

LITTLE BETTER THAN TREASON.

We fail to see how our imperialist friends can look upon the resolution adopted by the republican state convention of Massachusetts on the Philippine question as much better than treasonable. It doesn't even refer to the Philippine insurgents as "rebels." It does not demand unconditional surrender. It does not declare that where once the flag has been raised it must float forever. It does not even qualify the liberty and self-government that it favors for the Filipinos with the phrase "as much as is good for them" or even "as much as they are capable of." It asks squarely and without any equivocation that a government be given the Philippines "as free, as liberal, and as progressive as our own." No government can be as free, as liberal, and as progressive as our own which leaves anybody but the governed to determine the kind of government. It demands also that the government to be given the Philippines shall be "in accordance with the sacred principles of liberty and self-government upon which the American republic so securely rests." The liberty and self-government upon which the American republic rests is the kind specified in the declaration of independence—liberty which is inalienable and self-government which rests upon the consent of the governed. Few anti-imperialists in this country have asked more for the Filipinos than the Massachusetts republicans voluntarily concede should be given them. To their honor be it said the Massachusetts republicans have shown themselves true to the great and underlying principles of their party, true to liberty, self-government, and the rights of man.—Portland (Me.) Press (rep.).

UNIFORMITY OF SOIL.

There is a remarkable uniformity in the soil of north-western Missouri, south-western Iowa and south-eastern Nebraska. In the Iowa counties of Mills, Fremont, Page and Montgomery, the Missouri counties of Atchison, Holt, Andrew and Nodaway and in the Nebraska counties of Cass, Otoe, Nemaha and Richardson the same soil covers all the fields. It is a rich, black loam. It is like the loess formation along the Rhine and therefore, phenomenally fertile and productive.

During the last fifty years—the Nebraska counties have only been opened to settlement since 1854—there has never been a total failure of crops in any one of the counties named in either state. Their average crops of corn have been, no doubt, during a half century, the largest per acre in the United States.

There are more well-fixed farmers in the counties named and fewer farms under mortgage than in a similar area anywhere in this republic. There are

very few mortgages representing anything besides deferred payments of the money agreed to be given for the lands.

In Fremont county, Iowa, and Atchison county, Missouri, are two of the largest cornfields in the world; the former is the Payne corn patch of eight thousand acres; and the Atchison county, Missouri, rejoices in the Dave Rankin cornfield of eleven thousand acres, the same being one of the fields in a farm of thirty thousand acres. And in all these counties the season of 1899 has been propitious and bountiful. Calamity howlers are aghast! In the presence of the matured corn crop, fat cattle, fat hogs and high prices for beef and pork even Bryanarchists are tonguetied. There is nothing upon which to base discontent. The people are prosperous. The honest, temperate and industrious are happy.

BANK CIRCULATION.

[From the New York Journal of Commerce.]

In 1873, the bank circulation stood at \$340,000,000; now, notwithstanding the increase of 55 per cent in population during the interval, the volume is only about 60 per cent of what it then was. In 1873, the bank notes outstanding constituted 45 per cent of the total stock of money; today, the proportion of that form of currency to the whole stock is only about 10 per cent. Twenty-six years ago the bank issues were \$8.00 per head of population; now they are \$3.00 per head.

A "WEAK" AND "CLOUDED" VERDICT.

Two occurrences of the year made consideration of the civil service laws suitable (in the resolutions of the Massachusetts republican convention)—the president's order removing a large body of officials from the protected lists and a determined attempt in the Massachusetts legislature to repeal the state laws. What is the verdict of the convention? In the first paragraph a weak affirmation of allegiance to the cause, clouded in the second paragraph by a plea for "adaptation" to changing conditions. Is the president to consider that in the eyes of Massachusetts republicans his order was right or wrong? Are the enemies of civil-service reform in the next legislature to be checked or to be comforted by the platform's declaration? Boston Journal (rep.).

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