this corporation; and, Whereas, It is also a matter of public record that the price of the kerosene oil, the sole means of lighting used by the middle and poorer classes of people, during the period of time between the declaration of these dividends was increased 8 cents a gallon, constituting a tax on every home in the land; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That in the opinion of congress the action of the Standard Oil company is in direct violation of the provisions of the Sherman anti-trust law and therefore punishable by fine and imprisonment, and the attorney-general is hereby directed in accordance with the provisions of that act to direct the middle and poorer classes of people of the United States in their respective districts to institute proper proceedings to bring the above-named violators of the law to justice."

Now don't let any one imagine that this republican congress will do anything to curtail the profits of the Standard Oil Trust. This congress exists by the grace of the trust and the men it has elected and sent to congress know well enough that the first effective act of theirs that tended in that direction would end their public careers. Does any one suppose that it would be possible for a man to get a nomination in a republican convention when the Standard Oil trust would fight? If he does he ought to be tapped for the similes. What do you suppose was the fee that Coal Oil Johnny received to come all the way from Washington to fight the state of Nebraska in the interest of the trust? That fee would buy half a dozen farms, any one of which would be larger than you can ever hope to earn. United States senators do not forsake their easy life in Washington and travel all over the country to argue a case for a trust with an income like that of the Standard Oil for any small sum of money. When Coal Oil Johnny ran for the senate against Bryan, all the mule heads voted for Johnny. Now they pay three cents more for their coal oil. But they like that. They know that they are away down in the scale of humanity and are only fit to toil for the trusts and the banks. No mass of slaves ever effected their own freedom. They have nearly all preferred to fight for their masters and let others fight and die to make them free. And so it is with the mule heads.

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