

# Custer Co. Republican

Published every Thursday at the County Seat.  
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Thursday, March 6, 1902.

It might be a little better for all concerned if we could learn to discuss issues without getting personal. The trouble is we get mad, not at the argument, but at the one who makes it.—York Times.

From Dr. Hakes' article last week in the REPUBLICAN on reply to Sheriff Armstrong, it appears that the sheriff has been enjoying a very comfortable salary on mileage that he has not accounted for. He gave a list of nine persons in cliff township on whom he served distress warrants for which he charged an aggregate of 234 miles, charging each mileage from Broken Bow. The county board cannot afford to ignore this matter, but should sift it to the bottom.

A very curious bi-literal cipher which has been discovered by Mrs. Gallup running through the first editions of Bacon's Works, has excited wide interest in the literary world. This cipher consists of the use of two wrong-font letters at intervals, combinations of these two letters in groups of five constituting an alphabet. These repetitions of a wrong-font letter cannot have been matters of chance. Whether placed there by Lord Bacon or by the printer, remains in doubt. If by the printer, they relate a wonderful romance—the story of Queen Elizabeth's marriage to the Earl of Leicester when both were confined in the Tower prior to the Queen's accession; the birth of two sons, of whom Lord Bacon was the elder, the Earl of Essex the other. Lord Bacon considering himself the heir to the throne of England. The bi-literal cipher further tells that Queen Elizabeth condemned her own son, the Earl of Essex, to death. THE COSMOPOLITAN for March contains an article by Prof. Garrett P. Serviss fully reviewing this remarkable romance—if it is concluded to have been inserted by the printer—or tragedy if inserted by Lord Bacon.

One day last week Gov. Savage had an article in the State Journal, criticising that paper for giving publicity to the sentiment expressed by the country press against the pardon of Bartley. The governor held that, as members of the State Journal had signed the petition for Bartley's pardon, the paper was not consistent in aiding his critics by republishing what they had to say. Personally, the governor's position is correct. But the State Journal could not discharge its obligation to its thousands of readers in suppressing matters of so general interest. Had it ignored what the opposition had to say, its motives would have been severely questioned, and its standing as a news dispenser very much lowered in the estimation of the public. The pardoning of Bartley was not a private matter, and it was clearly within the province of the public to express its opinion. This it did through the country press, and the newspaper that has refrained from giving its readers the general opinion expressed throughout the state from personal regard for the governor, has neither helped the governor nor been true to its readers, who are entitled to know what others think on the subject.

The Lincoln Journal paid a neat compliment to the country press when it informed its readers that the candidacy of Governor Savage had been settled by the publishers outside of the cities. It says: "The fight was so overwhelmingly one-sided that even the governor learned in a few weeks that they were up against it and quietly began looking around for second and third choice." The rank and file of the party will not be particular glad to learn this, and it is possible that the "rapid fire guns of the country press" have been too rapid. They will be glad to know that his excellency has no chance of a nomination, but they would be pleased to have the politicians who favored Savage continue in their support of the governor up to and during the convention so that they might have the privilege of picking up the whole machine and placing it outside the party or at least informing those composing it in no uncertain language that they were no longer leaders. This will be done anyway unless the manipulators of these politicians are particularly smooth, but if they had all remained solidly back of Governor Savage they could have been more readily located and effectually handled. The party at large would like to deal emphatically with the men who consider that Bartley was a martyr and that treasury looting is a proper matter for executive clemency.—Norfolk News.

We are led to conclude from the versatile correspondent of Westerville in the Ansley Chronicle last week, that the editor of the REPUBLICAN, nor our political policy, for years past has met with his approval. We, indeed, are sorry that our course has not pleased him. But he is, probably, not alone. We have not tried to conduct the REPUBLICAN on the policy plan, and we are not surprised that he, with others, have not, at all times, been able to agree with us. We do not claim to possess more wisdom than our readers, but we hold that some of them are as liable to be misguided in judgement as we are. For twenty years we have been a student in politics in Custer county, and in that period have closely observed the rise and fall of men and issues, and feel competent to judge of the future in the light of experience and observation. The Chronicle correspondent may have as much or greater experience for ought we know, but we are not prepared to accept his theories in preference to our own, until we are convinced that he is right and that we are wrong. We have always pursued what we deemed the best course for the welfare of the public, and the success of the principles of the party we represent. In the past we have advocated the nomination of the best men available within the ranks of the party for positions of honor and trust, in the city, county, state or nation. As a rule we have felt the party in convention was capable of choosing. In fifteen years of journalism we have not yet failed to place the nominees of the party at the head of our columns, notwithstanding the fact that there have been instances in which we felt that better selections could have been made. In matters of politics morals and religion we have our own convictions. Those convictions we will not stultify knowingly, by editorially endorsing what we would not endorse personally. There have been candidates on the republican ticket that we did not endorse editorially simply because we regarded them unworthy. Had the convention that nominated known as much about them as we did the nomination would have never been made. We did not oppose their election as we could not do it without working an injury to ticket, which in the main was composed of honorable and re-

presentive men of the party. As editor and publisher of the REPUBLICAN, we reserve the right to express our opinion of men and measures whenever the best interests of the public demands it, without fear of offending any who may take a different view. While we do not court the enmity of anyone, we have not seen fit in the past to withhold our praise or censure, when duty forced it upon us, nor shall we in the future. We have no fears of our "bread and butter," as long as we maintain an honorable course even should there be one, occasionally, who persists in "the good old-fashioned way" of beating the publisher out of the money due him. But, as we have no desire to discuss the issue from a personal or business standpoint, we will not pursue that line farther. It is the question of our right to oppose men and measures in the republican party that we are criticized for, and meet we the issue, not only for the benefit of the anonymous correspondent, but that our position may not be misunderstood. As editor and publisher of the REPUBLICAN, we assume all responsibility for every line of editorial that appears in its columns, whether they be regarded as "marked ability," or foolish, and we could not honestly do otherwise if we so desired. As a matter of fact, there has not appeared a line of editorial on the political issues, since we have been the sole proprietor of the paper, that we did not write. No syndicate, censor or critic dictates our policy. We are not here to favor our personal friends, nor punish our personal enemies, unless in so doing we are able to better some public interest. We would not have taken time to pen this article had personal reasons been the motive. It is not a matter of public concern whether some anonymous writer agrees with us. But men and measures are matters of public interest, and we have no desire to shirk the responsibility. The party will soon be selecting delegates to represent it in the county and the conventions. These issues must there be met. No man should be selected who has no opinion of his own. If the views of my friend from Westerville are the views of the majority of the republicans of Custer county he should be one of the delegates selected, but if the sentiment prevails that the present governor is not in the race, and some other good man from Custer or any other county can be elected, he is not the man to go. We like to see men place themselves on record in public matters, whether right or wrong, and we congratulate the Chronicle's correspondent that he has done this, notwithstanding, he does not agree with us. If he is known in his township, we predict that when we write that "book," that we will have to record that our "drink fair Betsy" drank from the wrong bottle too often.

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## NATIONAL CAPITOL.

Congressional Proceedings and Topics of General Interest Discussed

(By 6601 Correspondent)

Washington, D. C. March 3, 1902.—The Taft hearings before the Senate Philippine Committee have formed the basis for the most interesting news dispatches sent out from Washington for some weeks. Governor Taft is full of information concerning the islands, but his testimony has been so frequently punctured by obstructive and unfriendly interruptions and questions, that as the Governor himself said, it "could take him a year, at the process he has been allowed to make, to complete his statement of the needs of the Philippines.

In view of Governor Taft's statement concerning the different natives it might be interesting to ask of some of the Democratic statesmen, which of the particular groups of Filipinos are to be so assured that the government of the islands will be left within their hands. Will the United States make the proposition to the 1,500,000 Tagalos, or to the 2,500,000 Visayans, or to the 100,000 or so Maccabees, or to the 500,000 Moro Mohammedans, each speaking a different language and each more or less unfriendly with the others; or will the arrangement be made with the Christian Zambagionians or the Negritos, Igorotits, Tyraurys or several dozen other pagan tribes and nations, each speaking its own dialect and recognizing no central leader.

Any scheme of civil government for the Filipinos, as Judge Taft states, must be under the direct supervision of a sovereign power—the United States—and must be allowed only to the extent that the natives show themselves capable of adopting it.

One of the other issues which the Democrats are trying to make for political "working capital" is the isthmian canal question. There is a movement on foot among them to try to consolidate on the Nicaragua route on the plea that the country is committed to that one route, and to try to prove that because the Republicans are not favoring any special route until after full investigation, they are therefore in reality opposed to any canal. In view of the well-known position of the Republican party on the question of an inter-oceanic canal this assertion of the Democrats will find small credence. The situation is simply that in spite of surveys and reports made, we know but little concerning the different routes, and the various committees are now engaged in learning the facts so as to enable them to recommend the best route.

While President Roosevelt is insistent that Congress shall help Cuba he is very loath to enter into a political fight on the subject and has expressed the hope that the Democrats would consider the question from a humanitarian and not a political standpoint. As was to have been expected, however, the Democrats are attempting to make political capital out of the sufferings of others and are now charging that the President favors the sugar octopus.

The President cannot be put

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in the position, by Democratic politicians, of favoring or endorsing legislation in the interests of the sugar trust, simply because he insists that "something must be done for Cuba." He has left the manner of doing that "something" with Congress. Propositions have been made all the way from free trade between Cuba and the United States down to a 20 per cent reduction from the Dingley rates. Any or all of these propositions the sugar trust will support. Why? Because the trust absolutely controls the price of raw sugar in the United States and it would pay for Cuban sugar just what price it chose. In other words the 20 per cent reduction in the tariff would go into the pockets of the trust.

"The whole fight for a reduction of the tariff on Cuban sugar," said one of the highest officials at Washington, "is being made by the sugar trust. Everybody wants to help Cuba, but the sugar trust is the only party that insists that it shall be done in a certain specified way—by the reduction of the tariff, which reduction of sugar would go solely into the pockets of the trust."

The statement has been made by at least two of the very highest officials of the Government that the proper way to assist Cuba is to collect the whole Dingley duty

from the island and then return the proper proportion of it—say 25 per cent—to the Cuban treasury, whence it will be distributed for the benefit of the whole Cuban people. This method the sugar trust, and all the varied agents which it is behind, do not of course favor.

The testimony before the congressional committees shows that the tobacco growers of the United States are almost a unit in their opposition to the proposed reduction of the productive duty on Cuban wrapper and filler tobaccos which come into this country. They maintain that the burden of the desired assistance to Cuba should not fall solely on the two industries of tobacco and sugar, but that such assistance should come from the people of the United States.

Senator "Pitchfork" Tillman's disgraceful attack upon his colleague in the Senate was simply the culmination of months of indiscriminate vituperation and abuse of his political opponents. The consensus of opinion seems to be that his "beer garden" methods of argument have been brought to a close in the Senate.

The President concluded that after all it was a "Captain's bat-

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