

UNCLASSIFIED.

When Aguinaldo takes the oath of allegiance to the United States, what does that make of him? Is he a citizen of the United States, or is he just a Filipino as before?

By the time the golden rule gets fairly associated with the Ohio brand of politics, it won't be able to distinguish the truth, once concealed on its person, from a Holcomb resolution against passes.

Half a column of the Commoner is devoted to the logic of Jasper, the "sun do move" negro preacher. The most casual reader must be struck with the old familiar logic, and how perfectly congruous it seems in its setting of financial and commercial heresies.

When it comes to marriage, the great social reformer of other men, Herron, is not so much opposed to plutocracy as his words have implied. Like the Irishman, who had taken the pledge, when offered his favorite drink, accepted, saying: "Yis, I om timperance, but no dom fanatic."

The complexity of modern civilization is well shown in the Chinese affair. Europe will compel China to put up a monster indemnity to pay her for "damages and costs." Then will turn in, after the amount is fixed, and furnish the whole amount to China through British capitalists, and everybody will be happy.

"Poor old civil service reform is having a hard time!" This is a remark made by Rodenberg while in training for his position. What kind of a time is "poor old civil service" likely to have, now that McKinley has appointed this great reformer to a seat on the commission. Everything points to the administration's intentions to "benevolently assimilate" civil service reform. "We are strictly a business administration."

For a cartoon, illustrating the crucifixion of Cuba, the artist and publisher have been placed in limbo by the exponents of American ideas in Havana. Can the administration show any reason for less freedom of the press in our dependencies than at home? Are the Cubans to be civilized on different and improved lines? We are supposed to be at peace with Cuba, and surely "military necessity" can not be pleaded for Russian methods of establishing freedom.

Judge Howard of the Columbus Telegram admits that Lieutenant Governor

Savage is an honorable and worthy gentleman, and there are mighty few democrats who would say as much for any republican.—Lincoln State Journal.

If the State Journal had remembered the company with which Judge Howard so long associated, it would have realized how he could even view a republican politician with complacency. All things are comparative. The devil is said to associate agreeably with a state legislature.

It is said that the foreman is the real editor of a paper. The sense of humor in the foreman of the Commoner is shown by the following, injected into the editorial page: "No money is, in a moral sense, earned, unless the person who receives the money, makes to society an adequate return for the same." It is strange that the bitter irony of this aphorism should have escaped the blue pencil of the peerless.

The driver of the "Bridewell" wagon in Chicago has the entire legal fraternity at his heels. A criminal was being conveyed to the court room for the usual process of being turned loose. The driver anticipated the action of the court and granted a *habeus corpus* on his own motion. As the criminal had not paid his attorney fee, nor completed "arrangements" with the "court," it appears the driver is to be declared in contempt of both the court and the attorneys.

It took nearly a column in the Lincoln State Journal to state why all her labored editorials upon the loveliness of a protective tariff, were not intended to apply to wood pulp. There is, of course, nothing but love of country in this recent astonishment upon the part of newspapers, that printing paper should advance in price when the gospel of republicanism requires a tariff to benefit the consumer, while the manufacturer has been at all the labor and expense necessary to impress a "business administration."

Professor Herron's populist methods of social reform bear a very marked resemblance to the political reforms of Croker, Altgeld, and Lee Herdman. The more we see of them the less we like them. The professor might borrow Senator Allen's friends long enough to have them make affidavit that he was virtuous one day. As the professor was seriously ill a few years ago, they might, by "looking backwards" even do better numerically than they did for the senator.

Platt wants the opportunity to explain to Cuba that his resolution will convey to her the same measure of independence that he grants his own party

in New York. The genius of American liberty is not comprehended by the Cubans. It is base ingratitude, for favors shown, for them to not permit Platt to run their island with the same resolution he does the Empire state. This is a spirit of revolt that would not be permitted for one moment in his own state. The delegation should visit New York, where Platt's idea of liberty is on exhibition daily.

There is every evidence now that Aguinaldo is going to take the oath of allegiance to the republican party and hold office. Then, where will the Commoner stand with regard to George Washington, jr. Aguinaldo has read the life of Mosby, and learned that a guerrilla voting the republican ticket is purified, as a sinner by the blood of the Lamb. While a patriot, who votes the democratic ticket, is a rebel sympathizer. The grace of God, at a Methodist camp-meeting, is a tame affair, compared to the grace of republicanism to a rebel voting for a high tariff and its God-given blessings.

It seems to be a question now, as to which is the administration favorite, Aguinaldo or Funston. Aguinaldo is just beginning to realize how much he lost by not having formed an earlier acquaintance with the man who "is only a boss scout." His future advancement simply depends upon his ability to carry the primaries in the back counties.

War is ended in Marinduque. Of course, no one knows where Marinduque is, or what to call it, if they had it located. But, it is a pleasure to know the war is over some place, and before we had to display our ignorance of geography.

Poor old Illinois! Four years of Altgeld and strikes, four years of Tanner and corruption, now faces four years of Yates and imbecillity. The son of his father has already shown that he is a tool of the Lorimer gang—a gang that was actually a disgrace to Tanner. Of a most disreputable appointment, the News says: "There, the governor cannot plead ignorance, though, on most questions of public policy, probably, it will be found that he is ignorant enough to satisfy the most exacting tastes." This, in a nutshell, is the people's measure of a small bore incompetent, elected upon the sentiment of his father's reputation—a reputation, by the way, due, entirely, to the time he filled the office, and not the ability with which it was not graced.

That we have a "business" administration was placed beyond doubt by the late reduction in the tobacco tax for stock imported from Porto Rico. We