

Champ Clark's Letter

[Special Washington Letter.]

I HAVE no pride of opinion as a prophet, and yet because I love Senator Joseph Weldon Bailey of Texas as a brother I rejoice and am exceedingly glad that a prediction which I have frequently made about him has already been partially verified. It was this: "Within two years from the day he sets foot in the senate Bailey will be universally recognized as the strongest debater in that body." The way he knocked Joseph Benson Foraker, George Frisbie Hoar and other Republican senators out in a running fire debate on the "suspension" of Tillman and McLaurin by the arbitrary action of President Pro Tem. Frye was one of the most refreshing performances ever witnessed in the house of the conscript fathers. The engagement was short and sharp and ended in a decisive victory for the brave, brainy young Texan. At once gave him front rank in the less numerous branch of the national legislature. The constitution was the theme. As an expounder of constitutional law Bailey has no superior on this continent. His position was absolutely impregnable. It was this: The senate has no right to deprive a senator of his vote; much less has the presiding officer, such right by his mere ipse dixit, except by expulsion.

On that proposition Bailey brayed his opponents in a mortar, and he it remembered that the men against whom he was pitted are not weaklings, but the crack Republican debaters of the senate.

Bailey freely admitted that the senate could inflict any punishment—even to expulsion by a two-thirds vote—but that so long as Tillman and McLaurin remained senators the state of South Carolina and the country were entitled to their votes.

So complete was Bailey's triumph, so thoroughly did he demonstrate the absurdity and danger of permitting the senate to suspend senators by a majority vote, that Senator Frye, president pro tem., who had ordered the names of the belligerent senators stricken from the rolls, hastened to have their names restored to the list, which demonstrates beyond all cavil that Senator Frye's hindsight is superior to his foresight.

If the contention of the Republicans is correct, that a majority of the senate can "suspend" a senator for one hour and deprive him of his vote, then a corrupt majority might at some future time "suspend" every minority senator, not for an hour, but for the entire term, thereby depriving states of their senatorial representation. That would be doing by a bare majority what the constitution says can be done only by a two-thirds majority. Indeed, as Senator Bailey so clearly pointed out, "suspension" with deprivation of vote is worse than expulsion, for in case of expulsion the governor may appoint somebody else to the senate, whereas, in case of "suspension" with deprivation of vote it leaves the state without senatorial representation.

The Republican senators "deposited themselves in a cavity," as Dr. William Everett would say.

Prince Henry's Visit.
The magnificent reception or, rather, series of receptions tendered to Prince Henry of Prussia by the American people and government must do great good for us in Germany in many ways. It will most assuredly create a friendly feeling between the two great nations. It may not please those Anglomaniacs who have been trying to get up a row between us and Germany, but Anglomaniacs don't count.

Prince Henry created a most favorable impression upon all who saw him. He is a handsome, well built, modest gentleman and seemed immensely pleased with the reception, as he had a perfect right to be, and will undoubtedly carry back with him to his native land most pleasant recollections of the American people.

Not Becoming Effeminate.

Those pessimists who lie awake of nights pestering their heads about men growing effeminate under the enervating influences of modern civilization may take heart again since in one week there was a knockdown and dragout fight in the Maryland legislature; also quite a pugilistic set-to in "the most august body on earth"—to wit, the senate of the United States. Whatever else the American statesman of today may be he is not effeminate; at least the Maryland and South Carolina statesmen are not. The swatting of McLaurin by Tillman is the first "laying on of hands" in violence of one senator by another since fiery Joe Blackburn of Kentucky pulled the ear of William Eaton Chandler of New Hampshire, but that was in a committee room and not in the open senate. Senator means old man, and it's a pity that the grave and reverend seigniors do not behave in a way to set a good example to the members of the house, whom they superciliously consider their inferiors. It is now nearly four years since we had a personal encounter in the house, and that was during the stress of the initiation of the Spanish war, when nerves were strung to highest tension.

It is regrettable that Messrs. Tillman and McLaurin let their angry passions rise, for Tillman is a man of dynamic force of character, while McLaurin is one of the most amiable of mortals. The chances are ten to one that somebody—perhaps several—will be killed before the feud is ended. Neither obeys the injunction contained in the sermon on the mount, "Whosoever shall smite thee on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

About the same time that the aforementioned statesmen at Washington and Annapolis were pummeling each other ex-Mayor Phelan of San Francisco was giving Minister Wu Fing Tang a taste of pugilistic diplomacy in a swell hotel in New York.

As proof conclusive that the new American is not growing effeminate in the same week Rev. Ralph D. Schoonmaker of Plainfield, N. J., gave an exhibition of muscular Christianity by so thoroughly walloping a fellow mortal that he recalled the halcyon days of good old Peter Cartwright. Mr. Schoonmaker acted in self defense.

Whether we are deteriorating mentally is another question, but we appear to still be ready for a fight.

Another Republic in Sight.

While in this country, the greatest republic in the world, we are stultifying ourselves by going back to the doctrines of George III. It is comforting to lovers of liberty to know that the heaven of freedom which we planted in the human heart is still working in Europe.

The latest news is that a revolution is brewing in Belgium and that a Belgian republic is among the possibilities of the near future.

Justice Gray's Successor.

Mr. Justice Gray of Massachusetts, one of the ablest members of the federal supreme court, has been stricken with paralysis. As he is past seventy and has served more than ten years on the supreme bench, he is eligible for retirement on full pay under the law.

The probabilities are that, should he survive his present attack, he will hardly resume his duties. Already the newspapers are casting about for his successor. Of course it is part of my business to advise President Roosevelt as to Republican appointees to office, but as a lawyer I feel a deep interest in the personnel of the supreme court.

The chances are that Gray's successor will be a New England Republican. That being the case, the most distinguished New England Republican lawyer whose age does not bar him should be appointed. That man is unquestionably Charles E. Littlefield, representative in congress from Maine. He is capable, fearless and in the very flower of his years.

David Bennett Hill Redivivus.

The Sage of Wolfert's Roost shows signs of political resuscitation. He is beginning to "take notice." Nobody ever accused David Bennett of being a fool. At a "Democratic harmony reception of the Manhattan club" on Washington's birthday the ex-senator and ex-governor made a speech, and, mirabile dictu, his theme was the same as Mr. Bryan lectures on semioccasionally—to wit, "Ancient Landmarks." This does not prove that those two eminent personages are agreed or that to them may be properly applied the lines—

Two souls with but a single thought,
Two hearts that beat as one.

No doubt the differences betwixt them would furnish ample grounds for a redhot debate, but the very fact that Mr. Hill took the trouble to journey all the way from his rural retreat near Albany to Gotham in such weather as prevailed on the 22d of February to deliver a speech proves beyond a peradventure that, whatever others may think, David Bennett Hill does not class himself in the long list of political "dead ones." It must be confessed that he spoke with his old time vigor and said some good things. For instance, this paragraph is sound and well stated:

We should adhere to the policy involved in Jeffersonian expansion—the reasonable and natural acquisition of territory adjacent to our own, either largely unsettled or peopled with inhabitants capacitated for ultimate citizenship and the enjoyment of all the privileges of our free institutions. The recent mistakes of our opponents in that regard perhaps cannot now be adequately corrected, but manifest duty requires us to resist as the permanent policy of our government the establishment of colonial possessions governed only by the discretion of congress and outside of the pale of the guarantees of the constitution. Whenever the American flag of right floats it should be as the emblem of a free government and the sign of constitutional liberty. There is no place in the American Union for a permanent system of dependent colonies.

That's sound Democracy—precisely what many of us have been preaching for more than three years. Of course we are glad to be re-enforced by the ex-governor and ex-senator.

Safe Ground.

He was also on perfectly safe and familiar ground when he said:

No legislative favors, no excessive taxation for the benefit of individual interests, but equal laws, equal opportunities and equal privileges are what the people demand. From the very nature of things these results are impossible under the practical effect of a tariff designed ostensibly for public purposes, but in reality framed to subserve private interests, but

are always possible under a revenue tariff honestly intended to raise revenue and not to prevent revenue.

That is all right, but it is not in the nature of a revelation calculated by its novelty to startle the nations.

A Doubtful Proposition.

Mr. Hill also says:
The Democratic party should again press to the front the issue of revenue reform. The signs of the times indicate the wisdom of such a course. It is not a new issue, but it is an old one which has grown better by age. It is an issue upon which every Democrat in this broad land can stand, without regard to past differences or "previous condition of servitude" to any other issues, good, bad or indifferent.

Of course "it is an issue upon which every Democrat can stand." Most assuredly; but query: Is it an issue on which every Democrat in this broad land will stand? Hardly; unless Democrats in certain quarters have experienced a change of heart. Mr. Hill has certainly not forgotten what happened in 1894 in the Fifty-third congress. He can't have forgotten that, for he was a conspicuous actor and factor in the Wilson-Gorman tariff bill. He knows that nothing save an overwhelming Democratic majority in the house enabled us to pass a fairly good tariff for revenue bill over the protests of all the Republicans and a large coterie of recalcitrant Democrats. Seventeen Democratic members of the house voted against it, and that many more wanted to. And Mr. Hill knows furthermore that in the senate a handful of Democrats joined with the Republicans and cut and carved the Wilson bill until its father would not have recognized it had he met it in the big road. That's the plain, unvarnished truth of history, burned into the memory of many faithful Democrats by defeat brought upon them by the action of those same Democratic kickers in house and senate.

Of course all Democrats in this broad land could stand upon it, but all of them will not. There is not much more unity on the tariff than on finance among Democrats. That's the truth, and Mr. Hill knows it or ought to know it.

A New Member.

It is rare indeed that any member makes two notable speeches in the house before he has actually served twenty-five days. Yet that is precisely what Henry T. J. Selby of Illinois has done. Nevertheless, he is one of the most modest and unassuming men in congress, "plain as an old shoe," honest as the day is long, a Jeffersonian Democrat without the shadow of turning. While the urgent deficiency bill was under discussion he delivered a strong, classical speech on the Philippine problem, which attracted favorable attention to Mr. Selby as one of the most promising among the new members. It would make a dandy campaign document. It is already being circulated by senators and representatives.

On the oleomargarine bill he delivered himself of the finest piece of humor heard in the house this session. I wish I had room for it all, but I have space for only the following rich and racy extract:

Mr. Chairman—I desire to say a few words on this greasy subject. I am a friend to the cow. I am a friend to the woman that milks the cow. I am a friend to the man who stands by and watches his wife while she milks the cow, for is she not his helpmeet? I love to see the woman churn the foaming cream until she gets out the butter. I love to see the butter milk and love to see the busy housewife walk the butter about in her hands into shapely rolls. I love to see the butter come, and then I love to make the butter fly.

Memory goes back to the happy times when the cows came home and to the less happy times when I had to make them come. I love the cow. I have been raised with a cow and never lost her friendship for her nor go back upon her nor upon her back when adversity strikes her business.

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Lamb) paid the Virginia cow a beautiful and eloquent tribute, but let me say to him that the Virginia cow cannot be compared with the big fat cows of the Mississippi valley and beyond. I am well aware that Virginia is entitled to a proud distinction of having been the "mother of presidents," but she was not the mother of the cow. The Mississippi valley cow is a marvel of wonder and the pride of every home. She never goes dry. It generally takes an hour to milk her, and if she is not milked on time she will milk herself. She is kind and gentle and has such maternal affection that she often licks the milker instead of her calf.

I have the honor, sir, to live on the land of the blooming cow. If I fail to vote for this bill, I shall feel that I cannot go home and ever again look an honest cow in the face.

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WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY

Statements Over Their Own Signatures
From Every State, Territory and
Canada—They Endorse the Telling
of the Truth

The following are letters and extracts from letters received at this office during the preceding week. There are many hundreds others like them, which the editor cannot possibly reproduce in these columns. They give courage and hope to all. There are many every state of the union who are still earnest patriots, who believe in a government of the people and by the people and who are willing to work and sacrifice for their principles. It is doubtful whether any other paper ever received such a series of letters as have poured into The Independent office during the last few months. The people are willing to support writers who will tell the truth without fear or favor. They want to transfer this republic to their children as they inherited it from their fathers. They still believe in the Declaration of Independence, in Lincoln, in Jefferson, in Washington. They want a republic and not an empire. They are willing to support a press that will defend, fearlessly and courageously, the doctrines that we were taught in our childhood. These letters were taken from a pile that were laid on the editor's table and in the order in which they happened to come. It is the general consensus of the readers of the paper scattered over all the states, territories and Canada. Where several came from a state, the first one taken up was used. They represent a force of men who while they live for a government such as Washington and Jefferson established and Lincoln preserved. The editor sends his greetings to every one of them. Many are poor laboring men and many are well-to-do, but to one and all The Independent says: "Never give up the ship."

FROM NEW JERSEY.
The Independent is all right and every voter should read it so that he can find out what he gets for his vote. Please send me The Independent.—A. N. Everett, Belle Mead, N. J.

FROM KANSAS.
I received the sample copies and liked them very much. Yes, they were splendid. Give me the truth that we were not to be falsely prejudiced.—Chas. U. Freidline, Tyro, Kas.

FROM OHIO.
I received the sample copies and thank you for your kindness. I am in love with The Independent. Enclosed find my subscription. To do justice to the editor, let my subscription begin by including the time I received sample copies.—D. W. Carr, Cleveland, O.

FROM MASSACHUSETTS.
I have received sample copies that you sent and thank you for your kindness. I think that if there were more papers like The Independent in the country, we should not be pursuing this imperialistic policy as we are now and in all probability we should have a better government. I am in sympathy with many of the principles advocated by The Independent, but being somewhat conservative in my opinions, think it possible that you are

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NO. 5.	Personal Memoirs of Gen. Phil. Sheridan, 2 vols., cloth, good as new.	7.00	4.00
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NO. 9.	Same, in half leather.	2.50	1.25
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Spoken a Mixture of English
and German.

Marconi has triumphed again. His system of transmitting thought through the medium of the atmosphere was successfully applied in communicating from the Kron Prinz Wilhelm to other vessels as Prince Henry crossed the Atlantic ocean. The wireless system seems fully to have apprehended its opportunity, for one message was received from the vessel in broken English.

THE EFFECT WAS RATHER STARTLING.

but nevertheless it was the proper form for the occasion and created no little amusement. The prince is said to have commented humorously upon the incident. The prince's visit has aroused great enthusiasm. The American people are hospitable to a marked degree and have spared no effort to make the distinguished foreigner feel that he is welcome. The genial prince shows his excellent blood and breeding. It is to be regretted that

HE CANNOT COME TO OMAHA.
One who visits America without seeing Omaha and Nebraska misses much that is American and instructive. Had he accepted the invitation to cross the Missouri river the people of this city would have shown him a western welcome and the

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would have tendered him a special invitation to examine into the progress made in its brief but successful career. Indeed, the management stood ready to offer him a twenty-payment life policy on a modern plan in a vigorous, growing company more than able to carry out its contracts.

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BANKERS' RESERVE LIFE.

going a little too far on some questions. However, I believe that you are doing a good work and enclose two dollars for one year's subscription for myself and for a friend.—A. S. Bennett, Forge Valley, Mass.

FROM CANADA.

I like your paper for its stand for justice to all and favors to no class, be they Anglo-Saxons, French, Germans, Swedes or Filipinos, and wish it well, but do not think that it will be able to convince the grabbers of sources of wealth in the United States and Canada that there is any other place for the masses except in toiling for the trusts and capitalists for a bare existence, so that we can have philanthropists to endow libraries and colleges and incidentally spend a little money for their own amusement and pleasure. I enclose postal order for which please send me The Independent.—J. J. Bishop, Bishops Crossing, Quebec, Canada.

FROM MINNESOTA.

Enclosed find \$3.00 for five subscriptions to your most valuable paper. I consider it the champion of all. I saw at the first glance that it was my color. I am trying to stick to the people's party like a burr on a mule's tail. I am not very old, but I think I understand some things. I was not born a populist, for my father is a hot republican. Like many others he is afraid to study the populist principles lest he be convinced. Most of my neighbor farmers are republicans, but I will do the best I can. I would wish you success, but that is not necessary, because the road that you have taken, if you keep on it, is bound to lead to success and a glorious victory.—E. P. Schedeen, Willmar, Minn.

FROM INDIAN TERRITORY.

I do not know your name though I would like to. I like your paper much. Though I am taking Bryan's reform journal and am hard pressed for money, I send you 25 cents and you can send me the people's guide to liberty as long as I can raise the money to pay for it. The Independent is the paper that every laboring man in the land ought to take. Hit them hard.—G. W. Looney, Wetumka, Ind. Territory.

FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

I received your paper for a few weeks and liked it very much. I subscribed for The Commoner some months ago. I say that both papers are advocating true democracy. The republican party has a successful way of humbugging the workingmen, to

There is prosperity for the trusts, but not for the majority. Everything that the farmer has to buy has risen more than what he has to sell. Wages in the coal mines have advanced 16 cents and the things that the miner uses advanced 26 cents. The republican party is going to exterminate the poor Filipinos in the same way they tried to destroy the democratic party in Kentucky by shooting Governor Goebel.—F. Boyer, Hegin, Pa.

FROM COLORADO.

I have received three or four copies of the Nebraska Independent for which I send my thanks. I think that it is a true blue, dyed-in-the-wool populist paper. I only wish that there were a few hundred more of them printed in the United States and not afraid to stand for liberty and the masses. I have been trying for better government for forty-five years and lost every turn but one, and when I won I was a loser. I voted for Grover the first time and he was elected. I would like to have you name me a republican but that wave of prosperity has not struck Colorado so as to furnish me with the cash to pay for it at this time, but I hope to have it soon.—H. R. Wimberly, Wetmore, Colo.

FROM DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Your "Liberty Subscription" is quite a unique idea. We all wish you success.—E. McD. Valesh, Washington, D. C.

FROM IOWA.

I have received several copies of The Independent. I can say unhesitatingly that The Independent is an able and fearless journal and must be of inestimable value to the reading public. If I had the means I would subscribe and pay for a copy of it for every voter in this county, because in every column the reader finds the truth. I am a democrat, but there is no difference between the Bryan democracy and populism. Their cause is the same, their principles are the same and their interests are the same. The great effort of the future should be to keep the party along the right path, preventing it from falling into the hands of the plutocratic element who care nothing for principles and who desire to use it only to get office. I expect soon to subscribe for your paper.—Wm. H. Hughes, Garner, Ia.

FROM ALABAMA.

I am frank and free to confess, although a lifelong republican, that I haven't as yet seen anything on the bosom of the journalistic sea that even approaches The Independent in the boldness and intrepidity with which it advocates the rights of the common masses of the common people. I mean the plain people that Lincoln referred to when he said: "God must have loved the common people or else he would not have made so many of them." If you will allow me to render my verdict of The Independent, from the impression made upon me by the sample copies, I make bold to say it gives the broadest, deepest, and most independent and patriotic presentation and discussion of the political and social conditions of the republic of any journal that I have yet had the pleasure of reading. It is well worthy of its name, The Independent.—W. D. Jackson, Enfield, Ala.

FROM WASHINGTON.

I have been a constant reader of your paper ever since it started and consider it the best defender of the interests of labor and good government that I have ever read. I love men who are not purchasable.—John Long, Palouse, Wash.

FROM NEBRASKA.

If you will send me a block of five of your Liberty Building postals I think I can sell them. I raised a couple of clubs for The Independent in 1900. The mullet heads (you have got a good name for them) are getting tired of these wars of conquest. I think that if we all get together this fall we can carry this state by our old time majority. The Independent is all right.—G. W. Febrache, Sutherland, Neb.

The Republican Dilemma.

One of two things confronts the republican party in the matter of the tariff—either a modification, beginning with Cuba, or a losing fight for the whole thing as it stands. They may take either horn of the dilemma they please and the result will be a distinct gain for the people.—Wheeling Register.

Made in Nebraska

Railroad locomotives may be profitably built in Nebraska, as is proved beyond dispute by the recent action of the Burlington in placing an additional order for engine construction at the Havelock shops. The order is for six of the class K type, and it follows the construction at the same shops of a large number of engines placed at this last order, as for others placed at the Havelock shops, there was sharp competition.

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Each engine means an outlay of between \$30,000 and \$40,000, a large part of this sum being paid out for labor. Some of the fastest engines in the service of the Burlington were built at Havelock. They compare favorably with new machines received during last year from eastern works, and their records are said to be equal to the best.

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have formed a corporation under the laws of the state of Nebraska.

1. The name of the corporation is THE HUMPHREY HARDWARE COMPANY.

2. The principal place of transacting the business of the corporation is the city of Lincoln, Nebraska