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THE ACT OF A SHREWD BUSINESS MAN.

The Telegram says "Congressman Moody will be unanimously renominated and re-elected, as he is a very active, unshakable business man," but the Telegram thinks Mr. Moody would have been stronger among the people of the second congressional district if he had voted against the Puerto Rican tariff bill. The CHRONICLE doubts very much if Mr. Moody would have strengthened himself among thinking Republicans, here or elsewhere, if, at the very outset of his congressional career, he had set up his judgment against that of his Republican colleagues, gone off on a tangent and voted with the Democrats. An older member may do with impunity what a younger member does at the risk of his future usefulness and influence in the councils of his party. Legislative usefulness consists, to a large extent, in having the confidence and affection of one's colleagues. Who is more likely to command legislative favors Moody, Tongue and McBride, who supported their Republican colleagues when, as they believed, a great principle was at stake, or Simon who deserted them and went over to the enemy? Apart from the merits of the question involved in the bill Mr. Moody acted the part of the shrewd, "capable" business man that he is. He stood by his Republican colleagues when they needed him; they will stand by him when he needs them. When a congressman's head swells out so big that he pits himself against the united wisdom of his party the good that he might accomplish through his party is at an end. But the action of Messrs. Moody, Tongue and McBride is not defended on the mere ground of expediency. The bill is now published broadcast and the man who carefully notes its provisions can conclude how far Democratic and Republican opposition was justified in exhausting the vocabulary of abuse in condemning it. It is a practical free trade measure. Every cent of tax collected under it will be spent upon the islanders. It is in no sense the offspring of the clamor of the sugar and tobacco trusts. The world knows no instance of a trust asking for protected raw materials. The tax will fall on those who are best able to bear it, and not to any appreciable extent upon the "storm-swept and starving" Puerto Ricans. Every man who voted for the bill, rightly or wrongly, believed that a direct tax, under existing conditions, would have been impossible and oppressive; and the result is a measure that in point of considerateness and generosity has hardly an equal in the annals of legislation. It is in no sense a permanent policy. When a territorial government is established in the island and the legislative assembly of Puerto Rico shall have put in operation a system of local taxation to meet the necessities of the government it will then become the duty of the president to issue a proclamation abolishing all tariff restrictions between the island and the mainland. And this is the bill that the Oregonian has been patting Senator Simon on the back for opposing and over which Bryanite orators and a Bryanized press have been tearing their hair in a frenzy! The day will come when an intelligent and candid populace will own before the world that it took more Republican courage to stand up and be counted for such a measure, in the teeth of the mad and unreasoning clamor against it, than it took to yield to popular clamor and vote with the opposition.

THREE QUESTIONS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

A few weeks ago a suit was brought against the collector of customs in the city of New York to recover some two million dollars collected on imports from Puerto Rico

upon the ground that the constitution extended to Puerto and that the collection of the duties was in violation of Article I, Section 8 of the constitution, which says: "All duties, imports and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States." It ought to be instructive to note that the plaintiffs in the case are Lawrence Turnure & Co., American sugar refining company, L. W. & P. Armstrong, Muller Schall & Co., John Farr and Metchor, Armstrong & Dessau. One of the principal parties, it will be seen, is the American Sugar Refining Company, which is the corporate name of the American Sugar Trust. Of the two millions and over involved in the suit, some eighteen hundred thousand dollars represent the duties paid on sugar and tobacco. Now the opponents of the Puerto Rican tariff unanimously assert that the change of front in the administration and among administration Republicans that resulted in a tariff on the products of Puerto Rico was brought about at the demand of the sugar and tobacco trusts. There are three things involved in this assumption that demand explanation. First, how is it that of the fifteen delegates from Puerto Rico who have been in Washington endeavoring to manufacture free trade sympathy for the island we find Judge Finley, a British subject, owner of one of the best sugar plantations on the island, a banker and vice consul of Great Britain; R. F. Latimer, merchant and planter and consul of Austria and Hungary; and Arturo Bravo, rich planter and merchant, and that every one of the fifteen delegates is personally interested in sugar and tobacco or other products that free trade with the United States will materially benefit? Second: Why should the sugar and tobacco trusts ask to have a tariff placed on these products when all their interest lie the other way? When was it ever known that a trust was in favor of tariffed raw materials? And, lastly, how can any reasoning being believe that the trusts are in the United States courts denying the constitutional power of congress to impose a duty on raw sugar and unmanufactured tobacco imported by them into New York, and at the same time have a lobby in Washington advocating the imposition of a duty on these products? Till these questions are answered in a manner that will commend itself to ordinary human intelligence THE CHRONICLE will insist that the demagogue is abroad in the land and that, as ever, he is banking on the success of falsehood, through unreasoning prejudice and credulous ignorance.

The only legislation suggested in the present congress which was in the interest of the sugar trust was proposed by Senator Jones, of Arkansas, a Democrat, of course, who on the 15th of March introduced the following amendment to an appropriation bill: "That all duties collected to this date upon articles imported into the United States from Puerto Rico since the 11th day of April, 1899, the date of the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of peace between Spain and the United States, be returned to the persons from whom they were collected and from and after the passage of this act no duties shall be collected on articles coming from Puerto Rico." If this amendment had been adopted \$2,090,000 would have been returned to the trusts that are now suing the government for its recovery. The "storm-swept and starving" Puerto Ricans, over whom Democrats and recreant Republicans are shedding crocodile tears, would never have gotten a cent of it.

The Albany Democrat notes with astonishment, if not with alarm, that a Democratic candidate for a Linn county office was seen the other day in a Democratic convention with a "white ribbon boldly pinned on his coat," indicating his temperance principles. What is the world coming to anyway?

More large cities have gone Republican this spring than was ever known before in the beginning of a presidential year.

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ADMINISTRATION POLICY JUSTIFIED.

The plea urged by Republicans in justification of the Puerto Rican tariff bill is entitled to candid Republican consideration. They insist that until a local system of government is organized no other way of providing for the immediate and pressing necessities of the island is possible. Puerto Rico is more densely populated than any country in Europe. Of its million inhabitants 800,000 derive their living directly from the soil, and 900,000 can neither read nor write. A widespread and grinding poverty, unknown in Europe or America, has prevailed under Spanish rule. In a majority of families the heads are unmarried because under Spanish rule they had not the money to pay for the marriage ceremony. They have no roads, no school houses and no public improvements. They live in huts consisting of one room, and have work only during the coffee, tobacco and sugar season at wages of from 10 to 30 cents a day. They subsist principally on fruits and most of them have never known bread and meat as they are known to the very poorest Americans. The land is owned in 43,000 estates and the owners are mostly Spaniards, English and other foreigners. Their principal exports are, in the order of their importance, coffee, tobacco and sugar. Just as the introduction of American methods had begun to produce beneficent results a calamity occurred that has no parallel as affecting the whole people of a country. A hurricane swept the island and destroyed nearly the whole of the coffee plantations and brought widespread, although less serious, disaster to the sugar and tobacco plantations. The coffee planters being, all of them, in debt had no credit and no resources with which to repair the ruin the hurricane had wrought. In twenty-four hours 800,000 people were left without occupation or means of support, and the planters without credit or means to clear their farms or employ the labor that was clamoring for work to keep them from starving. Had not the island been under the generous care of the United States there would have been suffering and starvation that would have appalled the civilized world. It was under these conditions that it became necessary to provide means for conducting the government of the island; for providing work for the people; for repairing as far as the government might the waste and ruin the hurricane had wrought; for building school houses and making other public improvements that existing conditions made imperative. How shall this necessary revenue be raised? That was the question. No one proposed that a draft should be made on the United States treasury because no one wanted to turn the Puerto Ricans into an island of mendicants. Two other methods were at the choice of the administration. A custom duty on imports and exports between the island and the mainland, or a direct tax in the form of internal revenue. The former method was adopted for these two principal reasons. To collect a direct tax off the islanders required elaborate governmental machinery that was not in existence. To organize this machinery required time, and immediate relief was imperative. But an adequate direct tax was, under existing conditions of distress and ruin, an utter impossibility. General Davis, governor of the island, testified before the committee that, "A general system of taxation to produce revenue enough to carry on the government of the island would amount to confiscation." Other testimony confirmed that of General Davis overwhelmingly and the administration, that had contemplated immediate free trade with the island, was compelled to yield to the force of circumstances and adopt an 85 per cent reduction of the Dingley tariff till such time as a local government has been established in the island when absolute free trade will rule. We submit in all honesty and candor that the administration could not have acted otherwise than as it did; that the bill is most considerate and generous and that the opposition to it, where its

history is properly understood, is in the highest degree factional and unreasonable.

If the sugar and tobacco trusts are so dreadfully anxious to have their imports of raw sugar and tobacco from Puerto Rico taxed why don't they ship at once the two crops of these products the associated press correspondent says they hold in the island, and pay the entire Dingley rates as they would have to do at the present time? If they want taxed raw materials, as Democrats and certain alleged Republicans say they do, what in the name of goodness are they waiting for? And why are they suing the government for the \$2,000,000 of taxes paid by them on Puerto Rican imports since the annexation of the island?

A subordinate scribbler in the Oregonian charges THE CHRONICLE with having made several "attacks" on Senator Simon. THE CHRONICLE has not "attacked" the senator. It has impugned his judgment as a young member of the senate in deserting his party and voting with the opposition. The right of the senator to join in the unreasoning and senseless clamor against the policy of the party that created him and thus put the administration "in a hole" is conceded.

THE CHRONICLE once heard an ex-governor of this state define the difference between an idiot and an "eejot" as follows: An idiot is a damphool who knows he is a damphool. An "eejot" is a damphool who doesn't know it. The man who wrote the following, which appeared in yesterday's Oregonian, is several kinds of an "eejot": "Ex-Senator John H. Mitchell stops off at The Dalles, en route from Pendleton to Portland. Next day The Dalles CHRONICLE makes a thrust or two at Senator Simon. But as Mr. Mitchell is "out of politics," the paper's action is merely a coincidence."

An esteemed Bryanite contemporary, who is long on imagination and short on facts, has made the discovery that the candidacy of Admiral Dewey is nothing but a deep-laid scheme of the McKinleyites to down the great tribune of aggregated unrest.

What is Higher Criticism?

This was the subject of Rev. U. F. Hawk's sermon at the M. E. church last evening. His text was: "Say not, then, 'What is the cause that former days were better than these?' for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this." Ecclesiastes vii:10.

The preacher said: "Since the fall of Adam there has ever been a conflict between faith and unbelief. From the death of Abel at the hand of his elder brother Cain, faith has been heralded as weak and ready to die. Faith has ever been regarded as being in the apparently weak minority and unbelief in the powerful majority, by the whole world. Every age has had its conflicts, and some who know little of the terrific battles of past ages tremble lest unbelief in the present contest will prevail over the Captain of the Lord's Host and snatch away the treasure of believers. Better men than ourselves have been trembling for the safety of the ark of God. Two hundred years ago England had its champions against the Bible. There were Blount, Tolan, Shaftesbury, Tindal, Hume and Voltaire in France. The work of the modern critic is mostly that of thrashing old straw. Professor Christlieb once asked, 'Why do Americans and Englishmen gather so much of the theological rubbish that we Germans throw away?' There are many theological scavengers. Many applaud recklessness in the pulpit and think it is a type of advanced intelligence. This may be illustrated as follows: High Church—'Is your new minister an intellectual man?' Luke Warm—'Very. He's been tried twice for heresy and thinks the saloon a necessity.'

Mr. Hawk took the ground that the present form of higher criticism is simply German and French rationalism over again. The predictions of eighteenth century rationalists that Christianity would in a short time vanish from the earth had been falsified by history. The thousands of tomes of rationalist works produced in those days are only known now by the antiquarian. Christianity has marched steadily on and increasing millions have surrendered themselves to its power. He compared Christianity to a majestic train of cars sweeping past mountains and valleys, villages and farm houses, orchards laden with autumn fruit, and fields of grain ripening in the autumn sun. The passengers looked upon the passing scene as our fathers have looked perhaps with awe, perhaps betimes with a species of admiration at the

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genius of such men as Hume and Voltaire and others of their class, but the train sped on its majestic way and the passing objects are only remembered as a dream of the night.

The Excursion to Hood River.

The excursion to Hood River Saturday proved to be a novel affair for some sixty persons, teachers, pupils and friends of education, who availed themselves of the trip. The wind greeted us as we boarded the Dalles City, but it did not keep the merry crowd in the cabin, as the mountains were never grander in their first rich coloring of spring.

As we approached Hood River landing, we saw several conveyances provided by the accommodating livery man of Hood River to take the party to Crapper school, where we purposed to have luncheon. The rain greeted us as we took our places in the carriages, but we only laughed and said, "We'll take our ride any way." By the time we reached the school building at Hood River it began to snow. This welcome was irresistible, and it was decided to "bide a wee" in the comfortable building.

After visiting with teachers of Hood River, the party was entertained by the following impromptu program: Recitation by Miss Emma Roberts; song by Loto Kelsey; selections from Webster's Bunker Hill monument orations by Mabel Collins, Ola Norman, Earl Curtis, Clarence Gilbert, Maud Michell, Olive Slate, Constance Whealdon and Francis Sexton.

Supt. Gilbert then announced that lunch was ready and we soon proved that we, too, were ready. Toasts were given by Messrs. R. R. Allard, J. T. Neff, J. S. Landers, E. L. Smith, G. W. Brown, Fred H. Barnes, Charles W. Dietzel, Revs. Hershner and Benson and Misses Bess Isenberg and Melissa Hill.

The toasts brought sunshine. For how long? We promised not to tell. We know some of the party took a short drive up the valley, returning in time to wait an hour for the boat. But even waiting did not discourage the pleasure seekers. With the singing, the numerous class yells, the calls for lost baskets, and the story of lost horses from the Dufur delegation, the time quickly passed.

Coming home is always a pleasure; and as the company parted at the dock there seemed to be written on every face, "I am glad that we are at home, and although we did not have what we expected, we enjoyed much which we did not expect."

Respectfully Declined. THE DALLES, April 7, 1900.

To THE EDITOR: I note in your issue of last evening that I was nominated in the Prohibition convention that met here yesterday for the office of county judge. Permit me to say to the good people of this county that my name was used without my knowledge or consent and that I am not a candidate for that office nor any other in the gift of the people.

E. J. COLLINS, Mrs. Dewey Changes Church. WASHINGTON, April 8.—A report was in circulation here tonight that Mrs. Dewey had left the Catholic church and had become an Episcopalian; but no verification of the rumor could be obtained.

Census Districts of Wasco County.

For the purpose of taking the census Wasco county has been divided into the districts as follows:

- East Dalles, (exclusive of The Dalles city); West Dalles (exclusive of The Dalles city); Eight Mile and mountain precincts.
- The Dalles city (part of); all of East Dalles precinct within the corporate limits of Dalles city.
- Bigelow (coextensive) and The Dalles city (part of) precincts.
- Trevitt precinct (coextensive) and The Dalles city (part of).
- The Dalles city (part of); all of West Dalles precinct within the limits of Dalles city.
- Falls and Viento.
- East Hood River precinct (exclusive of Hood River town, part of) Baldy and Mosier precincts.
- Hood River town and West Hood River precinct.
- Columbia, Des Chutes, Nansens and Boyd precincts.
- Dufur precinct (including Dufur village), Kingsley and Ramsey precincts.
- Tygh Valley, Wanic and Oak Grove precincts.
- Bakeoven precinct and Antelope precinct (including Antelope village).

FOR SALE.

A farm of 123 acres, about 80 acres of which is under cultivation, with a fine young orchard of two acres in full bearing; abundance of living water and good frame dwelling and barn and other farm buildings. Twelve miles east of The Dalles and four miles east of Boyd precinct. Farm will be sold, with or without the growing crop of about 80 acres. Price with out crop \$1000, and terms very easy, as owner's health compels a change of climate. Apply to w47-11 M. W. FREEMAN, Boyd, Ore.

Card of Thanks.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to the Modern Woodman and the members of the Calvary Baptist church, friends and neighbors for their kindness shown to us during our sickness and my husband's death. May God bless and reward them in my prayer.

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