

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

"Preserve democratic principles."

Weyerism was mild and gentle compared with Smithism.

"If you don't like our style, don't eat meat."—Beef Trust to the People.

What if General Smith refuses to be a scapegoat and tells all he knows?

The administration organs are busy hunting up excuses for the Smith orders.

Now, what in the name of mercy would Mr. Root consider "marked severity?"

Does it simplify matters to admit issuing an order to murder all over ten years old?

General Funston might relieve his overheated feelings by getting up a round-robin.

Secretary Long is out and the president is casting significant glances at Mr. Root's hat.

Every time Mr. Sibley forgets his republicanism he manages to say a lot of patriotic things.

The indications are that Funston will find the president's latest order the most difficult to obey.

Mr. Hanna is standing by Mr. Rathbone. Is Mr. Hanna preparing to try again for the senate?

The democratic candidate for president in 1904 will be a man who is, was and will be a democrat.

"Does politics pay?" queries the Topeka Capital. Will some tariff protected trust please answer?

It appears that we are not yet ready to benevolently assimilate Filipinos under ten years of age.

It appears that Mr. Rathbone will not be afforded an excuse for pulling down the pillars of the temple.

Perhaps Poet Ware was appointed for the purpose of having a man handy to eulogize General Smith.

The action of Mr. Knox frightened the beef trust so badly that it jumped—jumped prices up another notch.

That chuckling sound wafted from across the Atlantic sounds suspiciously like one Weyler laughing in his sleeve.

It may be that we will yet find administration organs praising General Smith because he went Herod eight years better.

Senator Carmack is now the target for the g. o. p. organs. And judging from the amount of mud they are slinging Mr. Carmack must have crowded an immense amount of unpalatable truth into his speech.

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In the year 1902 a bill was introduced in the American congress to emancipate slaves held under the American flag.

It does not yet appear that Mr. Babcock is seriously frightened at the prospect of the trusts fighting him in this campaign.

What an interesting volume of reminiscences Secretary Root will be able to write if he makes up his mind to tell all he knows.

A very popular picture puzzle these days is that presenting a "full dinner pail" with the inscription, "Puzzle—Find the meat."

The name of the "copperhead, little American and traitor" who is to haul down the flag in Cuba has not yet been made public.

In spite of the glowing advance notices the captains of industry are not yet compelled to pull their cuffs down to conceal the shackles.

Having fought for a republic it was only natural that Captain Clark should decline to put on a lot of gov-gaws and kowtow to a king.

Captain Charles Clark has declined to be an envoy to the coronation. Whitelaw Reid could do Mr. Roosevelt a great favor by doing the same thing.

The ship subsidy steal is to be postponed until the people are not watching. With this warning the people will be foolish if they permit the steal.

As long as our great and good friend, Hadji Mohammed Wolomol Kiram, sultan of Sulu, gets his pension regularly he cares not who gets the water cure.

Are you interested in the triumph of democratic principles? If so, read "Preserve Democratic Principles," printed elsewhere in this issue.

The Britons may object to it, but it seems that they must hereafter sing it "Morgan rules the waves" if they want to be within reaching distance of the truth.

Democratic Inquirer: No, Mr. Bryan is not going to attend the coronation of the king, but he is going to witness the inauguration of Cuba's first president.

The gentlemen who promised the "full dinner pail" now quietly inform the workmen that if the price of foodstuffs is too high they may chew the cud of reflection.

Up to date Kitchener has not seen fit to order the killing of all Boers over ten years of age, yet Kitchener has not been credited with any great amount of tenderness.

If Weyler had issued an order to kill all Cuban rebels over ten years of age a lot of republican organs that now seek to excuse Smith would have had conniption fits.

John D. Rockefeller, jr., informs us that "riches is no bar to heaven." The young gentleman will pardon us if we choose to accept what another said on that subject.

Major Waller says he acted under orders from General Smith. General Smith says he acted under orders from Corbin. Corbin is under Root, and Root is under the president.

The Leadville man who committed suicide because he had swallowed a \$20 gold piece should have gone to J. Pierpont Morgan. Mr. Morgan can raise any amount of money.

Would it be possible to commit an act so atrocious that the administration organs would refuse to indorse it, providing it was done under sanction of the administration?

The best way to secure the supremacy of democratic principles is to attend the democratic primaries, put none but democrats on guard, and then make an enthusiastic campaign.

The Salt Lake Tribune says the insurrection in the island of Samar is now formally ended. Perhaps it will break out again when the ten-year-old Samar boys reach the age of eleven.

Fifteen years ago Mr. Roosevelt said some very harsh things about J. S. Clarkson. But that was fifteen years ago, and Mr. Roosevelt was not a candidate for the presidential succession.

Republican logic continues to be devious and incomprehensible. The g. o. p. organs now inform the people that if they will only starve themselves to death they can break up the trusts in food supplies.

Well, the beef trust will make some people think with the stomach who would not think with the head, but isn't it strange that any sensible man would have to have the meat taken off his table before he would look into the trust question.

That commercialism rather than morality predominates among the American merchants in Manila is shown by the fact that they praise the army for looking after American interests, but do not condemn General Smith's admitted brutality.

"A man is assumed to be innocent until he is proved to be guilty," sagely remarks the New York Tribune, once edited, and by Horace Greeley. The Tribune also believes that a lot of republicans are innocent after they have admitted they are guilty.

In view of the fact that we would still be in ignorance of many things going on in the Philippines if General Miles had not spoken, we can understand why Mr. Roosevelt is willing to allow Miles to remain if the general will agree to talk no more.

A Memphis imperialist says that Luke Wright of the Philippine carpetbag government is a greater man than Jefferson was. Has Luke ever made any protest against General Smith's "kill and burn" order, or has he been too busy to notice such a trivial thing?

The readers of *The Commoner* will be interested to know that Mr. Bryan will sail from Florida next Monday evening for Havana and will attend the inauguration of President Palma, the first chief executive of the Cuban republic. *The Commoner* and *Collier's Weekly* will contain articles descriptive of the island and of the inaugural exercises.

If any one feels inclined to criticize General Smith for allowing boys under ten years of age to escape the destroying hand, it must be remembered that those who have not yet reached "frying size" will grow up to the order in a few years. If he killed the infants now he would soon have no ten-year-olds to slay, but as it is he can gather a new crop every year.

The American chamber of commerce of Manila has passed resolutions in praise of the army and declaring that our soldiers have not violated the rules of war. In view of the fact that General Smith admits issuing the order to kill and burn, and in view of the further fact that Major Waller admits executing the order, the chamber seems to have besmirched itself rather than cleared the army.

The death of Sol Smith Russell is a distinct loss to the American stage. He was both a genius and an artist in his profession, but he was more—he was a man of high character and pure life. There was cleanliness and wholesomeness about his plays; they amused and instructed and were entirely free from vulgarity, actual or suggestive. His remarkable success proves that an actor with talent does not have to pander to depraved tastes.

After declaring that the Filipinos are "treacherous," "full of deceit," "not to be trusted" and "incapable of friendship," the administration organs seek to excuse the brutality of General Smith's order by saying that supposedly friendly natives attacked soldiers who were surprised and unprepared for fight. What about the officers who were unprepared for a fight in the midst of such a people? The logic of the administration organs always shows up with enough kinks in it to make it look like a worm fence.

The New York Journal is publishing letters from prominent men suggesting plans for "harmonizing" the democratic party. Charles Francis Adams recently furnished a characteristic contribution to this sort of literature. He said that the money question should be laid aside and added: "Don't bother with trying to regulate mergers, trusts and monopolies. Those things will take care of themselves." This is a natural conclusion. The men who want to put the money question aside will thrust the trust question aside also when a real remedy is attempted. "Let the money question alone; it will settle itself," shout the money changers. "Let the trusts alone; they will take care of themselves," shout the trust maguates, and the reorganizers say Amen to both.