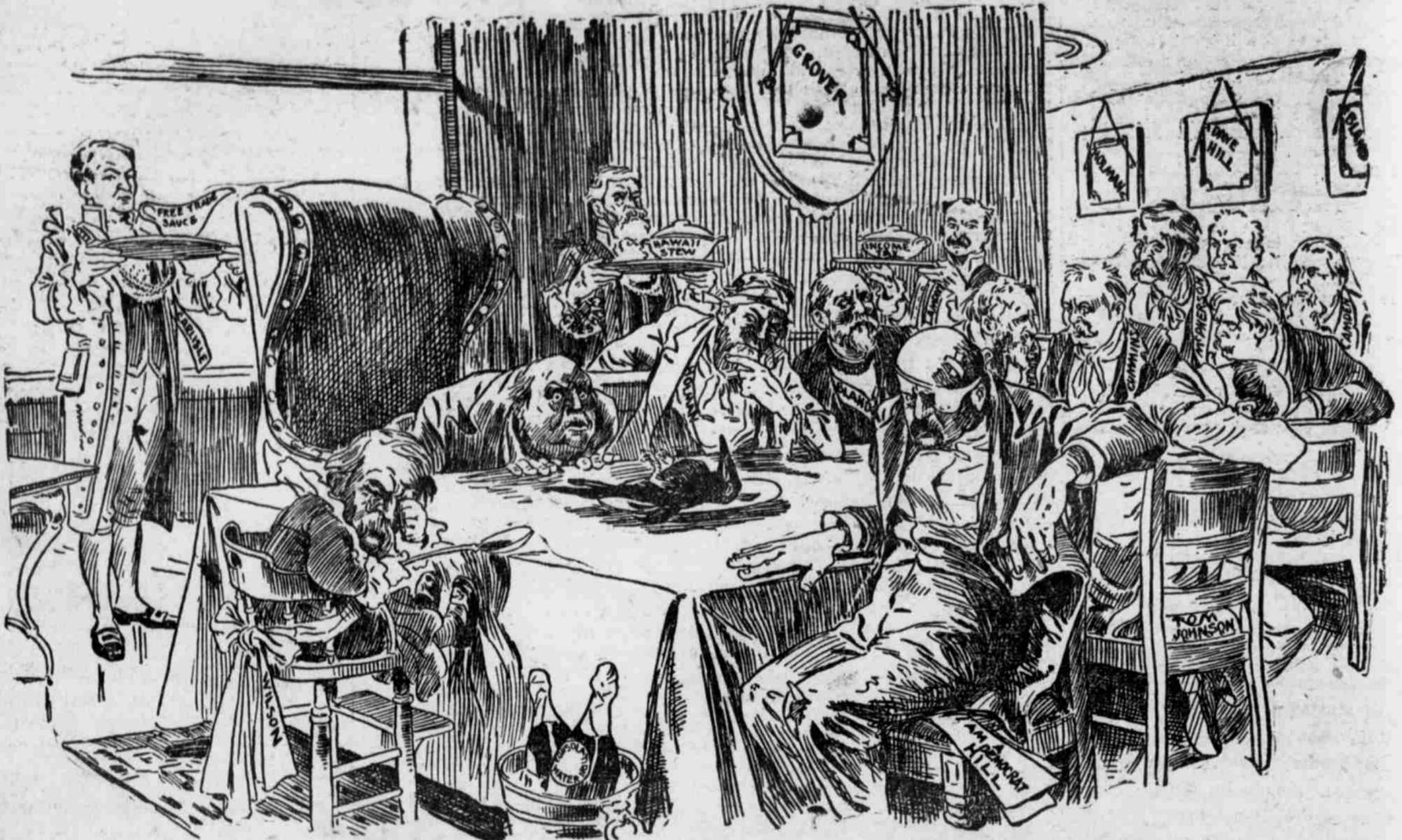


THEIR THANKSGIVING—A FEAST OF CROW.



GROVER.—“Mr. Hill, will you please say grace?”

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The Harm Slang Does.

There is still another serious objection to the use of slang. It tends to limit the vocabulary of him who uses it. Now, a limited vocabulary is almost as inconvenient at times as a limited purse, and it is far more inelegant. If there was practically limitless wealth within the reach of him who was minded to take it, it would argue a certain stupidity in any one who declined to avail himself of the supply. The same assertion holds true with regard to him who is willing to limit his choice of words. There is even more to be said than that. There is a limitless wealth of words at our disposal, but the most of us are too stupid to make use of them.

There are about 200,000 words in the English language. The average educated person is able in reading to understand perhaps 25,000 words, but the most of us who write and speak limit ourselves to about 500 or 600. Indeed, there is a vast number of fairly intelligent people, or people who pass as fairly intelligent, whose working vocabularies do not comprise more than three or four hundred words each.—Adeline Knapp in The Household.

English Synonyms.

There are no actual synonyms in our language. No two words mean exactly the same, not even words which have come into the English from other languages, and which in their original forms mean the same thing. The word sympathy, which we get from the Greek, and the word compassion, which we have from the Latin, are exactly parallel. Both mean, by derivation, "fellow-feeling." In the English, however, a distinction has grown up. We may feel sympathy with either joy or sorrow, but we feel

compassion for pain or grief.

These gradations and variations in words are what give the speaker his opportunity. It is because of them that the habit of using slang or often-repeated phrases weakens the expressiveness of our words. The right or the wrong use of a word makes a sentence elegant or stupid. The school girl says that a girl, a book, a pud-

ding, the play, or the weather is "lovely," and the word stamps her as silly when the use of right adjectives would indicate that she had at least some sense.—The Household.

Fear Miles' Report.

Fearful of the effect of General Miles' disclosures upon the public mind, the war department has sought to nullify his statements by the pub-

lication of interviews with Judge Advocate General Davis and the heads of various bureaus, but without success. The fact remains that the general has delivered himself only after obtaining actual knowledge of his subject, and that it will be impossible to deal with his statements as if made from the standpoint of a partisan.—Houston Post.

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