



# Weekly Press Forum

Middletown (O.) Signal: The reason Mr. Roosevelt does not demand Mr. Payne's resignation is because he fears the Payneful disclosures which might follow.

Urbana (O.) Democrat: The Wall street editor, who says that American securities have fallen off \$6,000,000,000 in values, erred. He should have said in price.

Indianapolis Standard: The authorities at Washington are catching the postoffice rascals with baited hooks one at a time. To use the drag net might stagger the party.

Windle's Gatling Gun: Job's wife advised him to "curse God and die." In advocating the nomination of Grover Cleveland the Chicago Chronicle offers the democratic party the same advice.

Crete (Neb.) Democrat: The statute of limitations barred every action against Perry S. Heath August 1, and not an effort had previously been made to push the friend of Hanna before the law relieved him of all danger of prosecution.

Defiance (O.) Crescent-News: The republican leaders and the republican press are treading on dangerous ground in their attempting to prove that Johnson is a boss. Many of their followers are so used to a boss that they may flock over into the Johnson camp.

Scribner (Neb.) News: It was superfluous for Mark Hanna to deny the rumor that he intended to resign the chairmanship of the national republican committee. That pet ship subsidy scheme must be landed before Mark relinquishes his hold on matters politically.

Grand Island (Neb.) Democrat: We gather from the revised philosophy taught in the republican school that government-backed greenbacks are not "safe" money, but that asset-backed bank notes are "perfectly safe," no matter how fleet of foot the guardian of the assets might prove to be.

Grand Island (Neb.) Democrat: Roosevelt's edict is that a Mississippi negro, wholly objectionable to the postoffice patrons, must be kept in office, but a Delaware white woman, entirely satisfactory to her office patrons, must step down and out at the behest of a corrupt political boss.

Tiffin (O.) Advertiser: Republican leaders are making all the trouble on the money question. And yet it has been but a few years since when these same leaders were telling the people that the money question was "settled." The question now is, whether they were lying through ignorance, or simply to mislead and deceive the public.

Spencer (Ia.) Herald: There used to be talk in administration circles that indicated a belief in the existence of good and bad trusts. The administration has changed its mind and now believes only in the existence of good trusts. If there had been any bad trusts they would surely have been prosecuted under the criminal section of the Sherman anti-trust law.

David City (Neb.) Press: When the Kansas City platform was reaffirmed at the late convention without a dissenting voice, it is well to take courage, and go forward with more interest. Every democrat must remember that prompt performance of duty this year gives a better promise that

nothing will be done next year which honest men will have to apologize for.

Wausau (Wis.) Herald: The Madison State Journal, stalwart republican, has tired of imperialism and is now advising the national republican administration to "about face" and get out. The Journal says the only thing this nation can do with honor is to get out of the Philippines. A republic with an honorable record behind it cannot afford to do anything else. Colonialism is out of its line.

Harlan (Ia.) Tribune: President Francis and the St. Louis exposition managers gave Secretary Shaw a very swell banquet and requested the secretary to place at their disposal the five million dollars promised by congress, but he refused as a technicality had not been complied with. You should be an influential Wall street broker in a pinch, Mr. Francis, and the money would pour in as noisily as hail on a tin roof.

David City (Neb.) Press: The Omaha Bee says the west is not clamoring for asset currency. No, the west never clamored for the gold standard, nor a prohibitive tariff—a tariff on lumber, and a great many things which they always come around to in the end, because they think more of their party than they do of their people's interest. The east always stand for their selfish interests, regardless of party, and the west always "crawfishes."

Rockville (Ind.) Tribune: The Nashville American says that Hostetter's Almanac has a larger circulation than The Commoner. Since the publication mentioned for comparison is a good, honest old almanac, and is distributed gratuitously, the American may be right and still The Commoner might have a very large circulation—much larger than a certain paper that democrats would not read even if they could get it on the same terms that govern the circulation of this ancient and honorable almanac.

Eureka (Ill.) Democrat-Journal: Governor La Follette of Wisconsin said in a recent speech: "No despot ever lorded it over a race of serfs more imperiously than these corporations lord it over this present generation." A correspondent of a corporation owned paper write that this utterance "angered thousands of citizens." And so it should, but it should have angered them against the tyrannical corporations, and not against the honest governor, as the correspondent would have us believe.

Lebanon (Mo.) Rustic: Grover Cleveland says he expects to fish till the end of his career. And why not, may we ask? It is certainly fitting that he should. We believe in the shoemaker sticking to his last, and therefore it is certainly right for Grover to stick to his rod and reel to the end. The manner in which he has used them is far more commendable than anything else he has ever done that we can now call to mind. But why make Grover talk so much? Let him fish on forever undisturbed.

Fulton (Ill.) Journal: One of the mysterious features of the Dingley tariff law is the duty on wheat. As everyone knows, the price of wheat is regulated by the Liverpool market and this duty never brought a cent's worth of benefit to anybody. On the other hand, it prevents American millers from grinding thousands of bushels

of wheat harvested at their very doors and American railroads from hauling the wheat and flour. Of course, the existence of such a duty is due merely to an attempt to make the farmers believe that they, too, are protected.

Olney (Ill.) Democrat: Just how little has been accomplished by President Roosevelt in his spectacular trust fighting is becoming more and more apparent daily. The era of official corruption during the past four years has never been excelled or equalled during the existence of the government. A thorough renovation of all departments is badly needed. The misdeeds of this administration will never be revealed and punished until the democracy is again placed in power. Men of all parties are realizing this fact and are becoming convinced that four years more of the rascality that has been practiced during the past four would be exceedingly dangerous to the welfare of the nation.

Manson (Ia.) Democrat: Chicago

is having a terrible time with her laboring people, if recent reports are to be believed. Several large manufacturing concerns have been "driven to seek locations in small cities and towns on account of the arrogance of labor" in Chicago and now comes the announcement that the Pennsylvania and Northwestern railways will defer the elevation of their tracks for a year or two because of the "present high price of labor and material." The track elevation will cost over \$4,000,000 and this amount will be retained in the coffers of the corporations just to punish labor. Labor should have known better than to ask for its rights. When the laboring men got their eyes open and began to ask for their share of the prosperity pie, their "arrogance" was too much for the fat-bellied boys with the mutton-chop whiskers and now they are going to see that the laboring man don't get any job at all until he is starved into accepting their terms. This is prosperity with a vengeance.

## ANCESTOR'S INNOCENCE SHOWN

A dispatch to the New York Tribune under date of Utica, N. Y., August 1, says: There is an interesting story in connection with the finding of the gold and silver money on the John S. Rockwell farm, in Butternut Valley, Burlington township, Otsego county. It was told yesterday by a great-great-granddaughter of John Johnson, who buried the money shortly before he was taken prisoner by the Indians in 1778.

John Johnson died a firm believer in the dishonesty of a daughter whose innocence has been demonstrated to the descendants by the finding of the old English coins on the Rockwell farm. The daughter had always protested her innocence, and grieved over the accusations of her unforgiving parent, but he never relented, and even denied her his best wishes upon her marriage.

Johnson emigrated from Derbyshire, England, about 1774, and settled on what is now known as the Rockwell farm. According to the family history Johnson was not wealthy, but for those days he was comfortably well off. One daughter married Robert Garrett, and they lived on an adjoining farm. Johnson, his wife and his remaining daughter lived on the farm when the Indians began to raid the white settlements in Otsego county. Then came the bloody massacre at Cherry Valley, in 1778. Property was destroyed and valuables taken by the Indians and their white allies. Johnson, like other settlers, buried his treasure for safekeeping. Johnson's daughter was with him at the time. It was none too soon, for three days later the Johnson and Garrett families were prisoners. They were taken to Canada, where they were held as prisoners of war for five years.

After their release, in 1783, the Johnson and Garrett families started for Otsego county. Johnson began to seek his buried treasure, but it could not be found. The search was extensive, but it produced no results. The unmarried daughter was the only possessor of the secret, and Johnson accused her of taking the money. She denied the charge, but Johnson could not be persuaded that she was innocent. He refused to speak to her, and it is said by descendants that he

never talked to her after that. She lived in the family home for a few years, and then married and moved away. Johnson died, still believing his daughter a thief.

As time rolled by there was no trace of the buried treasure, and among the many descendants of the family there was a division as to the guilt and innocence of the daughter. There were those who believed she had been greatly wronged.

Mrs. Rockwell, on whose farm the coins were found, says there were thirty-three gold coins, dated from 1761 to 1771; thirty-seven silver coins, dated from 1661 to 1671, and several copper coins. The gold coins had a likeness of King George III. There are many descendants of John Johnson, and Mrs. Rockwell intends to sell the coins to these descendants for nominal sums. They were found about ten inches below the surface.

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