

Jesuits and the Benedictines from all blame and expressed their approbation of both, especially of the Jesuits. What is startling about this long list of charges against Mr. McKinley is that the president of the United States should hereby offer another proof that he is susceptible of being biased in his official conduct by almost any persistent advocate of individual or class projects, whether political or religious. It is certainly not the business of the United States government to appoint Saints' days as public holidays, nor to furnish rosaries for Catholic soldiers, nor to grant favors to any religious society as such, and when it comes to giving away large tracts of national land to one sect, or two sects, or more, it is high time for the people to interfere. The motive is unmistakable; its existence is a degradation of the presidency, and a proof, if any were lacking, that the present incumbent is not fit for that high office.

ELIZABETH E. EVANS.

**BRYAN AND THE GOLD MEN.**

"Colonel Bryan went up to Port Huron, Michigan," says the San Francisco Call, "to point out a way for return of gold democrats to the party. After declaring that the Kansas City convention will stick to the Chicago platform, free silver, divinely appointed ratio and all, he kindly remarked: 'The gold democrats who come back can defend their coming on two grounds. They can say that they are convinced that the position taken by the party in 1896 was right and that they were wrong, or they can say that because of new questions that have arisen, and which will all be included in the platform, they are now willing to accept the platform as a whole.'

"How very nice of him! It is so kind for him to tell gold democrats what to say, to give them the password, as it were, by which they can pass the populist sentinels at the party gate!

"Then, his politico-medical idea of making the Chicago platform palatable by diluting it with new issues is worthy of study. He proposes to put the poison of 1896 in a tub full of fresh water and ask the gold men to come and drink it 'as a whole.'

**Wrong on Every Issue.**

"It is not apparent that any considerable number will rush for a sup of his diluted swash. The trouble with Colonel Bryan is that he has been proved to have been wrong on every issue he raised in 1896. Every statement he made in that campaign is proven false, every prophecy has failed. This makes the country suspicious of his judgment about new issues. He desires to sugar-coat the old pill with new issues, but there is a suspicion that the coating is glucose.

"His anxiety to bring the wandering

gold sinners back to his silver home is undoubted. It is manifest in frequent rumors that the said sinners are leap-frogging each other to get at the mourner's bench. Not long ago Mr. Cleveland was represented as on the way, clad in sackcloth, and with ashes on his head, and Carl Schurz was reported as a returning exile.

"But not long after these rumors thrilled the silver camp Mr. Cleveland in his Brooklyn dinner letter gave Mr. Bryan a backhander that made his political jaws ache, and now Carl Schurz is quoted to the effect that he regards Colonel Bryan as a curiosity, a most active, interesting, sincere curiosity. The same could be said of the living skeleton and the fat lady in the sideshow.

**Accessions Not from Gold Democrats.**

"Colonel Bryan's conspicuous accessions are not from the gold democracy. He has acquired Governor Pingree of Michigan, a populist republican, upon whom fads are as thick as ticks on a heifer smitten with Texas fever. His career as governor of Michigan has been distinguished by appointment of reformers to office, many of whom are now fugitives from justice, and some of whom are in the penitentiary. His joining the Bryan camp is significant of a quality therein that is most repugnant to gold democrats. It is the sand in which all sorts of isms, ologies, onomies and skim-milk theories breed. Bryan is attractive to every kind of fanaticism. The gold democrats are a rather steady and cool headed sort, and take their politics straight and solid. They don't like to touch elbows with populists, who think the law of gravitation can be repealed by an act of congress.

"They would rather have no holiday than picnic with Altgeld and Pingree. Therefore it is apparent that no gold democrats need go to Bryan early to avoid the rush. There will be none."

**PORTO RICO AND THE CONSTITUTION.**

A small proportion of the American citizens who exercise the duty of sovereigns in this country claim to be qualified constitutional lawyers, or would care to appear as public disputants on any clause of the constitution, yet every citizen has a general idea of the powers of the government under the constitution, and when those powers become operative. It may be said that Judge Lochren of the United States circuit court, in his opinion filed in the circuit court at Minneapolis yesterday, voiced the views of the average American citizen.

The question before Judge Lochren, stated in its briefest terms was: "When did the constitution of the United States extend to Porto Rico?" and the reply, as expressed in Judge Lochren's decision, was: "As soon as any exercise of government by the United States extended

thither," or, in familiar parlance, as soon as the flag got there. At the moment the flag of the United States, the symbol of its authority, was raised over the soil of Porto Rico that moment the protection of the constitution of the United States extended over the people and the country. The government—the executive, legislative and judicial departments of it—does not make the constitution. The constitution makes the government. It exists by virtue of the constitution. The national government of the United States was created and its power and jurisdiction granted and limited by the federal constitution. Where there is set up a government by the arms or will of the United States that government must of necessity conform to the constitution.

"It must be held," said Judge Lochren, "that upon the cession by Spain to the United States of the island of Porto Rico, that island became a part of the dominion of the United States, as much so as is Arizona or Minnesota; and that the constitution of the United States *ex propria vigore* at once extended over that island, and that this extension gave congress, whose every power must come from that instrument, the authority to legislate in respect to that island as a part of the United States territory."

What is law in the case of Porto Rico should be law for the Philippines and for all the territory over which the flag of the United States is today floating as a sign of possession. The duty of the hour is the firm establishment in these regions of the government of the United States according to the provisions of the constitution of the United States.—Kansas City Star.

**LITERARY NOTES.**

A life of General Isaac Ingalls Stevens, whose gallant charge upon Stonewall Jackson at Chantilly saved Pope's army and the United States from a great disaster, will be brought out in May by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. The Life of General Stevens is the work of his son Hazard Stevens, late brevet Brigadier General U. S. Volunteers. The elder Stevens rendered notable service to his country as an engineer officer on General Scott's staff in the Mexican War, and from 1853 to the breaking out of the Civil War as governor of Washington Territory. He commanded the survey of the Northern route for the Pacific Railroad, and made possible the settlement of the now great state of Washington by pacificating or subduing the Indians. The career of this brave and capable man makes not only an interesting biography but constitutes a valuable contribution to the history of the extreme Northwest and to the Civil War. The work has already been subscribed for by many historians and military men.