

GET AFTER CONGRESS.

PEOPLE MUST TAKE A HAND IN SUPREME COURT DECISION.

Our Senators and Representatives Must Be Informed As to the Kind of "Sale" We Want in the Philippines and in Porto Rico.

As the decision of the supreme court in the Porto Rican cases has decided that congress alone is the governing power in our new territorial possessions, it is incumbent on the people to impress their senators and representatives before the next session with the kind of government the people of these territories are to have, and if the constitution is to be extended to them the same as in Alaska and other possessions. Shall they have the right to administer their own local government, the right of trial by jury, and tax themselves for school and other purposes as seems best to them? Speaking of the decision the New York World says: Here are four facts which ought not to be overlooked:

First—Five of the nine justices were opposed to the oriental expansion decision—White, Fuller, Peckham, Harlan and Brewer. If White had not disagreed with the others as to the constitutional method of avoiding the expansion that contracts, the vote of the court would have to be reversed.

Second—Eight of the nine justices dismissed the pet theory of the colonialists—the "extra constitutional" powers of the government whereunder the colonialists would have been the political slaves of our officials, instead of, as now, legally entitled to some of our constitutional rights.

Third—The court put the responsibility squarely upon congress, so that congress will have to answer directly to the people for whatever is done in the colonies. There can be no playing of shuttlecock between the president, congress and the supreme court.

Fourth—While the supreme court has held that the constitution does not forbid colonial expansion, it has not held that the constitution enjoins colonial expansion. From the great question all factors are now eliminated, except the political. The fundamental questions, Does it pay? Is it sensible? Is it just? Is it worthy of the beliefs and the aspirations of the people of the republic—can and must now be answered.

And if the people cannot answer these questions sensibly and justly, how long would a constitutional bar have been effective to restrain them from self-destruction? If the principles of the republic have departed from the people, if the only force or even if the chief force of those high principles had been in a supposed constitutional restraint from injustice and folly, then indeed it is excusable to tremble for the republic.

SHIP-SUBSIDY AND CORRUPTION.

It will not be long before congress will meet again, and Hanna will again be introducing his one hundred and eighty million dollar ship subsidy scheme. The only chance to defeat it is to urge your senators and representatives to vote against it and call on your neighbors to do likewise and mark every congressman for slaughter that does not openly oppose it when caucus and convention times comes around.

There has never before been attempted a more barefaced scheme to loot the United States treasury than is proposed in the bill fathered by Senator Hanna and recommended by President McKinley? The republican party has in the past often forced subsidy steals through congress and in nearly every case great scandals were brought to light of the corruption used in passing them. This bill will lead to a much greater corruption, as the modern trust surpasses the old time commercial company, and will smirch the characters of all who favor it.

The advocates of subsidies for ocean shipping still harp on the old subject of reviving American commerce, says the Chicago Chronicle. They describe the frequent appearance of the American flag in foreign ports and say that it must be restored to its former popularity on the high seas. American shipping has been driven from the ocean because the tariff has raised the cost of every article used in the construction of American vessels. Having made the cost of vessel construction so high as to drive our commerce from the ocean, the subsidists now want the taxpayers to make up the difference in cost between building ships in England and building them in the United States. They tax the people to the extent of robbery for the purpose of making shipbuilding costly and then would tax the people to pay the shipbuilders for the extra cost of building ships. That is subsidy and tariff statesmanship.

BOSS PLATT'S RUFFIANS. The amazing amount of smuggling that is carried on by the rich on their return from abroad led congress to limit the personal belongings purchased in other countries to \$100 and the customs authorities made regulations to enforce the law, the nabobs have greatly resented this attempt to collect revenue from them, they seem to be filled with the idea that it is an infringement on their personal rights and that protection is all very well when applied to the common people, but should be free trade for millionaires.

As this law and regulations are of Republican origin, it is surprising to see that the Philadelphia Press, an ultra-administration organ, edited by one of the cabinet of President McKinley, and a prominent protectionist, should so indignantly denounce the law as to include in the following tirade

against carrying out the law. Here is what the Press says:

"Persons spending some weeks abroad must purchase articles of ordinary wear. They are permitted under the law to expend \$100 on personal effects. If they take oath to the fact that they have not made purchases subject to duty that oath ought to be sufficient. Every one of them is obliged to sign a paper while the vessel is coming up the harbor. What is the sense, then, in making these passengers open their trunks for some ruffian—and under the present regulations the average inspector feels it incumbent upon himself to act like a ruffian—to paw over and scatter the contents upon the dirty flooring? The regulations under which the New York custom house is run are something abominable."

Now these ruffians are Republicans selected by Boss Platt and approved by the officers whom President McKinley has appointed. Yet it does seem a shame that when the Postmaster General returns from a trip abroad, after having hobnobbed with the crowned heads and nobility of England and Europe, with probably a dozen pairs of kid gloves, some suits of genuine Scotch tweed—all wool and a yard wide, unlike the Philadelphia imitation—and perhaps a piece of silk velvet that may hereafter adorn the wife of the secretary, to have a "ruffian" paw over all this finery, even after he has declared nothing subject to duty and worst of all, scatter these beautiful importations on the dirty floor is a sin and a shame. But what can the secretary do about it, the law is no respecter of persons, no matter how high and august they may be, and the penalty for smuggling covers all classes.

The only redress that appears available is to repeal the law and return to the good old American custom of tariff for revenue only, and as even then baggage would be examined, to replace the "ruffians" with some honest Populists who have clean hands and not such beasts with paws, as Secretary Smith describes so graphically.

HOW TO TAX MONOPOLIES.

The monopoly in the iron and steel industry is now as complete as in the coal industry and in the oil industry, says the Modern Culture Magazine. It is noteworthy that these three great monopolies are all of mineral productions upon the use and enjoyment of which the industrial life of the nation depends. They are controlled by a small group of allied capitalists, some of whom hold shares in all of them. They employ the cheapest, as well as some of the better paid, grades of labor in extra hazardous occupations, and the relations between employer and employed in the past have been extremely unsatisfactory. The contrast between the lot of the ill-paid miner taking his life in his hands to toll and grub in the dark, ill-ventilated tunnels in the bowels of the earth for the bare pittance that will keep soul and body together and his family from the poorhouse, and that of the president of the corporation which employs him, whose every clock-tick counts a miner's daily wage added to his salary, is the most startling of all the inequalities of fortune the world has yet seen.

It will hardly be contended that the fathers of the republic contemplated such a superstructure when they laid the foundations of American liberty on the common law with its exaggerated regard for the "sacred rights" of property. It is to the common law that we owe the definition of land titles which makes them include the minerals beneath the soil and the sunlight and atmosphere above it. Yet it is an absurdity of reasoning which makes the ownership of each square foot of surface extend from the center of the earth to the limits of space, and it is within the power of congress and the state legislatures to correct this absurdity whenever it is made clear to the public conscience that a monstrous injustice is worked by it. The power of the steel trust, the coal trust, the oil trust, and of every other great monopoly is "based in the last instance upon some monopoly of unused land."

The ability to control the available supply of some commodity and to withhold from use the surplus product, is the essential feature of every trust. If the state would exercise its undoubted right and power to tax oil and mineral lands for their full rental value so long as a monopoly existed in any mineral product it would at once become unprofitable for any corporation or individual to hold such lands idle. They must be worked to their full capacity or they would revert to the state for taxes. In either case the "corner," or destructive monopoly, would cease. The average royalty paid to owners of bituminous coal lands is ten cents per ton of coal mined. The average royalty paid to owners of iron lands is thirty cents per ton of ore mined. A tax of like amount levied on the full productive capacity of mineral lands owned, leased, or operated by trusts would put a handicap on the efforts of great corporations to gain absolute control of the earth and all its productions; and some portion of the revenues so secured might be wisely employed in alleviating the toll and wretchedness of the lives of miners.

Mr. Justice Brown is the most sordid judicial slobber of the age. He is said to have slobbered not long before the decision in the Porto Rican cases was delivered, and he certainly slobbered from one side of the question in the first decision to the other side in the latter one.

According to the New York Herald there are 8,328 millionaires who own sixteen thousand millions of the nation's wealth. Nearly all this has been created in the last fifty years, and has taken a vast amount of labor of other people than these same millionaires.

WILL IT FOLLOW?

CONSTITUTION MAY NOT PROTECT TERRITORY.

Under Republican Administrations—Various Opinions on Recent Supreme Court Decision—President Cannot Be Legally Voted with Authority to "Sell" Philippines.

The more decision of the Supreme Court is analyzed by the ablest lawyers, the less it seems that the future is settled. One says: "Justice White one of the majority judges, in one case in delivering his opinion did so by saying 'the court would decide that a tax on goods going from Porto Rico to the United States was legal; he took great pains not to allude to traffic going both ways. Perhaps this was due to the limitation of 'today' in his assertion, but, in any event, the deferring of an opinion on that point is significant."

"If it should decide that the 15 per cent duty was valid on goods coming this way, but invalid on goods going the other, it would be very embarrassing for congress to legislate for the colonies. Free trade one way and protection the other would not accord with the spirit of fair play of the American people. Four of the justices are ranged against the tariff, even on colonial imports, but the only one of the remaining five needs to scruple on exports to turn an administration victory into a practical defeat."

And regarding the Philippines some of the ablest lawyers in Washington say without hesitation that congress cannot invest the President with authority to make revenue laws and that the Supreme Court is bound to declare all collections of duties under present conditions without authority. This leads to the opinion that when another case comes before the court or if a rehearing is granted on one of the cases already decided the court may reverse its decision and the edict will go forth that the constitution does follow the flag and this result is the more likely, for Justice White said in effect—at least, many able lawyers who listened intently to his words as they were uttered, so interpret them—that his sole reason for sustaining the act was because its revenue provisions expire by limitation in a few months. This frank statement raises the question in the minds of lawyers "Will Justice White vote to sustain a similar act if congress should decide hereafter to continue the Porto Rico tariff?"

The answer to this by many of the distinguished persons who were present at the proceedings is negative. Senator Mason, who sat throughout the reading of the opinion, said tonight that he felt quite sure Justice White had made it clear that his only reason for sustaining the Foraker tariff was because it does not run indefinitely.

POLITICAL CORRUPTION.

Since the discovery of the Cuban postal frauds for which Rathbone and Neely have not yet been brought to trial and the corruption in the Philippines, it is necessary that the civil service should be filled by men whose antecedents assure a faithful and honest performance of their duties. This is especially necessary in the appointments for the positions in the new territories or colonies, but the administration does not take this view of the case. It has used no diligence in ascertaining if those recommended have these requirements, but merely if partisan purposes were to be favored and its most obnoxious benches rewarded. So great has this evil become and so notorious have been most of the appointments, that even those newspapers, that otherwise have supported the policy of the president, are now strongly rebuking him.

We think that President McKinley, says the New York Times, ought to put a stop to this sort of thing. There is no doubt of his power to do it. There is no doubt that he is in a perfectly safe position to do it. He would not endanger the success of his party, and he has no personal ambitions to serve. The backward drift of his party from the standard of merit in appointments that was set his predecessor is discreditable to him and dangerous to the best interests of the party. It tends directly to the guidance of the party action by the least worthy and the most ignorant, and that in the long run must be disastrous. Especially it tends to bring into positions of activity and control in the party men of corrupt purposes and men who can be bought. In the near future the Republican party will have need of all its virtues and firmness to resist the venal forces seeking to use it. The president should see that his indulgence to the spoilsmen is weakening it.

TRADE BALANCE A "MYTH."

There is no doubt that there is a screw loose somewhere in the figures given out by the Treasury Department on what is known as "the balance of trade." The political economists have for some time claimed that the figures are unreliable as we have evidently received pay for only a part of their enormous balance—on paper—in our favor. Prodded by public opinion Secretary Gage has promised to investigate the matter, but his experts evidently have been unable to furnish the information, unless a very lame statement given out by the bureau of statistics is claimed as an explanation.

The claim of the Democrats that the figures given were misleading and had probably been padded for political effect to show the enormous prosperity attained under the protective tariff and the beneficent rule of the trusts, is being proven. The matter has caused as

much attention that the financiers have been making investigation on their own account for the Chicago Chronicle says:

Certain New York bankers are quoted as saying that the enormous surplus apparently due the United States on account of foreign trade is a myth. One of them points out that since about the 1st of April large amounts of sixty and ninety day bills of exchange have been drawn by American banking houses. These are not drawn against balances abroad, but are essentially loan bills. If balances existed abroad there would be demand bills. He expresses the opinion that the rich Americans residing abroad spend a very large amount in the aggregate which they draw from the United States and a large part of the balance apparently due us is absorbed in this way. At the time when the drawing of these long bills began the merchandise balance in our favor for the preceding nine months was over \$540,000,000. Add to this a net export of \$21,000,000 in silver and deduct a net import of less than \$20,000,000 in gold and we still have \$535,000,000 apparently due us on nine months trade, or at the rate of \$715,000,000 for entire fiscal year. This is an enormous sum to be consumed in payment of freights to foreign ship owners, in expenditures of Americans touring and residing abroad and in payment for securities sent home. During the last three fiscal years and the first three-quarters of this year the apparent balance due us on account of merchandise, gold and silver, was \$2,144,000,000, round figures. The merchandise balance was \$2,230,000,000, in settlement of which the net import of gold and silver was only \$86,000,000. If all the apparent balance remaining is a myth our treasury statistics are very far from exhibiting the true state of our foreign trade.

THE WOOL TARIFF.

The low price of wool and the light demand for woolen goods of American manufacture under the almost prohibitive duties of the Dingley tariff shows the utter absurdity of ultra protection. It kills the goose that lays the golden eggs by too high and pampered feeding. The farmers were led to believe that their small flocks would be so remunerative when the Dingley tariff was enacted and that the exactions that the tariff demanded on the other necessities of life would be more than compensated for and they would grow rich. They have now found out their mistake and the wool growers and the woolen manufacturers are about ready to return to the tariff for revenue, under which they were more prosperous than they are today.

If it was not for the mutton sheep, the raising of which has done away with the dislike for mutton which was distasteful to many American palates, the decrease of our flocks would be greater than it has been. The further reason for the decline in the price of wool and the demand for woolen goods is told by the Courier-Journal, which says:

The present high duty on raw wool is producing the effect which has often been pointed out by free traders. The high duties on imported woolsens excludes them as elements of competition except by the payment of greatly advanced prices. But there is no way to force people to buy woolsens if they are unwilling to pay the price. Higher prices, other things being equal, mean reduced consumption. In the case of woolsens, the manufacturers are compelled to meet the demand for goods at a moderate price, and they can only do so by a deterioration of the products. Hence the increased rise of cotton and shoddy in the manufacture of so-called woolsens.

SLAVERY UNDER "THE FLAG."

When once men have been enslaved how difficult it is to reinitiate them with love of freedom. The English foreign office reports concerning the working of the decrees freeing the slaves of Zanzibar and Pemba. Fewer slaves appeared for freedom in 1900 than in 1899, because the British commissioner avers, most of the slaves know they are not likely to gain much present advantage, seeing that those who were thrown on their own resources have a difficult time to make a living. The masters have been kinder since the slave legislation was enacted, and seek to make their services more attractive.

Perhaps this is the reason that President McKinley has not taken steps to free the slaves in our islands of the sea, but then our flag floats over Republican institutions or has until the new imperial policy was inaugurated and Britain is an empire. Surely we should not be behind the English in at least attempting to free our slaves, especially as the constitution commands it.

THE GROWTH OF TRUSTS.

The present year will be a record breaker in the organization of trusts if the rate continues as it has since January 1. New consolidations of capital have been made since that date aggregating considerably over \$2,000,000,000. Here is a short list of the most important of them and their capitalization:

Table with 2 columns: Trust name and Capitalization amount.

Presents to Teachers Forbidden.—The New York board of education has put an end to favoritism in public schools. Well-to-do pupils were in the habit of making presents to teachers, while poor children could not afford to do so. Under the new system no one is permitted to give teacher anything, except at teacher's home, and even then the gifts must be anonymous.

The Proper Distinction.—When asked the other day as to the question he raised concerning the syntactical number of the United States, ex-Secretary John W. Foster said: "I think, after all, the best answer is that of the cartoonist: 'Between ourselves the United States are plural, but between ourselves and any other nation the United States is singular.'"

A Mother of Giants.—Mrs. K. O. Rauf, who died in North Dakota recently, was the mother of four sons, who ranged in stature from six feet to six feet six inches and in weight from 200 to nearly 600 pounds. The aggregate weight of the four boys was about 1,400 pounds. Carl K. Rauf, who died a few years ago, attained a weight of nearly 600 pounds, while his brother Ole is well content to hold himself down to 350 pounds. Lars is able to tip the beam in the neighborhood of

Ambrose McKay's Case.

Rockbridge, Mo., June 24th.—The neighborhood and particularly the members of Rockbridge Lodge, No. 435, A. F. & A. M., are feeling very much pleased over the recovery of Mr. Ambrose McKay, a prominent citizen and an honored member of the Masonic Fraternity. Mr. McKay had been suffering for years with Diabetes and Rheumatism, which recently threatened to end his days. His limbs were so filled with pain that he could not sleep. He was very bad.

Just then, someone suggested a new remedy—Dodd's Kidney Pills—which has been much advertised recently, as a cure for Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Dropsy, Rheumatism and Kidney Trouble. After Mr. McKay had used a few doses he commenced to improve. His pain all left him, and he is almost as well as ever. He says Dodd's Kidney Pills are worth much more than they cost. They are certainly getting a great reputation in Missouri, and many very startling cures are being reported.

Pickwith in the Flesh.

Alfred Davies, an English member of parliament, now on a visit to this country, constantly reminds people of Dickens' immortal Pickwith. He is short and stout, 55 years old, with a round face and a most benignant smile. Put him in tight and gaiters and he would be Pickwith to the life.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.—Send for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treatise. Dr. J. C. Williams, M.D., 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

All men are not robbers. The majority are satisfied with being robbed.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.—For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, cures wind colic. Sic a bottle.

An old maid is a woman who has seen the flower of youth gone to seed.

What Do the Children Drink? Don't give them tea or coffee. Have you tried the new food drink called GRAIN-O? It is delicious and nourishing, and takes the place of coffee. The more Grain-O you give the children the more health you distribute through their systems. Grain-O is made of pure grains, and when properly prepared tastes like the choice grades of coffee, but costs about 1/2 as much. All grocers sell it. Use and see.

You can't act all the time as if life were a perpetual cake walk.

Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Is a constitutional cure. Price, 75c.

The woman who has pretty feet is not apt to wear ugly shoes.

Piso's Cure is the best medicine ever used for all affections of the throat and lungs.—Wm. O. Emshart, Vancuburn, Ind., Feb. 10, 1904.

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