

The Commoner.

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It seems that reciprocity is merely the ping-pong ball of protection.

Are we to infer, Mr. President, that the battle of San Juan hill was a colonels' battle?

Mr. Hill seems to cling to the opinion that platforms are made to get in on, not to stand upon.

It would seem high time that Author Roosevelt receive a stinging reprimand from President Roosevelt.

The "captains of industry" gave Prince Henry a banquet, and the "privates of industry" footed the bills.

It also gives certain senators great pain when "vested rights" get a blow on the floor of the senate.

It will be well to beware of the plan for democratic harmony that receives the unanimous approval of the republican editors.

The democratic party has passed the stage when it will accept Janus platforms. A "Janus platform" is one that faces two ways.

Collector of Customs Ivey at Sitka, Alaska, seems to be strenuous enough to suit the strenuous gentleman in the White house.

Of course any intimation of an investigation of how certain senators secured their togas would be an insult to that grave and dignified body.

The Gage salary has shed a long string of ciphers and Mr. Gage is now preparing to assume the presidency of a New York financial concern.

It is still possible to ascertain that New York city has a "reform administration" by referring to the November, 1901, files of the daily papers.

Lord Roseberry recently said: "I am thinking of how we are going to have the Boer and the Briton live together after the war is over." A more pertinent question at this time would seem to be how the British are going to terminate the war.

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The decision that Clark and Wainwright are entitled to the bulk of the praise is calculated to induce "Fighting Bob" Evans to do a little magazing.

You will look in vain in the editorial columns of republican newspapers for regrets that the "gang" won another victory in the Philadelphia election.

The Nebraska banker who stole \$160,000 has been humiliated by being sentenced to the penitentiary for as many years as the Illinois thief who stole a set of harness.

It will be noticed that the gentlemen who are quickest to desert democracy are the same ones who are always most interested in determining the future of democracy.

In view of the manner in which they secured their senatorial togas it is not difficult to understand why some senators object to the election of senators by direct vote of the people.

Shall we send special representatives to Jolo to represent us on the occasion when the sultan of that batch of islands sets his imported bloodhounds on the track of runaway slaves?

The Sultan of Sulu has asked for some American bloodhounds to track down fugitive slaves. It seems that several amendments to the constitution have not followed the flag to Sulu.

The \$10,000 a year saved by extinguishing the torch of liberty in New York harbor will pay 25 per cent of the expenses of the American representatives to the coronation of King Edward.

Editor Whitelaw Reid, special representative to the coronation of King Edward, and editor of the New York Tribune, now spells it "honour." Editor Reid seems to have a severe attack of it.

Several senators who have never resented the openly made charge of bribery and boodling are shocked at the very thought of a senator being charged with having sold his vote for patronage.

Mr. Depew once referred to the "twin heresies of repudiation and expansion." He should be very careful how he makes love to one of the twins now. He may find himself courting the wrong one.

Advocates of "publicity" as a remedy for the trust evil should bear in mind that the Detroit, Mich., and Bellwood, Neb., banks were for many years subjected to it. But the people did not profit thereby.

Gentlemen who liken the annexation of the Philippines to the annexation of the territory embraced in the Louisiana Purchase never read and understood the treaty ratifying the Louisiana Purchase.

The supreme court was quite ready to go outside of the constitution in deciding a case affecting the freedom of alien peoples, but it was not quite ready to go outside of it in order to protect Americans from the rapacity of the "mergers."

It is said that we love in others that which we lack ourselves. If the opposite is true, and we hate in others that which we find in ourselves, it may account for the fact that President Roosevelt condemned Senator Tillman's pugilistic tendencies by withdrawing the invitation to the White house.

The New Jersey legislature has appropriated \$10,000 for the extermination of the mosquito. There are other pests in New Jersey.

The principal of a Massachusetts public school issued an order forbidding pupils eating onions and three pupils were expelled for violating the order. Still the government seed bureau continues to encourage rebellion in the schools by distributing onion seed.

The glory is settling down upon the captain of the Oregon, the commander of the Gloucester and the gunners, but the prize money remains safe in the keeping of the gentlemen who were in command of the battleship that was not within sight or sound of the battle.

The Iowa congressman who has several sons snugly located in the army and several fat concessions in the Philippines is at home hustling for a renomination. While attending to selfish interests a few panels of his political fences were allowed to become sadly dilapidated.

The fact that the shipping subsidy bill is being seriously considered in the senate is an argument in favor of electing senators by direct vote of the people. A senator who had to go before the people for a re-election would not dare to advocate such an unjust and iniquitous measure.

The Canadian member of parliament who threatens to march an army of Canadians into the United States and annex us to Canada would better be careful. Before he could get his army out of sight of the boundary line some American sheriff would throw the whole crowd into jail.

At a speech at the seventy-fourth annual banquet of the New England society in the city of New York, December 22, 1879, Chauncey M. Depew spoke of expansion and repudiation as "twin heresies." But that was when Mr. Depew had occasional spells of thinking and speaking for himself.

The civil service commission announces that it is not opposed to government employes contributing to campaign funds, but is opposed to coercing the employes into contributing. This position will please the gentlemen whose duty it is to secure contributions. Of course the contributions will be "voluntary."

In another column will be found an editorial taken from the Omaha World-Herald commenting upon child labor in the south. The factories of the south have been developing rapidly in recent years, and with their development has come a condition which calls for prompt action upon the part of those interested in the welfare of our race. It is a sad commentary on industrial and social conditions that laws should be necessary to protect society against the employment of children during the years which should be devoted to schooling. Whether the result is due to lack of wisdom on the part of the parent or to a grinding necessity that, for the time being, seems to overwhelm the parental interest, a remedy must be applied at once. No citizen in any community, no matter how rich or intelligent, is so far removed from the humblest toiler that he can afford to be indifferent to the highest progress of all. A body dwarfed by early and incessant toil, a mind darkened by the absence of instruction—these are not only a menace to the community, but they are bitterness in the cup of those who are directly or remotely responsible for the conditions that produce them. The savage breast is docile and harmless in comparison with a brutalized human being when stirred to vengeance by wrongs inflicted upon him by those in whom greed has silenced the voice of conscience and the dictates of mercy.