

POLITICS OF THE DAY

WHAT DEMOCRACY MAY DO.

By its bold defiance of public opinion the Republican party is rapidly paving the way for Democratic success in the next Presidential election. It is generally conceded by the shrewdest observers of political events that if a successor to McKinley had to be chosen now the Democratic candidate, no matter what financial plank he stood on, would win.

There may be a change of opinion in favor of the Republicans within the next fifteen months, of course, but if there is not, the man who will get the nomination of the next regular Democratic national convention will be elected to the Presidency. The drift of popular feelings is all that way. The people are alarmed at the rapid growth of the trusts, they are disgusted with Algerism, with imperialism and with the various other isms that Republicanism has fostered.

With this advantage, however, on their side, Democrats ought to be careful about both their candidates and their platform, and it is not too early to call attention to the necessity of harmonious action. Factional differences certainly should disappear, and William J. Bryan's remarks at Buffalo ought to be seriously studied all over the country. He struck the right note when he said that he regarded it as urgent that "every Democrat of New York should rally to the party and give assurance of his support to the next national platform, whether it will be that of 1896, pure and simple, or whether it will be that of 1896, modified or added to."

The Republican party to-day stands, as Mr. Bryan further explained in this same speech, for all the monopolistic tendencies of the times, concentrated wealth and un-American expansion, to all of which Democracy is opposed. There should, consequently, be no difficulty whatever for the party which believes in government by the masses and not by the selfish classes to present a united, unbroken front at the next Presidential election and achieve a decided victory.

As matters are to-day, only petty rivalries and squabbles can prevent the election of a Democratic President in 1900. Let the disturbers of party harmony be notified now that they are not wanted and let them be cast out. We shall be stronger without them than with them.—New York News.

Conclusive Comparison.

The American revolutionists had not a tenth-part the moral justification for waging war on their king that the Filipino people would have in drawing the sword against a foreign government which had proclaimed sovereignty over them. King George, whatever his sins, did not attempt to sell our ancestors and their country to some foreign power. Samuel Adams, James Otis and Patrick Henry were not suddenly confronted with a claim of sovereignty by France, Russia or Spain. The state of civilization among the Filipinos does not affect their moral right to contest a sudden claim of sovereignty over them by the United States, any more than the lack of Parisian manners among the American colonists would have affected their right to rebel against the king of France had he claimed their allegiance after nine months' acquaintance. But the responsibility of the present attitude of the Filipinos cannot be shaken from the shoulders of William McKinley. Not only has he negotiated a treaty which transfers their country for \$20,000,000 to the United States, in spite of their most emphatic and long-continued protest, but he has publicly proclaimed to them his purpose of "assimilation." If he now persists in imitating the blundering old British king in refusing to adopt a more moderate policy, and thus drive the Filipinos to a struggle against foreign conquerors, his administration will have earned a terrible retribution at the hands of the American people.—Springfield Republican.

Ideal Kind of Trust.

If the trusts and combines could be organized with a normal capitalization, if honest and capable management of them could be assured, and if their shares could be scattered among the thousands of laboring men and others interested in their business, so that their profits could be diffused, the country would have a better industrial system, even from the idealist's point of view, than could ever exist under direct government control of industries, or by any socialist scheme that could be devised, for then the incentive to thrift and industry would not be lost, while all men would have equal chances in the struggle for life in proportion to their abilities. But the obstacles to this consummation seem insuperable.—Kansas City Star.

Republican Iniquity.

The triumph of Quay and his appointment by Gov. Stone to the long fought for Senatorship is but another instance of Republican defilement of all that is iniquitous in public life. Their theory seems to be that everything done outside of prison walls "goes," so long as it is successful, regardless of its merits or moral aspect. Character seems to count for naught in the Republican ranks where all men are welcome who can "get there" by hook or by crook.

Quay is a man of pleasing person-

ality and considerable magnetism. He is loyal to those friends who assist him in political crookedness and a bitter enemy to those who oppose him. So long as he is allowed to have possession of the plum tree, he is willing to shake it liberally for his friends, who are allowed to pick up enough plums to stimulate their appetite for another shake.

Quay is the most audacious politician in America, and appears to have been born without moral bias. He stands boldly up for all that is iniquitous in public life. He is a national shame, and yet the Republican party hall with pride a man who has hopelessly debauched the politics of the great State of Pennsylvania, and who regards Legislatures and Governors as so much merchandise.

Case of the Minnesotans.

The point has now been reached when appeal must be made, not to any disposition on the part of the administration at Washington to avoid the consequences of its violation of the terms of the Thirteenth Minnesota's enlistment nor to any disposition on its part to do voluntarily what it has so long delayed and avoided doing, but to the absolute constitutional principle that our citizens shall not be wrongfully restrained of their liberties by any power, State or national. We are not as yet living under an autocracy, and there is no power, civil or military, which can be allowed with impunity to infringe on these men's dearest civil rights.—St. Paul Globe.

Roosevelt Before and After.

Like many others, Governor Roosevelt hurled academic bombs at the corporations, but when the actual test came between them and the people and there was an opportunity to do something practical he failed to place himself on the side of the people. It is easy to score great, grasping corporate combinations in an after-dinner speech or an ante-election address. It is another thing to be firm and true when there comes a crisis that compels men to reveal their real characters by compelling them to take action. As Governor Mr. Roosevelt has not fulfilled expectations.—Denver News.

New Jersey's Shame.

New Jersey does not send forth able-bodied men authorized to harass and despoil the people of other States in the Union, but she does what is quite as offensive and much more effective. She authorizes incorporated bodies to do an illegal business beyond her own borders and makes such authorization a source of large profit to her treasury. New Jersey is thus making a name for herself which must bring the blush of shame to every high-minded citizen of that State.—Philadelphia Record.

McKinley Not a Free Agent.

It is hinted that the President would like to retrace his steps, even to the abandonment of the Philippine Islands, but the syndicates that are planning to secure the millions of acres of highly productive agricultural lands, the mountains' minerals and the forests of valuable woods will permit no back-down from the original policy of treating the natives as the Indians were treated in this country.—Kansas City Times.

Bringing Courts Into Contempt.

The Quay jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and yet there was probably not a man on the jury who was not convinced in his own mind that Quay was guilty. This is another of those cases which tend to weaken respect for our judicial system. The people see the defendant go free, believing him guilty beyond question. They know he can command money and influence to an almost unlimited extent. They put this and that together. And who can blame them?—Indianapolis Sentinel.

A Rock Ahead of McKinley.

Sooner or later the attempt to hold and rule the Philippines as a subjugated colony must and will be given up, for time and events are sure to demonstrate to the American people its utter folly and enormous cost both in blood and treasure. The sooner President McKinley begins to study the problem of how to unload his Philippine policy the better it will be for him. For unless he shall get rid of it betimes it is sure to break his political neck.—Grand Rapids Democrat.

Poor Work for American Soldiers.

Pursuing almost helpless savages through the jungle, burning their villages and killing every man, woman and child to be relieved of the burden of caring for prisoners, is very much different from charging up San Juan hill against a trained foe. That's the reason that there are no crowds around the bulletin boards now, eager for the latest news from Manila, as there were last summer when we were fighting the Spanish.—Utica Observer.

Mistake of a Much-Worried Man.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. McKinley says that many opportunities are awaiting young men, but perhaps what he meant to say was that many young men are awaiting opportunities. A President with so much on his mind may occasionally get things "wrong end to."

Revise the Declaration.

If we want to carry out President McKinley's policy of "benevolent assimilation" all copies of the Declaration of Independence should be edited by the press censor before being admitted to the Philippines.—Buffalo Times.

"LUNGERS" IN COLORADO.

Former Consumptive Tells of His Experience in Seeking Health.

There has been an increasing tendency recently on the part of consumptives to seek dryer and less variable climates as a last resort before giving up hope. There have been enough authenticated instances of consumptives getting well, apparently in the face of every indication that their cases were hopeless, to inspire hope in the breasts of other sufferers from the disease. Last week a young man belonging to a Brooklyn family, who was a consumptive before he went away, returned from Denver, Colo., sound and well, to the surprise and gratification of his friends. His recovery was a surprise to himself and to his friends.

"I found a great many consumptives in Denver," he said in telling of his experiences, "and they were known there by the name of 'lungers.' When a fresh consignment of consumptive people came into the city, residents looked at them with a sort of contemptuous pity and remarked that another lot of 'lungers' had arrived. I was asked almost as soon as I came to Denver by a man in the hotel I stopped at, who, like me, went to Colorado in the endeavor to get cured of consumption, if I was a 'lunger,' too! When he explained what a 'lunger' meant I admitted that I was one.

"Before I left Brooklyn I could not get any doctor who would undertake to give me any hope of recovery. Two of the best physicians in New York, after examining me carefully, told me that I had consumption, and I knew it myself. When I told them I was going to Colorado to seek for a cure there they did not discourage me, but I saw that they were not sanguine.

"I soon made a number of acquaintances in Denver who were 'lungers,' who all had a hope of recovery, and we planned little trips. Camping out was a favorite way of passing the time, and really I found sleeping in tents in the pure air of that wonderful climate very pleasant, though I was not as hopeful as the others. One night the temperature suddenly changed, in a most unusual way for the time of the year, when we were camping out. It became very cold, and there was a raw feeling in the atmosphere. A drizzling rain fell, which changed into snow, or, rather, sleet, and I was miserable in the tent. Gusts of wind blew the mixture of snow and rain all about me as I lay on a mattress, and not only was the mattress wet, and I felt the rain trickling down my neck as my head lay on the pillow.

"I thought that would be surely the death of me, and in the belief that there was no hope for me, after getting up and walking about a little, I lay down again in despair and soon fell asleep. I awakened in about six hours and believed I was done for. I got up in a listless, despairing way and began mechanically to kindle a fire outside to cook some breakfast, the sky being clear by that time. To my astonishment, I not only felt all right, but actually hungry; instead of being in a high fever, as I expected, I felt much better than before I lay down. I hardly dared to believe it at first, but I continued to camp out and felt stronger and better every day, and here I am now a well man.

"I should say that people I knew in Colorado who to all appearances were not as far gone in consumption as I have died there, but it is a fact that I recovered. Some people will tell you that a hopeful mind goes a long way toward effecting a cure, but I cannot ascribe my cure to this, as I had little hope of ever getting better, and went to Denver more as a duty in order that I might know that I tried every possible means to get well."

Tried to Comply.

The manufacturer of a certain brand of cigar advertised it far and wide as "The Unparalleled—Everybody Smokes It." One day he received a letter from a man with whom he was only slightly acquainted, running thus:

"Dear Smithy—I want one of those cigars everybody is smoking. Send it to me by mail, securely done up in a small pasteboard box. Yours truly, Brownson."

Not even a stamp was enclosed for postage, but Smithy took some pains to comply with the request, and after a lapse of two or three days Brownson received by mail, duly packed in a small box, a stump of a cigar three quarters of an inch long, accompanied by the following note:

"Dear Brownson—Impossible to send one that everybody is smoking. But here is one that fifteen separate newsboys have smoked on. Yours truly Smithy."

Brigands Thrive in China.

One of the flourishing businesses of northern China is that of the brigand insurance companies. These organizations, for a specified fee, undertake to protect the traveler from robbers. Before starting on a journey arrangements are made with one of these concerns and they send an escort of one or two so-called riflemen. Each company has a distinguishing flag, which is put in some conspicuous place, either on the cart or boat, as the case may be. Now, in meeting a band of brigands the convoy goes ahead and holds a parley, informing them that he represents such and such an insurance company, and if they recognize him as a friend all well and good; if not, the matter has to be fought out, which usually results in the riflemen running away.—New York Herald.

Regulation of Child Labor.

Venice had special officers to regulate the employment of children in factories as early as the fourteenth century.

Every man has two or three women interested in him who believe that he could lift a great burden off his heart if he would Confess All.

ANECDOTE AND INCIDENT

Mr. Tollemache tells in the Spectator of a little girl who once went in great distress to her mother, saying that she had committed a sin which could never be forgiven and which was too bad to be repeated. By dint of a little coaxing she was induced to make a full confession, which was in this wise: "I felt so sorry for poor Satan and wanted to give him a little comfort. So I got a glass of cold water and poured it down a little hole in the kitchen floor."

The author wanted some reading, and he sought out an unfamiliar shop. He thought he would be recognized anywhere, because his portrait had appeared in the periodical press. So when the salesman handed him a copy of his own latest book, he winked drolly at the man behind the counter, and pushed the book away from him in mock disgust. "For heaven's sake, no!" he cried; "I can't read that man's stuff." "Well, to tell you the truth," said the salesman, solemnly, "I can't, either!"

In the palm days of tip-giving a veteran officer, not overburdened with pelf, when dining with a wealthy aristocrat, begged to be informed of the names of the several servants in attendance. His host was naturally anxious to know the reason of the inquiry. Quoth the general: "To be plain with your lordship, I cannot just now afford to pay for such good dinners as your lordship gives me, nor can I afford to deny myself the pleasure of partaking of them. It is my intention, therefore, to remember all these gentlemen in a codicil to my will."

Many anecdotes were told of the late Judge Cox, of the District Bench of Washington, D. C. One of them will bear retelling. A young lawyer defending a criminal before him, and whose idea of eloquence seemed to consist in continually calling upon the Creator, concluded with this remarkable peroration: "I ask your honor for God's sake to have mercy on my client!" The Judge adjusted his spectacles, asked for the papers, examined them with much deliberation, and then said: "The plea for mercy for God's sake cannot be entertained by the court. After a careful examination of the papers I do not find that God is a party to the record in this case."

A couple of candidates for the legislature once berated each other roundly in a joint debate. Finally the hotter-headed of the two burst out in an announcement that he could whip his rival or any of his friends. "That reminds me," said the other, coolly, "of a dog my father used to have that could whip any dog in the neighborhood or any that came that way with the teamsters." "What's the application, sir?" roared the other; "I'll stand no innuendoes, sir. Make your application if you dare." "It is simply this, my pugnacious friend; no one ever thought of sending father's dog to the legislature." The fire-eater remained at home.

A colored preacher upon the occasion of delivering a forceful harangue to his congregation, said: "I see before me twelve chicken-thieves, including William Sanders." Now, Sandy was a handy man with a razor, and the parson's friends urged him to set things right with Sanders at the first opportunity. The parson made on the next Sunday the following announcement: "Brethren, at our last meeting I made a statement which, after mature deliberation, I desire to correct, realizing as I do that my remarks upon that occasion might not have been understood correctly. What I should have said was: 'There are in this congregation twelve chicken-thieves, not including William Sanders.'"

The late Henry Reeve, for many years leader-writer of the London Times, was dining one night at a house where the other guests included Macaulay and Sydney Smith. Macaulay was at that time laying society waste with his water-spouts of talk. At length, dinner being over, Sydney Smith, Reeve, and a few others, went away by themselves, and immediately got on the overpowering subject of Macaulay. "He confounds soliloquy and colloquy," said Reeve. "He is a book in breeches!" Smith declared. "The very worst feature in Macaulay's character is his appalling memory," said Reeve. "Aye, indeed," said Sydney Smith; "why, he could repeat the whole 'History of the Virtuous Blue-Coat Boy,' in three volumes, post 8vo., without a slip." After a pause, as if of consideration, the witty divine added: "He should take two tablespoonfuls of the waters of Lethe every morning to correct his retentive powers!"

Charles Sumner had little sense of humor. At an official ball in Washington he remarked to a young woman who stood beside him: "We are fortunate in having these places for standing here. We shall see the first entrance of the new English and French ministers into Washington society." The young woman replied: "I am glad to hear it; I like to see lions break the ice." Sumner was silent for a few minutes, but presently said: "Miss —, in the country where lions live there is no ice." Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who tells this story in the Atlantic, also relates that she once invited Mr. Sumner to meet a distinguished guest at her house. He replied: "I do not know that I wish to meet your friend. I have outlived the interest in individuals." In her diary of the day Mrs. Howe recorded the somewhat ungracious utterance, with this comment: "God Almighty, by the latest accounts,

had not got so far as this." Mr. Sumner was told of this in her presence, though not by her. "What a strange sort of a book your diary must be," he exclaimed. "You ought to strike that out immediately."

"LOST" JEWELS.

Sometimes Sent to the Pawnbroker's by the One Who "Lost" Them.

A pawnbroker who is an honest, upright man, says many articles advertised as lost are in his shop. He told of one woman of high culture and birth who brought a valuable diamond ring to him recently. He knew at once he was dealing with a woman of refinement and closely studied her quiet face. He accepted the ring, and the next day saw just what he expected—a leading advertisement of the stolen jewels of Mrs. Blank, a woman whose name was high in the lists of fashionable assemblies.

"So they have been stolen and brought to you," said a listener. "Did you at once notify the police?" "Certainly not," said the pawnbroker. "They had never been stolen. Some society woman had gotten in a tight place, financially, and had taken this way of getting out of it. She arranged the report of their being stolen, and we understood and she understood."

"Many actresses do this. They get hard up and pawn their jewels, get the money and a tremendous lot of free advertising in the bargain through the newspapers. When she gets the money to reclaim the jewels she gives it out that the thief quietly brought her back the jewels and got the reward on condition she would never tell who he was."

"The whole thing is a pretty theory and an easily told tale. I am rarely 'taken in' about stolen jewels, for I can tell the social status of the person who comes in."

"Do women ever take you into their confidence?" was asked.

"Sometimes," he answered. "I have gathered from many ladies that they had incurred personal debts which they were ashamed to let their husbands know of. Probably, just at the time a big bill was due, the husband would be especially irritated about his affairs, bring worried looks home, and the wife would never dare to ask him to double, probably triple, her allowance."

"Hence the pawnbrokers." "She gets the money and trusts to luck that her husband won't miss the jewels. When things are a bit easier she can redeem them, and the sun shines again."

"Very often they advertise articles as lost, and that relieves every one of responsibility. The wife says she lost it, and offers a reward, no questions asked." When the wife gets the ready money the jewel is "returned."

Surely there are many tricks in this gay old world.—Philadelphia Press.

Animals in Yellowstone Park.

Yellowstone Park is a lively place during the vacation months, when the hotels are open and thousands of people flock there every year. As soon as cold weather sets in the people return to their homes. You can travel for days without seeing a human being. There is no opportunity to get lonesome, however, as the reservation is literally covered with game. The animals have become so accustomed to the sight of men that they manifest no fear, and can be easily approached. We have seen as many as fifteen thousand elk in one herd, and have passed among them without their showing any sign of fear. When the snow is deep they cannot travel as fast as a man on skis, and it is easy to overtake them. It is no uncommon sight when a bear with two or three cubs trailing at her heels comes out of the woods and sits on her haunches while she leisurely inspects those who happen to come her way. They have lost all fear of man, as hunting is prohibited under any and all circumstances. The park furnishes the natural refuge for wild animals, and they remain in there of their own free will. They feed in the fall and spring along the snow-line, following it up the side of the mountains in the spring and retreating before it in the fall.

The Painters Took the Hint.

Occupying a lovely situation near a Northern city there stands a mansion with a flat roof. Last autumn the owner decided to have it thoroughly overhauled, and gave instructions to different tradesmen to proceed with the work.

The plumbers had a good deal to do upon the roof, and being out of sight, as they thought, did not overwork themselves.

When the painters came to do their part the owner of the mansion called the foreman aside and showed him a number of snap-shot photographs, representing men on the roof of his house. Some were sitting, smoking, some were reading, and others were lying on their backs.

"Why," said the astonished foreman, "these are —'s plumbers?"

"Exactly," responded the owner, "and these snap-shots explain why they took such a long time over the job."

The painters did not waste any more time.

The Regular Army Vote.

A soldier of the regular army may vote if he is stationed at his old home or within such distance of it that he can go there to register and vote. He doesn't lose his old residence by enlisting, nor does he acquire a residence by being stationed at a place. If he can get to his old home on election day he may vote.

Faithful Domestic.

Ann Grant, a domestic servant, who died recently at Linton, in Cambridgeshire, England, at the age of 87 years, had served seventy-one years in one family.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY.

London Letter.

William Fowler of London writes: I leave for the moment the Indian aspect of the scheme proposed by the Indian Government, and the "money murder" involved in it, and the strange indifference shown by Government to the interests of the multitude of holders of silver in India, and to the agonies of the money markets there. I desire to call attention to the importance of the scheme to all English investors. The proposal involves handing over the control of about two-thirds of our gold reserve at the bank to a body of officials in Calcutta, and to this I object most strongly. At first they ask for £5,000,000, but they ask for power to draw £15,000,000 more when required—to say nothing of even further demands. The export of £5,000,000 at this moment might have very serious consequences. It seems to be forgotten that the purchase of the wheat which we require this year may cost us from £20,000,000 to £30,000,000 more than the same import would have cost us two years ago. Thus, whether we will or not, we are face to face with an enormous additional claim on our resources, and one which will give increased power over our gold to our cousins across the Atlantic, whose needs may be greatly enhanced by the war on which they have entered. Moreover, the tendency to higher prices is not confined to corn, and business at home makes greater demands on our resources. On every side there are political complications and uncertainties, and our relations with nations all over the world are so intimate that special demands may arise at almost any moment. As I write Japan holds a very large deposit at the bank which helps to swell the figures of the last return, and any day she may require money, and may take it in gold. I mention this merely as an illustration which shows how necessary it is to retain our hold on our gold, and not to give power over it to others. Already 4 per cent has depressed the values of the best securities, and this fall must continue, if we are to have a permanent advance in the bank rate and in the charge made for loans on the stock exchange. It seems to me, therefore, that every holder of securities is interested in avoiding any engagement which must seriously affect our gold reserve, not in the regular course of business, but as a certain consequence of a mere experiment, the results of which are extremely uncertain, and are, in the opinion of many experts, more likely to injure than to help the people of India. Taking the whole situation into view, I am confident that the greatest care is required in order to avoid alarm and panic in our own country. The action of the Government of India in 1893 has caused something like a panic there, and it behooves us to take care that we are not led away by official theories into the adoption of any scheme which may result in repeating in the center of the empire a disturbance which has caused so serious trouble in Calcutta and Bombay.

The Silver Standard in Mexico.

We consider the silver standard a blessing for this country, and we do not prefer the gold standard for Mexico. We do, however, prefer it for the United States, for the reason that our interests and our welfare are now bound up in this republic, and it is to the interests of Mexico that the United States continue on its present basis. The advantage which otherwise might accrue to that country now is commencing to come to this. While the one is standing still, or retreating, the other is forging ahead at a most tremendous pace; and that progress, though it might not be altogether stopped, would receive a serious check were the United States to make a change in its monetary system. We formed our faith upon what appears to us to be substantial reasons. We consider the silver standard a blessing for Mexico because:

It is furnishing a currency which is not constantly appreciating in value, to the detriment of all other forms of wealth.

It is furnishing a currency which cannot be cornered, manipulated and controlled by the few to the injury of the many.

It is enabling the producing classes of the republic to realize from their products more than the cost of production.

It is setting in motion the wheels of progress, and attracting to this country, by reason of the immense advantage afforded by the difference in exchange, the idle capital of the gold standard countries.

It is the main and paramount cause in "The Awakening of the Nation" in enabling her to take on new life and activity; in overcoming the effects of ages of oppression, strife and turmoil; in taking her stand on an equality with the nations of the modern world; in short, it is the mainspring which is setting in motion the other workings. And there are other reasons.—The Two Republics (Mexican).

An Era of Experiments.

It is evident that great changes are taking place in the minds of the people of large cities and it looks very much as if the majority of the voters in several big centers of trade and industry had decided to go into the trust business, so to speak, in behalf of the whole body politic instead of a few promoters and capitalists. There may be reactions, of course, but the indications are that the country will see some surprising object lessons and experiments within the next few years.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.