

UNCLASSIFIED.

The dear old State Journal drops for a moment the advocacy of its favorite candidate for senator to laud a certain well-known agricultural necessity. It says: "it is the *non plus ultra* of axle greases." The editorials of The Journal have, for time out of mind, non-plussed its readers while trying to tread the tortuous paths of its alleged tariff logic. But we had never before imagined it ultra enough to non-plus axle grease.

When God's chosen people decided to "loot" the Egyptians before starting back home, they called it "borrowing." The alleged chosen who are now engaged in the same "spoiling" of the Chinese, and seem unable to find a word which just exactly expresses this exemplification of Christ's teachings, may find "borrowing" more euphemistic than "loot" and at the same time no impediment to its continuation. Just as the politician quotes from the fathers of our republic to defend the most unscrupulous looting of the treasury, the church have always a text with which to burn a witch, torture a heretic or rob a heathen. The church today are borrowing the logic of the politician, but are at least going from home and are not burdened with the combined robbery and treason of a ship subsidy and river and harbor bill. Just as Jesse James was more honorable in his methods than those of the church in China, so is that of the church compared to the cowardly robbery under false pretenses attempted in the late and long to be lamented congress.

The war for the sake of the poor Cubans and to exhibit the beauty of American disinterestedness is over. The carpetbaggers have Cuba and Cuba will have a "constitution" if it suits us. Could suffering humanity and the spirit of liberty ask a more beautiful solution? In the language of Job, "it is just too sweet for anything."

People who complain that this is a "Godless nation" have evidently lost track of the fact that the benevolent, fostering care of this people, especially the poor and the laboring man, is now in the hands of the republican party. The full dinner pail provided for us makes "Give us this day our daily bread" a useless survival of the democratic regime. Since all the ills of the nation were set to rest by the McKinley bill, the Almighty has evidently turned his attention to less favored nations such as China, Africa and the Philippines. Five minutes will be allowed the reader at this point to recall, if possible, any blessing we now enjoy that is not claimed as the direct result of republican legislation, patriotism or God-like purity and benevolence. We know that the droughts of the early nineties were due to the democratic antipathy to water,

a democratic secretary of agriculture having overlooked the matter of moisture entirely. On the other hand twenty per cent. more wool grows on a sheep's back now than did before the high tariff measures of 1861. These are only given as samples to show that under the American system of legislation any interposition of divine providence is superfluous.

There has, perhaps, never been a more forceful picture of true republicanism than that given by the State Journal in a notice of Senator Morgan of Alabama. "Senator Morgan of Alabama is the best representative of the New South. * * * To all intents and purposes he is a republican, hardly disguised by the small fragment of the ass' skin that he wears from time to time to keep his constituents amused and contented. To the State Journal, a man who is a hypocrite, and false in his pretensions to principle and is a traitor to his party and misrepresents his state is "to all intents and purposes a republican." If the Journal's picture of the great defender of the Nicaragua steal is correct, all democrats will be pleased to know that "he is to all intents and purposes a republican." It is worth something to know from an authentic, stalwart source the republican idea of the "best representative," and that hypocrisy and deceit preclude a man from being a democrat and raises an absolute presumption that he belongs to the party of subsidy and cant.

Joseph Addison was a man who enjoyed a reputation in his time as having quite a literary turn of mind. Note his idea of newspapers. This too when the "news letter" was the size of a sheet of fools cap paper and was printed weekly if there was excitement enough in Europe to justify the expense:

"People are made politicians by the publication of state matters by the press. One cannot but be sorry that such a pernicious machine is erected among them." What would Joseph say now were he to come in contact with the brand of politicians we have on tap today? If he can establish the fact that the press is responsible there would be a large falling off in subscriptions. But today, instead of the newspaper producing pernicious politicians, he would

find the politician producing the pernicious sheet.

As the governor of North Carolina said to Mrs. Stanford, it is a long time since a professor was fired from the university. Mrs. Stanford appears to be losing her interest in education and freedom of speech. She acts just as if she was mother-in-law to the thing.

A republican paper, speaking of the re-organization of democracy, remarks: "What we need is not democracy, but a rest." There is nothing to indicate whether this was intended for wit or argument. The learned editor overlooked facts, as they are of little use in republican editorial toyings with truth. The main fact is that we have had a rest from democracy now for four years and everybody except republican managers are tired of the rest and would like to see a little democracy instilled into the party that was fathered by Jefferson and damned by Bryan. Even the pure food act would appear to discountenance the purveying of populism under a democratic label.

General Rassieur, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., works himself into a fine frenzy because certain congressmen, he alleges, are false to their organization in not voting for enough pension raids. He even reflects upon the president, and intimates that they are violating their obligations taken on initiation. There is an oath prescribed by the constitution for the president and our representatives and it might be interesting to have a quotation of the obligation that is of higher obligation. It is barely possible these men were elected by another body known as American citizens, whose interests, by a legal fiction, are in the hands of congress.

As the president is a creature of the constitution and the constitution does not extend to the Philippines, by what authority and what name does he rule the islands? As Edward VII is king of Great Britain and Ireland and emperor of India, to show his absolute rule in the latter, should not McKinley be known as president of the United States, dictator of the Philippines and guardian ad litem of Cuba?

T. M. S.

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