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"Man's chief value does not lie in his ability to conquer with the sword nor to get money."—Bishop Spaulding.

After McLaurin is well seated in his sinecure on the court of claims, it will be in order to discipline Tillman some more for saying that McLaurin sold his vote for office.

Roosevelt says that the natives of the Philippines must show a capacity for self-government before it is granted. "Yep. That's so. The boy must learn how to swim before he goes near the water."

The logic of all this talk about attacking the army is this: The oath to defend and support the constitution should be abolished and in its stead one to support and defend the army should be adopted.

The Kansas City Bankers' association resolved that it was opposed to "a monopoly" of banking, but as the affidavit-maker always remarks, "further the deponent sayeth not." As to all other monopolies bankers are either mum or decidedly in favor of them.

Washington and his confreres shot the doctrine that the king could do no wrong clear across the Atlantic, but in this twentieth century the republicans have forced upon us one a thousand times more odious, namely, the army can do no wrong.

President Roosevelt will make two trips to the west during the campaign, one to the northwest and one to the southwest. A few speeches like his Decoration Day address will elect an opposition congress with a majority so large that it will scare the tariff grafters, trust magnates and imperialists out of their senses.

If Carnegie, instead of going to McKinley and offering the government $20,000,000 to give the Filipinos their independence, had gone to Mark Hanna and offered him half that amount for campaign expenses there would have been a republic in the Philippines today instead of 10,000,000 subjects of the United States.

McLaurin has been expelled by the constituted authorities of the democratic party of the state that sent him to the senate, and still we find always in the Associated press dispatches these words: "One democrat, McLaurin of South Carolina, voted with the republicans." That fake is worn out and it is time that it was dropped.

The standing army of the United States under the army reorganization law will consist of 66,497 men. A general order has been issued dividing the army into three parts, with the idea of always keeping one-third of the army in the Philippine islands, each third taking its regular turn there. That is in order to make the flag "stay put."

Professor Schurman defines imperialism as follows: 'Imperialism is twice cursed. It curses him that gives and him that takes. Nor shall I hesitate to describe the imperialist. That American is an imperialist who sees in our lordship over the Christian Filipinos of Luzon and the Visayas a permanent policy and not a passing responsibility issuing in Philippine independence."

A writer in an eastern illustrated weekly remarks that we will now have to talk and write the king's English, after having used the queen's English for nearly a hundred years. If Americans adopt the present king's English the newspapers will be filled with numerous dashes, unless it becomes fashionable to print the swear words out in full instead of only indicating them with dashes.

Bishop Spaulding says that "we are under the tyrannous sway of commercialism and expansion. Those who prefer money to truth and learning are degenerates." The bishop must have been reading The Independent. "Degenerates" is what it has been calling those classes for the last four years. Now the bishops begin to see the appropriateness of the term when applied to the advocates of imperialism and the trusts.

The Boers since the war began have done many astonishing things, but the most astonishing was when they levied a war indemnity on the victorious British of $15,000,000. That is turning all history topsy-turvy. The like of it was never known in all the earth before. It only exceeds fighting successfully the greatest of European generals and the best equipped army the British ever put in the field at odds of 20 to 1, for three years.

Joe Chamberlain's war against the Boers cost England almost twice as much as all her wars against Napoleon. Besides that she has been forced to partially abandon her economic policy of free trade that has for a hundred years made her the master of the foreign trade of the world. The London Hooligans declare that Joe Chamberlain is a great statesman, and that England is stronger than when she went into that war. If that is true, Joe had better begin another war of the same sort right away.

POPULISM PAST AND FUTURE

The difference in the price of corn along the railroads that parallel the Missouri river in Nebraska and the price in Chicago is about 12 cents a bushel. When corn was selling at 10 cents, the railroads and middlemen took the whole crop and sent back a bill for collection on the farmer who shipped it. Several cases of that kind are on record in northern Nebraska. When corn was 25 cents a bushel the railroads and middlemen took half of the crop for transporting and selling it in the Chicago market and the farmer had one-half of the crop himself. Now that corn is 50 cents a bushel, the railroads and middlemen only take one-fourth of the crop and the farmer has three-fourths for his own use. When corn was 10 cents a bushel the railroads and middlemen got very little, for but little was shipped and the farmer burned enormous quantities of it for fuel and the railroads didn't get to even haul coal.

At that stage of the proceedings the populist party appeared and said that low prices for farm products was the ruin of the farmer middlemen and railroads alike. That the thing to do was to raise prices and then they would all be prosperous. The middlemen and railroads said that to raise prices was to advocate cheap money and cheap money meant repudiation and that the populists were repudiators and dishonest. The middlemen, not having any knowledge of political economy, joined in this sort of denunciation—they didn't know any better, but the railroad managers knew what they were about. They went on until they bankrupted nine-tenths of the railroads, got thtm into a receiver's hands and when they were put up at auction bought them in for a song. That was the beginning of the great railroad consolidations and combinations.

The populists said that the exchangeable value of everything was governed by the law of supply and demand and that money was not an exception to that rule. That if one unit of money or dollar exchanged for ten bushels of corn, to so change the ratio between them that one dollar would exchange for only five bushels, then the dollars and things doing duty as dollars must be doubled. Populists knew that for every dollar of money added to the circulation, from four to ten dollars of credit money would be built upon it, and that it would not require a doubling of the actual money to double prices.

Cleveland, by the aid of John Sherman, and all the leaders of the republican party, stopped the making of any more dollars, and the credit money disappeared. This was a distinctively republican plan and was begun by Boutwell in 1873, followed up by McCullough and other republican secretaries until a halt was called in 1878. Then John Sherman planned and worked for fourteen years, but was never able to accomplish his full purpose until he got Cleveland into the White house. Then followed the Sherman hard times, not the Cleveland hard times, falsely so-called. Cleveland was but the agent of John Sherman and the hosts of bankers and railroad magnates for whom he acted.

Those were republican hard times rather than democratic, and no one is more conscious of that fact than the republican leaders who brought the condition about.

Having brought about a diminished supply of money in relation to the demand, principally by the destruction of credit money, and having bought for a song the railroads and billions of dollars' worth of other property held under mortgage, then these same men went to work to raise the price of the property that they had purchased at sheriff's and receiver's sales. They knew how to do it. One of the first acts that they passed was one for the coinage of the silver seniorage which had been suspended under the repeal of the Sherman act. The next was to increase the amount of national bank notes 10 per cent by the passage of the law allowing the issue of national bank notes up to the full amount of the bonds deposited. So eager were they to increase the volume of money that they ran the mints night and day for two years coining silver of which a record is made in the report of the director of the mint, a copy of which any man can get by writing to his congressman. June 1 the total amount of United States money in circulation throughout the country, according to the monthly statement published by the treasury department, was $2,254,415,975, or an increase of about $70,000,000 in the last year.

The result of what Mrs. Emery would call the "eighth conspiracy" is the most stupendous concentration of wealth that the world ever saw, followed by another which will prove more disastrous than any that preceded it, the formation of trusts to exploit every industry known to man.

During all this time the populist party has maintained the well established principles of political economy—principles that have been declared by every economist of authority in the whole world, while their opponents have even gone so far in their madness as to deny the quantity theory of money.

But new issues have arisen. The thing that the populists contended for most strenuously has been accomplished. The volume of money has been greatly increased, not only by the coinage of silver and the issue of bank notes, but by the greatest output of gold that the world has ever known and populists turn with as much vigor and statesmanship to those new issues as they employed when fighting the contraction of the currency, the Sherman hard times and the concentration of wealth.

The most important of the new issues is the question of imperialism. No sort of compromise will ever settle that question any more than compromise settled the slavery question. Populists stand as one man for the Declaration of Independence and the constitution as it was before the supreme court tore it into shreds by its income tax, Philippine and Porto Rico decisions.

As to the trusts, there is not one faint-hearted or luke-warm man in the ranks. They will fight them with every weapon that they can lay their hands on, and in this contest they paint upon their banners, "No Quarter."

As to the other questions, such as government ownership of railroads and telegraphs, recent events have more firmly convinced all populists that their platforms have offered the only means of a permanent settlement, and for that reform they will contend in the future as in the past.

The past record of populism has been most glorious. It has not fought for offices, but for principles. The children's children of populists will be as proud of them as are now the descendants of the revolutionary fathers. Their organization is perfect and it will remain one of the great factors in government for years to come.

YOUNG MAN IN POLITICS

To the young men who are ambitious to serve their country, to make a name for themselves and in some measure at least to guide the destinies of the nation, The Independent would say, now is the time to lay a sure foundation for future fame. It is as certain that the republican party is going out of power as that in the breasts of some men there will always be a love for mankind and that they will sympathize with the oppressed. Too few benefit by wars of conquest, special privileges and the favors that the trusts and corporations can bestow, for it permanently to hold a majority of the American people. Nothing but selfishness holds it together. It is to the interest of a few to support its policies, but it is impossible for it to make it for the interest of the many, for it exists to exploit the many for the benefit of the few.

The foundation of reform has been laid in the labor and self-sacrifice of a generation of men who are now passing away and the young men who take up the work will reap the rewards. That is the history of all reform. One generation suffers, sacrifices and lays the foundations in days of darkness and often in despair. Then another generation takes up the work and carries it on to success. None of the great and patriotic men who laid the foundations for the abolition of human slavery, in this or any other country, ever received any reward in office or emoluments. The young men who took up their fight, where the pioneers laid it down, got the rewards. So it will be in this contest of the common people against the aggregation of capital and wars of conquest. The policies now advocated by the republican party are as certain to be overthrown as was human slavery. That is in the very nature of man.

All literature will be against it. Oppression never produced a writer whose works have lived. All poets sing of liberty and never of greed. Not in any country in the whole world, while slavery existed, did there ever a writer appear whose work has lived, except his work was a protest against it. Literature is slowly undermining the foundations upon which the republican party rests. In its literature there are no poems and nothing that appeals to the better nature or the heart and soul of man. It is full of meaningless catch phrases, bitter invective, slander and malice. Such literature does not influence mankind and it dies the day that it is born.

On the side of liberty, therefore, the scholarship and all the higher impulses are to be found. In the end they will conquer and the day will come when those who are now advocating wars of conquest, government by force, special privileges for the few and the concentration of wealth will be held in universal detestation. This is the era for the young man in politics. Those who have the foresight to take advantage of it will be the rulers of this country, just as those who took advantage of the labors and sacrifices of the pioneer reformers of the forties and fifties have ruled for the last half century. If these men had been faithful to the teachings of those reformers they would rule on, but they have discarded the Declaration of Independence, torn the constitution into shreds and are now advocating the very things that their forerunners wiped off the face of the earth.

There is no hope for the young man in the republican party, even in the near future. It is dominated by old men who have grown hard and selfish. They are the extremely rich. They are at the head of the trusts, great banks, and railroad corporations. They will give no heed to the aspirations of generous youth. In their arrogance of power and greed for money they will consider nothing else. If they can use a young man to further their interests they will do it, but they will pay no heed to the aspirations of the young man who desires to do something that will live in history and be remembered as a blessing to the world.

Let the young man who has aspirations forsake the rotten old hulk, dominated by bankers, trust and railroad magnates and join the ranks of those whose motto is onward and upward. Let them enroll themselves among those whose work will be a part of the ineffacable glory of this republic in the ages to come.

SENATE HISSES

Washington is a city of republican office-holders. In fact they are the city, only enough other persons residing there to supply their wants. The stores and shops exist for them. The hotels are almost exclusively for their use. The different departments employ thousands upon thousands. The workingmen in the trades are employed upon government work. They, too, are largely employed through political influence. The remainder of the population, a little over one-half of all, are negroes. The consequence is that the senate and house galleries are always crowded with office-holders and their families. They cheer for trusts, imperialism, wars of conquest, or anything else that the republican moguls advocate. One of the shams of the great dailies is to pretend that these gallery crowds represent American public opinion. A word from a department head at any time would fill the galleries to cheer or hiss anything. The other day these gallery crowds of republican office-holders did some hissing for the first time in the history of the senate, and the presiding officer failed to call the galleries to order and announce the rule of the senate. The Associated press account of the matter is as follows:

> Reference was made by Mr. Spooner to the alleged letter that had been written by a soldier about 1,000 Filipinos being compelled to dig their graves. This had been repudiated.
>
> Mr. Lodge said that the war department had caused an investigation to be made by questioning the soldier himself.
>
> "No doubt," replied Mr. Carmack, "under this suggestion the soldier will repudiate it, as every soldier in the Philippines has been requested to do."
>
> This was the assertion that brought out a volley of hisses, which only subsided when the senator from Tennessee resumed his seat.

Imperialism makes constant advances. The time has now come when United States senators who oppose it can be hissed off their feet and the imperialist advocate cheered on by fawning crowds of office-holders and the courtiers who surround the imperial authorities. What Carmack said was true and was not an attack on the army, but on the secretary of war.

TEDDY'S BAD BREAK

Information from Washington is to the effect that there was about the most enraged set of republican politicians the next day after Roosevelt delivered his Decoration Day speech that was ever seen in that city. The efforts of the old gray heads in that party have been exerted to get a foothold in the south, but the waving of the old bloody shirt in the way Teddy did it blasted all their hopes. His accusation was to the effect that the old confederates who in the heat of the war made charges against the northern troops, were the ones who now are again "attacking the army." The charge is most ridiculous. The attacks upon imperialism and inhuman acts by some of the troops in the Philippines have come almost entirely from the north and the chief point of the criticism has been in the old abolition state of Massachusetts, with Senator Hoar as the leader. The south has had little to do with it. The senators who have been fighting the passage of the Philippine bill, with the exception of one, have all come from the northern states. The favors that have been bestowed upon a few gold democrats from the south, like McLaurin, the old gray heads now say have all been thrown away and the south will be solider than ever. So they are all in a bad temper. They with one voice declare that it was the worst break ever made by a president and that there is no way to repair the damage.

VERY ROUGH SAILING

The imperial newspaper craft are sailing in very choppy seas these days. They have had to bout ship and sail away in a new direction as the mountainous waves of facts were about to overwhelm them. They had vociferously denied the existence of any inhumanities in the Philippines and when Major Waller was acquitted they shouted so loud, "we told you so," that they made the very earth shake with the volume of the noise. But when General Chaffee's review condemning the court that acquitted Waller was cabled, they saw that their crafts would soon be a hundred feet under the water if they held on to that course, so their skippers threw their helms hard over and sailed away in a new direction. Not any of them thought there was any need of trying to be consistent under such distressing circumstances, and so they didn't try. They all united in saying: This is the course we have been sailing on all the time and it has turned out just as "we" said it would. They are still finding the seas rough and the winds high.

IS IT DESPOTISM?

A newspaper writer complains because The Independent calls the government we have established in the Philippines "despotism." He is very bitter toward the editor for constantly referring to it as despotism. The Independent adopted that term after reading the following extract from a speech by Abraham Lincoln:

> "When the white man governs himself that is self-government; but when he governs himself and also governs another man—then that is more than self-government, that it despotism. Our reliance is in the love of liberty which God has planted in us; our defense is in the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men in all lands, everywhere. Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves, and under a just God cannot long retain it."

The words "when a white man governs himself and also governs another man—then that is more than self-government, that is despotism," is a complete description of the Taft commission government of the Filipinos, and Lincoln said it was "despotism." The Independent knows no higher authority than Lincoln. It is content to be abused by the same class of men who abused Lincoln. It will continue to call this republican plan of governing the Filipinos "despotism."

CLEM DEAVER

By the active work of Mr. Rosewater and the grace of the republican party Clem Deaver runs the land office at O'Neill. From the way in which Deaver got the office one might readily imagine how it would be run. Nearly 20 years ago the government bought a large section of country from the Omaha tribe of Indians. After the government took possession, it was appraised and sold to settlers. The land was appraised far below its value at that time. The manner in which the appraising was done was after the true republican fashion. The distinguished gentlemen selected to do the job at a big salary came up and formed a hunting camp with their dogs and guns. They hunted prairie chickens, which were very plentiful at that time, until they tired of the sport and then they took a sectional map and valued the first line of sections on the south side at $15.00 an acre, the next line at $14.00 and so on, going down one dollar an acre on each line of section until they got down to about $9.00 an acre and then slapped the remainder in at that price. They perhaps spent two hours at this labor and then returned and sent in their per diem.

The land was sold at the appraisement. There were numerous fractional pieces, for the railroad, which was the line on the east side ran diagonally from southeast to the northwest. Then the south line was 20 rods off the section line, making small strips 20 rods wide on every section. All of these fractional pieces were taken and some have been paid for, but about 400 acres have been used by the adjoining occupants without rent or taxes for a great many years.

Recently these fractional pieces were ordered sold and the business was done through Clem Deaver's land office. Land is very valuable in this garden spot of Nebraska where the crops have never failed in a single year since the country was settled. The orders were to sell these pieces to the highest bidder. When the day of sale came there were a large number of men present ready to bid the full market value for this land, but under Clem Deaver's "true populist" management it was all sold to favored parties at the old assessment made years ago. The editor of The Independent knows of one place of 17 acres on which a responsible man—a republican office-holder, too—bid $50.00 an acre, but it was sold to another man for $15.00 an acre.

The way that the thing was done was rather queer. On the day of the sale a large number of men were present. A committee was appointed. This committee went around among the crowd and told them some sort of a story, the details of which the writer did not get, and the result was that each one of the expectant bidders was given $100. Then the sale took place in a secret manner, and at the old assessed valuation made nearly 20 years ago. Those who did not get land, got $100 each, and among them was one distinguished republican state senator.

Rosewater has been reforming the republican party and getting "new blood" into its leadership. Clem Deaver and this gang are some of the new blood.

But this is not the end of the matter. A full report of the transaction has been sent to the Indian office and secretary of the interior at Washington. Besides that, at least one man has employed a lawyer to prosecute the scoundrels, and Clem Deaver may get a chance to serve the state down at Lincoln, or if tried in the federal courts, to serve the United States at Ft. Leavenworth.

NOTICE

Occasionally we receive a letter from a delinquent subscriber who objects to the payment of the amount due for the alleged reason that the paper should have been discontinued at the expiration of the subscription paid for. In reply to any who may have a similar understanding we wish to say that we do not discontinue The Independent sent to responsible parties until we are REQUESTED TO DO SO. In our opinion a subscriber or patron of the paper is entitled to a reasonable extension of credit, a reasonable amount of time in which to send his renewal. We look upon the renewal of subscription the same as any other business transactions. For example: We purchase large quantities of white paper—have patronized the same company for several years. You will concede that it would not be courteous treatment for this company to demand "cash in advance" of the shipment of the paper. Should such a demand be made we would feel inclined to resent the arbitrary action of the company and doubtless send our business elsewhere in the future.

Practicing the rule of "do unto others as you would be done by," we do not abruptly and arbitrarily strike a patron's name from our subscription list. We continue sending him the paper until he renews his subscription or we are advised that he does not want it longer.

On the wrapper is stamped the date to which the subscription is paid, which is a sufficient notice to any reader of the condition of his account. We do not send the paper free of charge to anyone. We believe that our policy is just and equitable. With very rare exceptions the readers of The Independent have appreciated our liberal and generous dealings with them. Of those who do not appreciate it we can only say that it is impossible to please everyone.

Examine the date on the wrapper of your paper.

THE INDEPENDENT.

"GOD'S PLAN"

Bishop Thoburn has started the preachers to talking imperialism all over the country and they are making a worse mess of it and bigger fools of themselves than ever before. Rev. T. J. Mackay of Omaha declares that our war on the Filipinos is "part of God's plan for the government of the universe, and our continued occupancy of the islands is necessary to carry out the plans of the Almighty." Did the great God of the universe come down and whisper this information into Rev. Mackay's ear? If so, when did the thing happen? Was there any one else present? Does the statement that it is part of God's plan rest upon any proof besides the bare word of the Rev. Mackay? If God did not make a special revelation of that fact to Rev. Mackay, how did he find it out? How does he know so well that it is God's plan that he is able to make a dogmatic statement of the fact without the least equivocation? Will Rev. Mackay please answer these questions. If it is really God's plan and Rev. Mackay has any proof of that fact he should be giving it to the public. From recent events it looks as though the recalcitrant republicans like Senator Hoar and the populists and democrats may overcome God and prevent the completion of his plan and it is sacrilegious to think of such a thing. The Independent cannot speak for Senator Hoar and the democrats, but it is certain that the populists would immediately abandon all opposition to torture, government by force, the discarding of the Declaration of Independence and the tearing up of the constitution, if Mr. Mackay will convince them that he has received a direct revelation from the Almighty to the effect that all these things are part of "God's plan."

The imperialists of the senate have grown so kingly over holding people as "subjects" of the United States, that they will not permit the "subjects" who reside in the territories of Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico to become citizens. The senate has permanently laid on the shelf the bill that the house passed to admit them as states. They did this in direct violation of the republican platform. An imperialist cares no more for a platform upon which he solicits votes for election than he does for the constitution or Declaration of Independence.

The corruption in the city of Philadelphia is blacker and more damnable than any that ever existed on this continent. It will continue just as long as the republican party remains in power in that city. A superintendent of one of the public schools testified the other day that he applied for promotion to another school where the salary was larger. One of the directors asked for $1,000 as a consideration for election. Finally the demand was lowered to $300. The principal refused to pay anything. Two other directors told him that he had better pay, for if he did not he would never get a promotion. One woman teacher testified that she had paid $125 for her election and others various sums. Other teachers testified that they had "to see" the republican ward leader before they could get a place at all. The whole city government is run by blackmail of that sort, but the people of the city do not rebel because to overthrow the corruptionists they would have to overthrow the republican party. To such an extent has partisan insanity gone in that city no one thinks it possible for anything to be done to get rid of the robbers.

England has not suffered from the financial depression which has been so marked on the continent, but now that the Boer war is over and the immense expenditures of borrowed capital caused by the war will cease, the depression that has been so marked in Germany will break out with redoubled force in Great Britain. The jingo government has paid out a billion dollars for the costs of the war, made a present to the Boers of $15,000,000 more with the promise of an unknown sum to be loaned without interest and pay-day for the British taxpayer will come in when business is paralyzed. The amount of the price that staggers humanity is not yet fully known. It will be a mountainous burden for decades to come. The greatest folly that a nation ever committed was when Britain allowed Rhodes and Chamberlain to undertake to overthrow two little republics in the heart of Africa. Generations yet to come will curse them as they toil to pay the price.

About the flimsiest objection imaginable has been urged against the Post check currency system, i. e.: That it would require a double system of acounting, one for the postoffice department and one for the treasury department. Suppose it does—what of it? Does not the treasury department have to keep accounts with the postoffice department now? A few more clerks—and that ought not to frighten the republicans—and some slight changes in bureau methods would obviate any of the difficulties claimed by objectors. Let's have the Post check currency, but not the Canadian postal note scheme. Here is a proposition to the bankers of the west: You are frightened because of the possibility that the Fowler bill will become a law; help us to enact this Post check currency law and we will render all the aid we can to defeat the Fowler bill.

Harriman said in Omaha the other day: "The days of pools and combinations are past. Other conditions are coming to take their places, and the principal of them will be the centralization of ownership." When the ownership of railroads is centralized, anti-pooling laws and interstate commerce commissions will be out of a job. That is as plain as the nose on a man's face. If anything is done toward controlling rates it will have to be in another way altogether. All this vast machinery that the republicans have put in force as far as controlling railroads is concerned is child's play and always has been. It only furnishes big salaries for a lot of office-holders. Nothing will do the work but government ownership of the public highways and a railroad is a highway as much as a common dirt road.

There is only one way to successfully fight the extortions of railroads. The Canadians did not fool around with interstate commerce commissions and anti-pooling laws when Morgan threatened to merge the Canadian Pacific. The Canadian minister of public works, Mr. Tarte, simply said to Mr. Morgan: "If you are accquiring the Canadian Pacific road, the government will build a parallel line at any cost alongside of it." Mr. Morgan concluded that he had hold of the hot end of the poker and let go pretty quick. Government ownership is what heated the poker.

One of the oldest senators remarked the other day that Roosevelt was "the strangest creature the White house ever held." The New York World says: "He is as proud of his 20-mile walks as is a professional athlete of his feats in the field. He glories in his horseback rides, rain or shine. He capers and skips about in his private office when he is receiving visitors, as if to emphasize the springiness of his legs and the suppleness of his waist. He slaps big men on the back, tells them they would make great football players, and always listens with a keen interest to stories of tumultuous doings."