

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

West Duluth (Minn.) X-Rays: The man who says the Filipinos "are not prepared for self-government just now," intends that they never shall be if he can prevent it. All human-kind has always been prepared for self-government, but force and fraud have been used from time immemorial to deprive most of them of this natural right. The American nation is at present using force and fraud to deprive the Filipino people of their natural right to political independence.

Hastings (Mich.) Journal: For the past two years returning soldiers have hinted of cruelty, incapacity and violence. Some have told personal friends all was not right, but they were only private soldiers, and they knew that they could have no standing in a court-martial where "shoulder straps" were the accused. The special acts are those of individuals. The defense of them brings the odium upon the administration and the party it represents. The nation will be held accountable if in its choice of the next congress it indorses the party responsible.

Central Christian Advocate: Gen. Jacob H. Smith has finally admitted that he did give the order to kill "everything over ten" in Samar. This is such a national disgrace, so deep, so ineradicable, that our glory, our boasted benevolence, is forever tarnished. The culprit who have the order added to his crime the disgrace of perjury. We do not believe that the world will judge our nation by that blood-thirsty order. But we again call the attention of those who will conduct the court-martial ordered by the secretary of war to the fact that the British army in South Africa had the moral stamina to execute two officers guilty of a less heinous offense than that of General Smith.

Albion (Neb.) Argus: We saw a cartoon in a republican paper a few days ago that, under all the circumstances, ought to bring the blush of shame to everyone who has the love of liberty and justice in him. It represented an American soldier, a fine specimen of manhood, standing by a Filipino, a miserable, inferior specimen of humanity, about the worst looking creature an artist could draw. We thought the comparison did not reflect any credit on our great nation. If these two characters were intended to represent the comparative status of the two nations then we ought to be ashamed to wage war against such inferiors. When the war is over and the victory won it is nothing to be proud of from a military standpoint. For a superior to strike an inferior is always considered a disgrace. If these people are as inferior as they are pictured then we ought to hang our heads in shame for the bungling that has been made. For two years they have been holding our forces level and the war seems no nearer over than when it was begun. If our superior forces can make no better headway against such a low down, inferior race, as the picture shows, then they had better "go away back and sit down." Considering the cartoon from any view point, it is a disgrace to the nation and especially to the republican party that is forcing the war.

By Their Fruits.

While The Union is ready to grant general amnesty to all who have seen the error of their way, and to freely forgive them, yet we are unable to forget where the responsibility lies for the present disorganized condition of the democratic party.

Perhaps the gentlemen who are now

so anxious to bring about harmony are actuated by the scriptural injunction of "doing works meet for repentance." And then possibly the loyal masses of the democratic party, who have good memories, may not be willing to again entrust to the leaders of the democratic party from '61 to '95, the active management of party affairs after the betrayal of '96, and the remembrances of the two previous campaigns, when the same gentlemen in Wall street dictated the nominations of both parties, and arranged political shamfights for the amusement of the people, the money power being victorious, whichever candidate won.

We are of the opinion that the gentlemen, who prior to 1896 condescended to fill all the important offices and enjoyed the emoluments, and when the masses of the party took control as they did at Chicago, in '96, bolted the platform and candidates, or sulked, and failed to stand by the majority, as they insisted should be done when they were in the majority, should exercise a little modesty, and at least have some small consideration for the men who were loyal in 1896 and did their best for party success.

We believe that the men who were loyal in '96 and 1900 will have something to say, and without they are consulted the "harmony" will be of the jug and handle order. Let us for a moment pause and ask, what would be thought, if Benedict Arnold had asked to be placed at the head of the revolutionary army and dictate its policy, after he had betrayed it. Of course, Arnold could have shouted: "I am a loyal minute man," just as politicians now shout: "I am a democrat," but the latter's assertion is just as ridiculous as Arnold's would have been. Don't let these gentlemen deceive themselves. The masses will not be fooled by the glib tongues and professions of what these harmonizers and reorganizers will do in the future, if again entrusted with power. The query is: What are their records in the past? By their works shall ye know them. We have grave doubts, if an appeal to the stomach and a taffy-coated speech, is all sufficient to enable an ambitious politician to enter the White house. As we view it disinterestedly, that is about what the great cry for harmony means in Greater New York.—New Haven Union.

A Long Time Learning.

It took Root and Roosevelt a long time to find out that they were not in sympathy with General Bell's reconcentration policy. That policy was made known to the people by Root in December last. He gave the news out to the papers with no word of disapproval nor was any disapproval heard from the White house. Yet the facts stirred the country from center to circumference, and the national conscience, apparently dead for years, became suddenly quickened as though touched with a live coal. Even administration papers recoiled from Weyerism and a wave of horror swept across the union and threatened the very seat of power. But May still found Weyerism in vogue. And still no sign of disapproval of it was given forth from the great Root and the warlike Roosevelt. Both were serene. Neither was shocked by the frightful brutalities of reconcentration. And it was not until Gen. Smith's order to murder all over ten was made known to the American people and it became apparent that political revolution was to be the outcome that Root and Roosevelt took note of Bell's imitation of Butcher Weyler. Then haste was made to stop concentration and to break up the camps. And now we shall hear virtue ascribed to Root and Roosevelt for their merciful behavior. Bell will become their scapegoat. The people will be asked to believe that

these good men stopped an infamous policy as soon as they learned of its existence. And all the fools will accept this exculpation of the men above Bell and responsible for him.—Johnstown Democrat.

A Plea For Right.

Mild is the air of April,  
Gentle the sky above,  
And the budding and the mating  
Call for a song of love;  
But the season of my singing  
Has lost its olden spell,  
Because of a shame and sorrow  
Men close their eyes to tell.

I see but the tears of women  
In the rain of the springtime flood;  
I cannot brook the flowers—  
They only smell of blood.  
Lost is the playground frolic—  
Its joy and laughter melt  
In the moan of children sobbing  
From the jungle and from the veldt.

O ye in the halls of the council;  
You may conquer the distant foe,  
But still before a higher court  
Your needless wars must go.  
Too much you ask of silence;  
Too fierce the iron heel;  
Because a statesman blundered  
Must every heart be steel?

O Britain! O Columbia!  
Too much of sodden strife!  
Back to the banished gospel—  
The sacredness of life!  
Else shall our ties of language  
And law and race and fame  
Be naught to the bond that binds us  
In one eternal shame.  
—Robert Underwood Johnson.

The Silver Question.

The man who sneers at the silver question as having been a "craze" is much farther from the line of reason than the most enthusiastic free silverite in the country. It was the argument of the free silver men that the country needed more money—more than the production of gold and the foreign demand for our products at that time was putting into circulation. In other words, the production of gold was so limited and the foreign demand for our products so slight our volume of money grew small and scarce money made interest very high and values very low. The marvelous gold field discoveries in Alaska and South Africa have increased the production almost twenty times. It is said that where the world was mining a dollar's worth of gold eight years ago it is now mining nineteen and a half dollars' worth. The free silver theory was based on an absolute need for more money. The more money has come to us through tremendous increase of the production of gold and so those who are hide bound politically, or never knew what free silver meant, are saying it was a craze. It was not a craze. It was the result of a scarcity of coin and if the new finds of rich

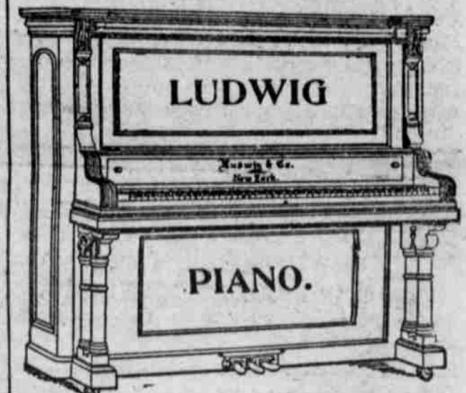
gold fields had not been made we would have had to use about twenty times as much silver as now to make the money market "easy." We needed more money, the gold fields have furnished it, and the necessity of more silver is, at least for the time, not pressing. But let the gold mines again become exhausted and our products surpass our money volume, and prices will drop and the need for more silver will again arise. A money standard which depends on the mine output of a single metal is more unstable than one based on two metals. Call it silver craze if they choose, but relief came through discovery of rich gold fields and the greatly increased production of the coin of which our money is made, the same result that the reopening of the silver mines would have produced.—Rochester (Ind.) Sentinel.



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