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SENATORIAL FIST FIGHT

McLaurin Calls Tillman a Liar on the Floor of the Senate and Tillman Goes for Him

To any one who has carefully read the dispatches concerning the fight between Tillman and McLaurin in the senate there can be no manner of doubt that the whole thing was carefully planned by the republicans. It is a fair specimen of the "statesmanship" of the men who run the government for the benefit of the trusts, syndicates and tariff grabbers. Little tricks like that have elected presidents before now. Look at the record carefully. Spooner went to the very verge allowed by the rules of the senate in taunting Tillman. By his irritating questions and sneers he forced Tillman to make a statement, and while every man in the United States and every one who has kept posted on public affairs knows that what McLaurin said was the actual truth, the republicans had planned to bring about a personal encounter because they thought that such an event would help them carry the next election. Under the nagging of Spooner, Tillman said: "I know that the patronage—federal patronage—of a state has been parcelled out to a senator since the ratification of that treaty."

That was the policy publicly announced in Washington. Special correspondents have written columns about it. The south was to be brought over by federal patronage. That McLaurin had had the disposal of all the federal patronage of South Carolina every one knows. Judges, collectors of ports and other offices have been distributed in that state at the hands of McLaurin. No one has ever denied it. Tillman made a statement that was true and known to be true, not only by every senator on that floor, but by every intelligent citizen in the United States.

As soon as the statement was made some republican sneak ran to McLaurin, who was not in the senate, with the tale McLaurin came into the senate and with premeditation and forethought turned to Tillman and called him a liar. Notice that McLaurin calls attention to the language "I intend" to use. Then he delivered himself as follows:

"I desire to state, Mr. President—I would not use as strong language as I intend had I not seen after the senate met replies to these insinuations and said that they were untrue. "I now say," continued Mr. McLaurin, with distinct emphasis upon every word, and half turning toward his (cleavage (Mr. Tillman), who sat in the same row only three seats away, "that the statement is a willful, malicious and deliberate lie."

At this point the republicans had brought their conspiracy to a culmination. The thing had worked out just as they wished. If Tillman had not resented the vile insult in the manner that he did, he would have been denounced in every plutocratic paper in the land as a coward and a sneak. If Tillman did knock McLaurin down as he attempted to do, then they would take the other way, discarding him. McLaurin was the first to outrageously violate the rules of the senate. He used language regarding a fellow senator fouler and viler than was ever heard in that body before. According to the rules of the senate, Tillman should have sat still and allowed some other senator to call McLaurin to order. In that case McLaurin would have been the only offender. But if Tillman had taken that course, he would under the management of the republican party and the Associated press have been a ruined man.

That was the trap that these senatorial sneaks set. Which was the honorable man can be seen by the apologies that were afterwards made. This South Carolina bully (McLaurin), after insulting the senate, would have repeated his offense had he not been restrained by other senators near him. Tillman's words were as follows:

"Mr. President, I have always esteemed it a high honor and privilege to be a member of this body. I had never had any legislative experience when I came here and my previous service as governor of South Carolina for four years had unfitted me in a measure to enter this august assembly with that dignity and regard—proper regard I will say—for its traditions and habits and rules that is desirable. "I have been here seven years. I have in that time learned to judge men with a little more catholicity of spirit than when I came here. I have found a great many people here in whose personal integrity and honor and regard for their obligations as gentlemen I have implicit confidence; but I have seen so much of what I consider slavish submission to party domination that I confess I have felt somewhat at a loss how to judge men who in one aspect appeared to be so high and clean and honorable and in another appeared more or less despicable. I say this because of the fact that one of the senators has seen fit to allude to some matters that occurred in the debate this afternoon."

"I want to say that so far as any action of mine has caused any senator here or the senate as a body or the people of the United States to feel that I have been derelict and that I have not shown that courtesy and proper observance of the rules of this body that I regret it. I apologize for it. I was ready to do that two minutes after I had acted, but under the provocation which was known of all of you I could not have acted otherwise than I did, and while I apologize to the senate and am sorry that it has occurred I have nothing more to say."

I was in contempt of the senate, nor do I think now if my words are read in the record that I was in contempt of the senate, but at the same time, as the senate has ruled that I am in contempt of this honorable body, I beg leave to apologize.

"I desire to say, Mr. President, that I have been very sorely and severely tried. I was in attendance on the committee on Indian affairs, when I received a message from a friend in the senate that my presence was needed here."

"The history of the vote on the Spanish treaty is known to all of you. There have been statements in newspapers and insinuations that I had been influenced by improper motives in connection with my vote on that treaty. Knowing in my own soul and knowing that God in heaven knows it was false, when I was told that it was centered down to me, I was so outraged by what I considered a most brutal assault upon my honor as a man, and especially in view of the fact that in the beginning of the session, after the action of my party associates I made a most careful and deliberate statement, explaining all those matters I did not feel as a man, that I could ever hold my head up again if I did not resent it in the place where it was delivered in the strongest and most forcible terms that I could employ."

"With that, Mr. President, I am done, except I have this to say, if there is any more talk of that kind—or any more—"

As Mr. McLaurin uttered the last sentences of his address, intimating that if there was any further effort to press upon him the accusations which had been made against him there might be trouble. Several senators rose to their feet as if half expecting a renewed outbreak of the trouble. Mr. Bacon of Georgia and Mr. Patterson of Colorado, both of whom were sitting near Mr. McLaurin, urged him to stop where he was. Mr. Patterson said:

"I beg the senator to refrain."

"I will refrain then, Mr. President," said Mr. McLaurin.

Under the irritating interruptions of Spooner, which led up to the statement that brought on the fight, Tillman stated another plain fact:

"I have many friends on the republican side. Personally, you are a nice clean-hearted sort of man, but politically you are the most infamous coward and hypocrites that ever happened."

It is said that the republicans laughed at this frank statement, but nothing truer was ever said. "There are no trusts," said Hanna. "International bimetalism which we pledge ourselves to support," said the national convention. A thousand other such performances bear testimony to the truth of Tillman's words. This plan to ruin Tillman, whom they fear more than any other man in the opposition, is additional proof that the republican leaders are "the most infamous cowards and hypocrites that ever happened."

The Oleo Bill

The oleomargarine bill went through the house by a small majority with the following amendment:

"That the secretary of agriculture is hereby authorized and required to cause a rigid sanitary inspection to be made from time to time, and at such times as he may deem necessary, of all factories and store-houses where butter is renovated; and all butter renovated at such places shall be carefully inspected in the same manner and to the same extent and purpose that meat products are now inspected. The quantity and quality of butter renovated shall be reported monthly. All renovated butter shall be designated as such by marks, brands and labels, and the words 'renovated butter' shall be printed on all packages thereof, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, and shall be sold only as renovated butter. No renovated butter shall be shipped or transported from one state to another, or to foreign countries, unless inspected as provided in this section."

In the eyes of the men who have spent the most time and money trying to get the bill through, that amendment takes all the profit out of the transaction.

From Massachusetts

Editor Independent: I am much pleased with your paper. It deals with the living questions of today in a way that is very satisfactory, as seen from my viewpoint. Especially pleasing is your attitude on the Philippine, Cuban and Porto Rican questions. If I could not follow you on these questions I should be an unworthy grandson of my mother's father, who was with Washington at Valley Forge and shed a part of his blood for liberty. I have long been in agreement with you on the other important questions. I have felt the heel of the corporations which Lincoln declared the war had "enthroned." After having served one of these corporations faithfully and well and after I had been seriously injured through the negligence of one of their employees, I was discharged and black-listed for being a propagating populist. I can well appreciate your able efforts for the rights of man generally and for your labors to deliver the common people from the ruling money power. One needs to be of a hopeful temperament who expects to educate the masses up to the point requisite to deliverance. As for myself, I am inclined to believe the signs will multiply until a storm gathers."

The evident determination of Governor Van Sant of Minnesota to fight the proposed colossal railroad merger in the northwest and the belief that its success would make vastly to his political advantage has led the president to try and usurp what credit may be attached to the prosecution, and he

PRINCE HENRY'S VISIT

Germany Has no Friends in This Administration—Wheeler's Denunciation of Pauncefote Just—Hay Furnish Supplies to Kill Men of the German Race

Washington, D. C., Feb. 24.—(Special Correspondence.)—The only event of absorbing interest that has occurred in congress in the last few days was the speech delivered by Congressman Wheeler of Kentucky. While temperate and unduly harsh in tone, Mr. Wheeler is alone responsible for his utterances against Prince Henry. He does not speak for the democrats and populists of the country nor does he assume to do so. He has his own constituency to face.

Prince Henry arrived in New York Saturday and his reception throughout the country for the next few days will be hearty and expressive. While it is true that administration and wealthy influences will be apt to welcome him because of his royal birth and breeding and because of their newly acquired custom of fawning before the foot of a throne, the public in general will welcome him solely as the representative of a thrifty and progressive people, thousands of whom have been the American citizens and helped to build up a great republic, after having renounced allegiance to a king.

While republicans on the floor of congress have essayed to make political capital out of Wheeler's speech, it is significant that no one of them dares to endorse any unbecoming condescension to royalty, which has become all too prevalent since the appointment by the president of an embassy to attend the coronation of King Edward. The republican party is alone responsible for this departure from republican principles and must suffer the consequences.

The declaration of the British ministry that England was our only real friend at the outbreak of the war with Spain has prompted Germany to produce the official documents to prove that it was England herself, through Ambassador Pauncefote, which used that Europe should threaten us: "Everyone with a spark of real American manhood in his make-up is opposed to this kowtowing expedition to England. It is not apparent how this republic, without a display of gross inconsistency, could do so un-democratic and unbecoming a thing as to make itself conspicuous in a monarch's coronation train."

But if there are any special embassies to be sent abroad from this republic to do homage to royalty, then, in the name of logic and gratitude, let them be sent to the Czar of Russia and the German kaiser, both of whom refused to unite with England in an attempt to bully us when we were on the very eve of war!

In her business of republic-crushing, which has made England our real enemy, she seems to have the support of the administration in this country, at least. She has been able to prolong her warfare against the Boers only because of the fact that she has been able to purchase mules, horses and general supplies in this country. President Kruger declared that to be a fact. During a heated discussion in the British house of commons one day last week, Major Arthur Lee, formerly British attaché with the United States army during the war with Spain and later British military attaché in Washington, said that "Great Britain had been offered the services of the chief horse expert of the United States army as adviser in the purchase of American horses for the British army in South Africa."

Congressman Wheeler declared in his speech that because of Pauncefote's attempted embarrassment of this government in April, 1898, and his favoritism to Spain, Sir Pauncefote should be sent home to stay. In the light of Lee's speech in the house of commons, it would appear as though republican institutions had as deadly enemies at home as those who come from the "tight little island."

The Germans of this country have no friends in administration circles of this time may be assured. The administration is thoroughly imbued with the autocracy of Great Britain to the exclusion of all else and to the extent of aiding King Edward's soldiers to murder men of German faith and blood in South Africa.

Statistics given to the press from the commissioner of pensions show that on June 30, 1901, the number of pensioners on the rolls at the various pension agencies throughout the country was as follows:

Topeka	115,765
Columbus	103,597
Chicago	75,572
Indianapolis	67,028
Philadelphia	63,329
Knoxville	60,325
Boston	57,435
Des Moines	55,025
Washington	53,543
New York	53,211
Milwaukee	50,804
Pittsburg	48,654
Buffalo	47,264
Detroit	43,999
San Francisco	35,796
Louisville	28,708
Augusta	18,819
Concord	18,255
Total	997,735

The evident determination of Governor Van Sant of Minnesota to fight the proposed colossal railroad merger in the northwest and the belief that its success would make vastly to his political advantage has led the president to try and usurp what credit may be attached to the prosecution, and he

to commence proceedings against J. J. Hill and his fellow magnates.

Men of all parties would welcome a move from any source whose effect was to curb trust rapacity. However, no one at heart believes Roosevelt to be in earnest in his latest move against those who put up the corruption fund that seduced him, but if he is, the source from whence alone comes republican victories will be stopped. Those who are best posted know that Roosevelt is fighting a sham battle against the corporations to enlist the support of their victims for his 1904 campaign.

Any good that he may accomplish for himself in this matter has been more than offset, however, by his decision against Schley in the appeal case and his sustaining of the navy department findings in its cabal to ruin the hero of Santiago bay. The country has become thoroughly aroused to the injustice done Schley and are clamoring for the opportunity to resent it.

It is safe to say Roosevelt has made the most egregious blunder of his political career. There can be little inspiration for one who fights for his country either on land or sea—little incentive to achieve battle—won glory—if, by bureaucratic order and executive sanction, the reputation of heroes can be blackened and their victories charged to the credit of tea-party fighters and theoretical populists!

H. W. RISLEY.

A Call For Bryan

Editor Independent: I thought it would be well to give you the situation in this state as I know you take a deep interest in it. About eighteen middle-of-the-roads met here on the 22d and fixed the time for their state convention for June 4. This is also the time for the democratic state convention. Apparently this time was selected because of votes that will be given the democrats, but really in order to compel the republican committee to renew their contract. Thus far the republicans have turned a deaf ear to them because they do not feel the need of the eleven or twelve hundred votes which these men represent, while they feel secure in a majority of 25,000. Nearly all of these men came from counties largely democratic in which the people's party was encouraged by the republican local organization from the beginning as the only means of winning in these counties. At first, they were no doubt sincere and hopeful, but the free and continuing rule of the "whives" has made them mere mercenaries.

On the other hand, the national banks have organized, completely controlling the democratic state organization. This is made manifest by developments in Boone county, where success has always attended fusion and failure a separate democratic ticket, yet the state machine has induced the democrats to refuse further fusion, thus voluntarily choosing defeat.

There is a sham fight on in this state between those leaders whose loyalty to Bryan was openly questioned and whose attitude was more in doubt than they suspected in order to pacify the rank and file and this, too, with a national banker as state chairman. This fact, however, is left in the background as much as possible in order to await a scan of the rank and file.

The News (Independent) and the paper of largest circulation in the state, has never mentioned that fact. In the meantime the fusion populists are awaiting the development of the democratic state convention. If Mr. Bryan would appeal to his followers to go to the conventions and select the delegates and then attend the state convention himself, he could unhorse the conspirators, otherwise they will control as they have it sufficiently well fixed to have their own way unless he interferes courageously.

JOHN MEDERT,
Indianapolis, Ind.

They Want to Crawl

Away down in the breast of Mr. Wheeler is the germ of a good thought. He disapproves tyrodism, and here's more power to his disapproval. There is plenty of the same in the land. This business of sending special ambassadors to assist at the crowning of a king is not so popular as rag-time music. But the Kentuckian is too exclusive and indiscriminate. Let us be polite to wanderers from benighted Europe, not because we care very much what they think, but because we have a proper self-respect. Even the Arab who joyfully steals the trousers from a stranger captured in the desert will die rather than violate the sacred obligations of hospitality when the same stranger comes to his door. Citizens of republics should be gentlemen, because each of them is a sovereign over his own mind and noblesse oblige.

There are people who desire to get down on their knees to somebody. They want to crawl. They want to kiss somebody's hand. They want to be spoken to.—Denver News.

From Florida

Editor Independent: You publish the best paper in the United States. I have just sent your last issue to Senator Bailey of Texas. I am the first man brought out Bryan for president. I announced him as a candidate three years before the Chicago convention. I was private secretary to Senator Call of Florida and canvassed the state with him. I am not a candidate for any office. I wish you would print Bryan's eulogy of Congressman McKinley of East Cleveland.

MORE IMPERIALISM

The Senate Passes the Philippine Tariff Bill—Hear Votes for Imperialism—All Amendments Voted Down

The bill imposing a tariff on the Philippines was passed by the senate last Monday. The vote was a strictly party vote, even Senator Hoar making speeches one way and then voted for the bill. The policy that The Independent has advocated is clearly set forth in the amendments offered by Senator Teller. Many amendments were offered to the bill, but except those offered by the committee, only one, an amendment restricting the operation of the sedition laws, enacted by the Taft commission, was adopted. As passed the measure provides that articles imported into the Philippine archipelago from the United States shall be required to pay the duties levied against them by the

ROOSEVELT AND SCHLEY

The President Undertakes to Make a Decision That Will Satisfy Both Parties to the Contest

Roosevelt gave his decision in the Schley case the day the last edition of The Independent went to press. A careful reading of it shows that the president uses all his expertness as a member of the literary guild to make a decision that would satisfy both parties, but it has met with the fate of all such attempts, it satisfies neither. Among other censures of Schley, Roosevelt criticizes the "loop." How any man except those aboard of the ship could give a just judgment on that maneuver is past comprehension. The exact position of the ship even to a few rods would determine that matter. The captain of the ship first gave the order and a moment after Schley sanctioned it. The Brooklyn was not a war ship, but a cruiser. The men who knew the ship, its guns, its partial armor and could judge better than anyone else possibly could, made the movement which Roosevelt himself says left the Brooklyn at broadsides with the Spanish fleet and far in advance of every other American ship, where it continued until the last Spanish ship went down. Who would likely be the best judges, Admiral Schley and Captain Cook, who were there, or Admiral Sampson and Roosevelt, who were not there? The comment of the Chicago Record-Herald on Mr. Roosevelt's latest literary effort is as follows:

It is at least a pity that President Roosevelt has concluded his decision in the Schley case with the injunction now let there be peace over "this unhappy controversy," when he has withheld the one thing that could have stillied the voice of dissent and given the country the peace it longs for.

In what is intended to be an exhaustive review of the main issue of the case—Schley's standing and behavior during the battle of Santiago—the president brushes aside the charges of previous "reprehensible conduct" as having been condoned by President McKinley and the naval department.

Technically on the day of the battle, according to the president, "Sampson commanded the fleet, and Schley, as usual, the western division," while "Sampson was hardly more than technically in the fight."

"The actual fact," he continues, "the important fact, is that after the battle was joined not a helm was shifted, not a gun was fired, not a pound of steam was put on in the engine room aboard any ship actively engaged, in obedience to the order of either Sampson or Schley, save on their own two vessels. It was a captain's fight."

All question of the command of the fleet being thus eliminated, President Roosevelt damns Schley as fighting commander on the Brooklyn with the faint praise "On the whole she did well." Up to the maneuver of the loop, he says, her record was "excellent," and after the loop, he admits that "Admiral Schley handled the Brooklyn manfully and well." He acknowledges that had the Brooklyn turned to the westward instead of south "she would have undoubtedly been in more 'dangerous proximity' to them (the Spanish ships)."

But according to Captain Eulate of the Viscaya, "if the Brooklyn had not made that beautiful maneuver in turning, I could have rammed and sunk her."

Be the president or Captain Eulate's opinion in regard to the loop the correct one, it must forever remain a matter of opinion as to the exercise of an officer's discretion, and the question arises if, in view of the "excellent record" of the Brooklyn before the loop and the fact that she was "handled manfully and well," unbiased justice to Schley did not demand from President Roosevelt a frank acknowledgment that he was entitled to a sweeping and honorable exoneration from all the slurs, calumnies and odium that have been heaped upon him.

It must be confessed that in a captain's battle where the Brooklyn's shot found the Spanish ships twice as often as those of any other, where she was the only one whose shots struck the Colon, where she received 66 per cent of the enemies' shots, where she suffered the only fatality on an American ship and was the nearest to the Colon when the last Spanish war ship struck her colors and ran ashore, the reluctant acknowledgment that "on the whole she did well" lacks the one note of spontaneous magnanimity and justice that, coming from the president, would have allayed the "further agitation of the unhappy controversy."

like articles imported into the archipelago from foreign countries, that articles imported into the United States from the Philippines shall pay a duty of 75 per cent of the rates fixed by the Dingley law, less any export duty on articles sent from the archipelago. All articles shall hereafter be exempt from import duty imposed in the Philippines. The bill exempts the commerce passing between the Philippines and the United States from the navigation laws of the United States until January 1, 1904, and authorizes the Philippine commission to so regard the craft engaged in lighterage or exclusive harbor work, provided such craft are built in the United States or the Philippines and owned by citizens of the United States or citizens of the Philippines. Taxes and duties collected in pursuance of this act shall be paid into the treasury of the Philippine islands and used for their benefit.

All articles manufactured in bonded warehouses of imported materials, or material subject to internal revenue in the United States or the Philippines when exempt from the internal revenue taxes paid on such articles shipped to the Philippine islands since November 15, 1901, shall be refunded. Amendments were offered by Mr. Teller, declaring that the constitution and all laws of the United States which are not locally inapplicable shall have the same force in the Philippine archipelago as elsewhere in the United States, and providing that the United States did not intend permanently to annex the Philippines, but to establish a government in the islands suitable to their inhabitants; that the United States had no purpose to deprive the Filipinos of their liberties, or to subjugate, but to insure them a free government of their own choice, and that to the end that peace and order should prevail in the islands the United States would co-operate with the peaceably disposed inhabitants in the formation of a free government and would protect it against interference from any foreign power.

The voting down of the amendments of Mr. Teller fixes the republican policy in regard to the Philippines and insures a continuance of the war in the islands until this government gets tired of it and changes the policy. If the republican party wishes to soak the islands with the blood of American soldiers and Filipinos for all the years to come and can get a majority of the American people to vote for it, then we shall have to submit.

KANSAS POPULISTS

They Will Stand by Their Guns, but are Willing to Co-Operate With Democrats on Fair Terms

Topeka, Kas., Feb. 22, 1902.—(Editorial Correspondence.)—Interviews with a large number of the leading populists of Kansas and close attention to the sessions of the conference which adjourned late last night lead me to conclude (a) that there is a populist party in Kansas and that it is very much alive; (b) that the party members are practically unanimous that the party organization shall be maintained; and (c) that the great majority of them are ready to co-operate with the democrats of Kansas and redeem that state from the blight of republican misgovernment.

The real attitude of the populists of Kansas toward their democratic allies cannot be known by reading the daily papers, and the same may be said regarding the attitude of the democracy of Kansas toward the populists. All over the country Saturday dailies carried such headlines as "Populists To Go It Alone—Party in Kansas Votes Not to Surrender to Democrats; Kansas Populists Reject Fusion Move—Majority Favors Nominating a Ticket After a Stormy Conference Lasting Many Hours; Populists Met and Talked, But Decided Nothing at All—Efforts of Fusionists were Expended in Vain; Fusionists Lose—Kansas Populists Vote to Go It Alone Again," etc., etc.

The truth is that the populists of Kansas did nothing of the kind. The resolution finally adopted said nothing against co-operating with the democrats; it does not express the sentiment that the people's party of Kansas shall "go it alone," but it shows unmistakably that the populists will maintain their party organization, nominate a state ticket, make a vigorous campaign for that ticket and for the promulgation of populist principles. The resolution adopted is as follows:

"First, we recommend that a state convention of the people's party of Kansas be called for the purpose of nominating a state ticket; and second, we demand a vigorous campaign in favor of our state ticket, and for the promulgation of the principles of the people's party."

A little history may aid readers of The Independent to understand the situation. In 1900 the republicans carried Kansas for McKinley by something like 25,000 and captured the legislature in both branches, having a brutal majority in that body. One of the first things the legislature did was to amend the election law with the view of preventing any future co-operation between the democrats and populists. In The Independent of February 6 this law was discussed at some length, but it seems advisable to quote one paragraph of what was said then:

"The law provides that a party name shall consist of 'not more than two words, of which the word 'party' shall be one . . . for instance, 'republican party,' 'democratic party,' 'people's party,' etc., 'but a compound or hyphenated word shall not be used.' It also provides that 'no person shall accept more than one nomination for the same office. Whenever any person shall receive two or more nominations for the same office, he shall be deemed to have accepted the nomination first made . . . he shall file . . . statement . . . designating which one of such nominations he desires to accept. The law seems to contain no provision for the organization of a new party or the reorganization of one which has lost its standing by failure to nominate a ticket to be voted for at the general election. Accordingly, whatever the populists do there should be done carefully, if the party organization is to be maintained."

Kansas has what is known as the "blanket" or "Belgian" ballot, similar to the ballot adopted by the Nebraska legislature in 1897, whereby the candidates of each party are grouped in one column under the party name. It will be observed that the law was intended to prevent (a) the democrats and populists from both nominating one set of candidates, each maintaining its own party name and occupying its position on the ballot, and (b) to prevent these parties from uniting under one party name such as "people's democratic" or "democrat-people's." All new parties must, at least the first year of their existence, go on the ballot under the head "Independent" and there is no limit to the number of "Independent" tickets that may go on the ballot. The law recognizes the existence of three parties, republican, democratic and people's; but by forbidding any candidate to accept more than one political nomination for the same office, or his name to appear more than once on the ballot, the plain intent of the legislature was to permit a minority to rule by splitting up the majority into separate factions and preventing their co-operation. Its practical effect is to disfranchise a great percentage of the voters of Kansas in spite of the most vigorous efforts that may be made to avoid it. It is simply another step in the direction of imperialism—and a pretty big step at that.

Another law enacted by the republican legislature gives Kansas biennial state elections; hence, the new election law has not been tried except in county elections and for precinct officers. But these elections demonstrated the devilish incenuity of those who framed the law. Shortly after the legislature adjourned in 1901 Acting Chairman Babb of the people's party, realizing that the law was directed against co-operation, or "fusion" as it is commonly called, wrote a letter to Chairman Love of the democratic com-

mittee of the people's party of Kansas, and in it he said: "I am not a millionaire, but I want to help the cause along."

GEO. S. CONROY,
San Francisco, Cal.

From Nevada

Editor Independent: I received The Independent and was much pleased with it. Your views and mine are almost exactly the same, politically speaking. I am not a millionaire, but I want to help the cause along.

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