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THE BRYAN SNEER AT HISTORY

Bryan is either fundamentally ignorant of his country's history or he is shamefully trying to mislead public sentiment.

In 1803 Jefferson paid \$15,000,000 for Louisiana. That was a higher price per head, if the bargain is to be so described, than was given for the Philippines.

In 1819 Gen. Jackson gave \$5,000,000 for Florida. This also explains Philippine quotations.

In 1848 President Polk paid \$18,250,000 for New Mexico and California.

In 1853 President Pierce paid \$10,000,000 for the Gadsden territory.

In 1867 President Johnson paid \$7,200,000 for Alaska.

In all, prior to the purchase of the Philippines, we paid about \$56,000,000 for new territory, in none of which was the inhabitants' consent to be governed ever asked for, and in none of which, when consent was forcibly refused, did the authority of the United States fail to be upheld by the occupant of the White house and the military forces under his command.

This democratic assault upon the present administration, which is following bravely in the footsteps of its illustrious predecessors in expanding American territory, is a dastardly pretence, without the shadow of historical justification.

LEST WE FORGET.

The inauguration of a democratic president in March, 1893, marked the beginning of the most distressful times ever known in this country.

In the preceding November the majority of the nation's working people had seen fit to try the experiment of bettering their condition through entrusting political power to the democratic party in both the administrative and legislative branches of the government.

The suddenness and completeness with which this terrible change in 1893 was wrought in the fortunes of the American people, furnished a fearfully bitter lesson.

"The prime essential of business prosperity is public confidence in the good sense of the government and in its ability to deal intelligently with each new problem of administration and legislation.

"How can any farmer be a republican?" asks Mr. Bryan, and the New York Sun proceeds to assure him that his curiosity will be piqued still more when he hears from Kansas next November.

POINT OF ARGUMENT MISSED.

The Porto Rican election laws require that voters shall have been residents of the municipality for one year, that they must be taxpayers and that they must read and write.

The Democrat misses the point of the republican argument. The republicans are not "howling" at democratic restriction of the ballot, per se, but at the hypocrisy of Bryanism that "howls" about its restriction among the ignorant masses in our new possessions while democratic restriction, among a much more intelligent class of voters in the South, is accepted without apology, much less condemnation.

The populist candidate for governor of Texas has withdrawn from the ticket and written a letter in which he roundly denounces the democratic party for its inconsistency. At Bryan's statement that the republican party will destroy the republican form of government he is particularly scathing, saying the democrats are the only organized party that ever deliberately shot to death the American flag.

"Moneyed men are back of Bryan, according to a Portlander recently returned from the East. In New York \$300,000,000 is in the banks on which only from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 per cent can be secured. If Bryan is elected an unsettled condition of affairs will ensue for a while and interest will run up to 6, 8 or even 10 per cent.

PUZZLES IN CITIZENSHIP ARE SOLVED.

Here is something real funny. If it has any moral it probably is that an ounce of common sense is worth a whole law library, even if the library has its habitation in the brain of a justice of the supreme court.

A Porto Rican who is studying law at Washington applied the other day at the clerk's office of the supreme court of the District of Columbia for "first papers."

His honor was rather perplexed for a while, but he concluded that the

stated way out of the dilemma was for the applicant to take oath and forswear allegiance to Porto Rico.

This was singular enough. Is, then, Porto Rico a nation, a sovereign power to which allegiance is due? No, she is a territory of the United States.

The second solution was by no means an improvement on the first. Allegiance to Spain was wiped out by the ratification of the peace treaty, and Castro was no more a subject of Spain at the time of his application than he was a subject of the sultan or of the czar.

In Baltimore, where the registration officials had not the advantage of the advice of a justice of the supreme court, but had in lieu thereof a supply of simple, common sense, the question was solved in a jiffy. Five Porto Ricans applied there last Monday for registration.

Our Bryanite contemporaries see all manner of frightful things in this simple, common-sense decision. And the one at home here seems, as usual, worse scared than any of them and asks in wild astonishment and terror:

"Has the simple proclamation of the president, unauthorized by congress, admitted to citizenship 9,000,000 of people, whom the imperialists claim are heathens, incapable of self government? Have all these degenerate beings, 6,000 miles away, been made legal voters in the United States and granted the rights and privileges of the most favored citizens?"

No, bless your dear, simple soul, no. The proclamation of the president has admitted nobody to citizenship. The treaty of annexation, that was ratified largely through Mr. Bryan's influence with eighteen anti-republicans, accomplished whatever change was made in the political relationship of these people. And now the Porto Rican and the Filipino stand in the same relation to American citizenship as the New Mexican, Alaskan or native of Arizona.

"THEY'RE ALL COMIN'."

You ought to see the letters I'm a gettin' here of late. Sometimes there's a dozen. An' sometimes only eight.

They're comin' from all over. The North, East, South an' West. An' I'm that busy answerin' 'em, That I don't git any rest.

ONLY ONE REPUBLICAN SPEECH

An Eastern Bryanite paper the other day wrotten contemptuously of "the one speech which Theodore Roosevelt is making every day in the west," and the New York Sun replies by saying its esteemed contemporary pays to Roosevelt a compliment due to the entire republican stump army.

There is only one republican speech this year, says the Sun. It varies according to the intellectual grasp or the rhetoric of the individual speaker, but in substance it is always the same, because never in any section of the union does it slur any part of the republican platform.

In every republican speech will be found a plea for these three things: Loyalty to the flag. Preservation of the national credit. Inviolability of the courts.

FACTS FOR WOOL-GROWERS. The sheep of the United States are worth twice as much money today as they were at the close of the year 1896.

In 1892, under the McKinley protective tariff, the imports of wool amounted to but 148,000,000 pounds and the home production was 294,000,000 pounds.

In 1899, under the Dingley tariff which thoroughly protected the wool growers of the United States, the imports fell to 76,000,000 pounds, the production increased to 272,000,000 pounds, and the price increased to 28 cents per pound.

It is suggested that the vote of Carl Schurz for Bryan should be indorsed on the back as "good only provided a republican congress acts this fall so as to render Bryan powerless for mischief."

I saw a sweet young mother stand Where snow had drifted off the land, A babe was lying on her breast.

In later years I passed once more And saw her at the cottage door: A boy was lying on her knee,

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