

# The Democrat.

An Unjust Law.

Porto Rico is outside the Constitution but it is inside the Dingley tariff, and the Dingley tariff is worse than the Spanish one.

The antiquated Constitution will look like thirty cents when the republican leaders get through with it. But then, as General Merritt declared, we have outgrown the Constitution.

If Congress will not give Porto Rico free trade with this country, it should at least give it free necessities of life. It is all right to make a precedent, perhaps, but it seems hard to starve women and children in order to do so.

The imagination shrinks from conceiving what the administration organs would say of Senator Chandler, if he hailed from one of the western states instead of from New Hampshire. A monarchist and traitor would be the mildest epithets that they could apply to him.

Possibly there are many republicans who are opposed to trusts. But the party as a whole sits supine and lets them work their will on the country, without an effort to curb their destructive powers. If the party is wise, it will try to do something before the next election.

The fact that Queen Victoria, has found it necessary to call out her old soldiers for defense, shows that there is something behind the scenes. Nothing of the sort is necessary if the Boers only are to be considered.

Porto Rican merchants announce that the island is worse off now than under Spanish rule. There is no reason to doubt their statements. The annexation has cut off the few resources that the island had under Spanish rule and has given nothing in return.

Senator Gorman has declared himself as standing for the nominee of the democratic party. He does not profess to be in favor of Bryan but he will stand for him if nominated. So other men who held aloof or were cold in 1896, can now afford to return to the old mother party and add to save the country from the consequences of republican misrule.

The republicans are in a bad way. They all claim that McKinley will have a walk over this fall, but nevertheless they are walking more gingerly than a great party ever did under similar circumstances. They are afraid to push the Hay-Pannicote treaty, the subsidy bill or the reciprocity treaties, all of which are party measures and they are in imminent danger of being defeated on the Porto Rican tariff bill.

The South African war has shown clearly that the efficiency of modern arms has rendered war much less bloody. If it had not been for British foolhardiness and want of strategy, there would have been far fewer wounded than there are. But even at the worst there were fifty battles in our civil war with more casualties than in any yet fought in South Africa. The casualties at Bull Run alone were over 4,000 half of the entire British loss after half a dozen defeats.

If reports coming through the British censor are to be accepted as true, the British have now begun their first decisive campaign. As in all previous campaigns they were defeated, those were not decisive; for it is one peculiarity of the British military character that nothing is decisive but British victory, whether it ever comes or not. We must be prepared, therefore, to regard Lord Roberts' movement along the Modder river as decisive or not according to whether he wins the fighting or the Boers win it. If the Boers win, another decisive campaign will be made by the British.—Ex.

Mr. McBride thinks he will be returned to the U. S. senate. Many of the people of Oregon think he ought not to be regarded of politics.

One of the most striking examples of bias runs against the interests of a people in the passage of the Porto Rican tariff bill. It was done in the face of the recommendation of the President in his message that there be no tariff on the island. Not only that but to add to the misery of the case the President was whipped into line and made to sanction the bill, the same he was whipped into line years ago on the money question. The bill was passed directly against the welfare of the people of the island simply because the machine that runs the administration demanded it. The machine headed by Mr. Hanna demanded it because it was asserted that free trade even with one of our "colonies" would be inconsistent with the main plank in the republican platform for the last many years. The action on this or any other basis is a disgrace to our advanced civilization. Porto Rico is now as much a part of the United States, call it what you please, as any of the states, and under our constitution is entitled to be treated in the same way. Aye more, with more privileges if there are to be any distinctions, for will she not need help while getting a start under the new condition of affairs. Instead of robbing her people we should assist them. Whether 15 per cent tariff or 25 per cent or 50 per cent, just the same the act is unconstitutional and wrong. This is not a statement biased by politics but a fact every reasonable man will appreciate.

## Puerto Rico and Free Trade

We do not hesitate to say that the situation constitutes a shameful and a sinister reproach.—Washington Post.

Spain by following a selfish policy failed as a colonizer, and a liberal and enlightened policy is the wisest and most profitable in the long run.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

We might just as well charge a duty on Oregon products brought into Washington, as to make our Puerto Rico people pay for a market in New York.—Everett Independent.

Either give the Puerto Ricans free trade with the rest of the United States territory or else do not erect any barriers to their trade with the outside world.—Chicago Record.

It is a narrow and mistaken idea that the development of Puerto Rico's resources and the increase of desirable products are harmful to us. It is not too late to do justice to Puerto Rico.—Baltimore American.

What a puerile policy it is for a nation like this, prosperous, enterprising and commercially strong beyond comparison, to hold a tariff club over these people. New York Mail and Express.

The administration party in congress is making the most common welfare of the Puerto Rican a consideration subordinate to that of certain protected interests at home, and if the president is resisting this course, the fact is not generally known about the capitol at Washington.—Springfield Republican.

General Miles is a level-headed man. He thinks it was a big thing for four thousand patriots to stand off for ten days fifty thousand Englishmen. Cronje is certainly the hero of that contest.

## Bright Sayings.

It is the manner of noble souls to do nothing by halves.—Weiland.

It is a part of good breeding that a man should be polite even to himself.—Richter.

Nothing else is necessary to make you wretched than to fancy you are so.

In general those who have nothing to say contrive to spend the longest time in doing it.—Lewell.

The discussion as to what part Mark Hanna will take in the next campaign would be simplified if some one should find out what part Mark wants to take.—The Chicago Record.

## SATURDAY NIGHT THOUGHTS

The great South African war stands like a colossus in the events of the past week. Other things are pigmies beside it in the public mind. The people of the entire world are watching the war with intense interest, hardly willing to wait for the papers to learn the latest. This week has seen the tide setting in favor of the English. This is as certainly must be expected with 180,000 soldiers against 60,000. The showing so far made by the Boers though has been phenomenal, surprising the English more, if possible, than any one else. The surrender of Cronje after a contest that was decidedly to the credit of the Boer, from a fighting standpoint, and the relief of Ladysmith, after many of the Boers had withdrawn from the siege to rush to the assistance of the main army against Roberts, have placed the advantage entirely on the side of the English, besides having given them confidence where at one time they were in despair. But the war is not ended, and the hardest fighting of the unjust contest is to occur in the future. If the English win it will be after a struggle as fierce as that of Waterloo.

In Congress the principal event has been the passing by the House of a tariff bill for Porto Rico, an unjust measure from any standpoint in which it is placed, hence entitled to a place in these Saturday night thoughts. Men may endorse it from political reasons, but from no other. A tariff on Oregon products shipped into other states would be as reasonable.

The Democrat man has just read with a great deal of pleasure that rapid thought and much of it leads to longevity. These long life mathematicians are interesting fellows with twenty story heads.

Joaquin Miller, who has been in the valley this week has the widest fame of any Oregonian, stretching around the globe. He is known in the old world about as well as on this side of the big pond. In fact it is said that he stands higher in England than in the United States, that is, that he did. It is doubtful if they would show for him now very much after his pro-Boer poem. He has been placed even beside Longfellow. In this country while he is considered a genius his poems are not very much read and he is looked upon as an oddity about as much as anything. It is strange that men with his ability should lose their balance wheel and fly off into long hair, freak cabins and strange personal maneuvers.

The thing that counts in a person is character, not clothes, and yet it is agreeable to see good taste accompany good character.

How quickly you can tell the character of a new comer by the company kept. A week will settle almost any persons social position. Birds of a feather will flock together from ground birds to peacocks.

The man back east who told the students under him that ninety per cent of the marriages are failures is getting some live solar plexus blows from the editors and others who fare happily mated. The Democrat man is glad to unite in telling him what a big liar he is. And yet for a fact there are too many unhappy couples because they have never learned the golden rule and place self first. Ninety per cent though is twice too large, and we hope there are not forty, but perhaps there are.

There is nothing pinches ones toes more than a flattery of truth. But one does hate to have it fall on one in a crowd.

The cost of relieving Ladysmith was simply enormous. Four thousand lives were sacrificed in the effort. From one standpoint the effort was justified on the part of the Englishmen, for it is natural that they should desire to make the battle of their lives in order to save their countrymen. And so it is natural that Englishmen who have friends and relatives there should rejoice over their relief from a distress not paralleled in history. As a war measure though it will not play a very important part, for most of the Boers who had been opposing the relief had gone to join the general Boer army in its supreme effort against the forces under Roberts. Those who remained did so to harass the enemy and make the movement as difficult as possible. As disastrous as has been this part of the war the battles which are to come will be Gettysburg in comparison. When the main bodies come together there will be one of the greatest battles in modern warfare with all the horrors imagination can picture.

The aggregate capitalization of companies incorporated in January amounts to \$203,750,000 which compares with about \$200,000,000, in December. "New Jersey charters in January amounted to \$70,000,000," says the Journal of Commerce, "and those in West Virginia to \$55,000,000. Delaware contributed \$12,000,000, while charters in other states footed up to \$66,750,000."

## COUNTY BUSINESS.

Mortgages filed for \$700 and \$5790. Satisfaction of mortgage for \$700. In circuit court. New case: John W. Gaines vs. S. M. Daniel et al. Suit to quiet title. G. W. Wright attorney for plaintiff. Probate court: Inventory filed in estate of Welch minors. In estate of L. F. Hammer, petition filed for sale of real property. Petition of D. E. Berdem and wife filed for adoption of Herman Kulllogg. Account filed in guardianship of Joseph Leeper. In estate of Joe Leeper, bond for \$1000 filed.

"Debt is like a stone wall—the man who runs into it is sure to get the worst of the collision."

"Some men who are deaf to the call of duty close at hand can hear the whisper of desire a mile away."

"A good character should be carefully guarded. As for a bad character, the police will probably run it in."

"If a man were as good as his wife thinks he ought to be, heaven would immediately claim him for its own."

The amount of style a person puts on these days is about as liable to indicate a big mortgage as a big bank account.

It will not be many years before the Dawson district is a deserted mining camp. The officials there are doing everything in their power to make it such.

There is a big demand for fish scales for artificial pearls that cannot be told from the genuine. After all this is a pretty shoddy world, excepting Albany.

Mr. Penoyer has been mentioned as far east as Connecticut on account of his recent fling at Bryan. There are different ways of keeping before the public.

March certainly struck us like a lamb. Look out for a lion later on.

The Salem Journal characterizes the recent exclusion of Albany and Mt. Angel from the Intercollegiate Athletic Association as ignorance, narrowness, bigotry and dufferism.

A New York state minister recently called the euche players in his church gamblers and pointing to one member denounced him as a wolf in sheep's clothing. He has already resigned.

The business men of Albany should not permit the big bridge to be closed. If panned in an intelligent way so that gravel and dirt will sift through, and the hauling of gravel and sand over it is stopped it would be good for many years without much other improvement. The bridge is one of the finest in the Northwest.

England is shouting herself hoarse over the capture by General Roberts with forty or fifty thousand men Cronje's army with four thousand men. If the awful crash when the two big armies meet is followed by proportionate results according to the display of fighting around Kimberley the victory will be a decided Boer one.

The smallpox epidemic in Spokane cost the city treasury more than \$4,000 for the month ending February 15. One member of the board of health received \$678.50 for "visits" to patients and \$408.66 of the money went to the dry-goods store of which the mayor is part owner.—Ex.

It now transpires that of the 9,000 men of Cronje all escaped but 4,000 with most of the guns. General Miles says the cause of the Boers has been strengthened. Just what the English are crowing about with Buller's men in another trap at many slaughtered in front of Ladysmith, is an enigma, without it is being done to secure more recruits.

From the Times: An inquiry has come all the way from Stockholm, Sweden, for information about the Agricultural college. The inquirer is a young man who contemplates coming to O. A. C. to complete his education. His letter is written in English, in which so far the writer has apparently had but indifferent instruction. Among other questions he asks "how many souls are there in an acre," of land.

From the Roseburg Review: The dispatches tell about the arrival in New Orleans of 300 newspaper men to attend the national editorial association. As a matter of fact, however, there are only about half a dozen newspaper men and women in the crowd and the rest are grafters, who never miss anything that is free if they know it. Some time the railroad companies will find out that it is not a favor to the press of the country to continue to transport these dead-beat's free over their lines.

Speaking of the rejection of Albany College from the Athletic Association the Corvallis Gazette makes the following excuse:

"The school at Albany would probably enter three or four indifferent men, and would receive as much percentage of the gate receipts as would the O. A. C. Her part in the contest would not add any to its merits and have no influence on the result, and these things are true also of Mt. Angel." Also "it is not a fair cry to the time when Albany college voted to exclude representatives of the O. A. C. from oratorical contests, and no one's aid naughty things about it, either."

## Opera House Prospects.

Albany at least has the prospects of a new opera house. At a meeting of the Elks last night \$2,000 was pledged towards a structure that will be a credit to the city and it is declared this will be doubled by the lodge. Such a building as is contemplated will cost \$12,000, being three stories high, the third story being used by the Elks and the lower ones for the opera house. It is said that W. H. Hogan and others are interested and will help push the work. It is to be hoped this time there is no stopping until the much needed building is erected. Architect Burgraff is now at work on plans for such a structure as is in mind. While no place has been selected there is no doubt that the corner of Broad and Third street would offer a site generally acceptable to our citizens.

Wild With Joy. LONDON, Mar. 2, 4:30 A. M.—Britons feel that they are living in the presence of momentous events. Tornadoes of patriotic excitement are whirling through the country. Even the dullest soul must have been stirred by the emotions on yesterday, and London 6,000,000 were raised to a high pitch of patriotic exultation. It was a wonderful sight. Old men wept; nothing in memory with which to compare the day.

Getting Confident. LONDON, Mar. 2, 5 A. M.—The editorials in the morning papers are not only jubilant, but are written in a tone of confidence in the future which contrasts strangely with the gloomy forebodings of the past six weeks. General Buller's misfortunes are almost forgotten, although it is everywhere recognized that the relief of Ladysmith is largely due to the strategy of Lord Roberts.

Ready for More. PAARDERBERG, Feb. 29.—It is understood that some 7000 Boers are concentrating on the British front. The British cavalry is in touch with them to the eastward and skirmishing began this morning. It appears that an action was about to begin with the Boer reinforcements at the moment of General Cronje's surrender, but Lord Roberts forbade it until all the prisoners should be in safe keeping.

Fx President Cleveland. NEW YORK, Mar. 2.—The Journal and Advertiser says that ex-President Cleveland is seriously ill at home in Princeton. He is not confined to his bed but he seldom leaves his room on the upper floor of his home. He rarely sees visitors and takes practically no interest in any events of the world at large.

In the Senate. WASHINGTON, Mar. 1.—The senate committee follows the lead of the House committees in regard to Porto Rico and the republican majority of the senate will probably vote to put the amended Foraker bill through. The comments in the Eastern papers are based according to the political affiliations.

The Editors. NEW ORLEANS, Mar. 1.—The National Editorial Association holds its convention today. President Henry made his annual report, advocating a uniform advertising tariff, condemning the paper trusts and trusts in general for their baneful effect in reducing newspaper advertising.

Ladysmith Relieved. LONDON, Mar. 1, 9:52 A. M.—The war offices have received the following dispatch from General Buller: Lyttelton's Headquarters, March 1, 9:05 A. M.—General Dundonald, with the Natal Carbineers and a composite regiment, entered Ladysmith last night. The country between me and Ladysmith is reported clear of the enemy. I am moving on Nelthorpe.

Just in Time. LONDON, Mar. 1, 4:50 A. M.—General Buller's tidings come weighted with his long list of casualties. His losses in the four attempts to get General White out aggregate 4000. Ladysmith was in desperate straits. Charles Williams the military expert, says he learns on very high authority—presumably "that of Lord" Wolesey, that General White's force was almost at its last gasp.

It Passed. WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The battle royal over the Porto Rican tariff bill ended in the House today in a sweeping victory for the republicans. The bill was amended as agreed upon at the conference of republicans Monday night so as to reduce the tariff from 25 to 15 per cent of the American tariff and limiting its life to two years and was passed by a vote of 172 yeas to 161 noes.

The President to Blame. WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The change of attitude of the administration is no doubt responsible for the passage of the Porto Rican bill in the House. Had the president stood firmly by his message there are at least 50 republicans who never would have voted for the bill.

Eastern Weather. WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Chief Moore, of the Weather Bureau today issued the following special bulletin: Snow has fallen to a depth of from 8 to 15 inches in Illinois, Northern Indiana and eastern Missouri, and special reports received at noon indicate that the heavy snow and high winds will seriously interfere with traffic from northern Ohio over western Indiana and the Lower Lark region and the interior of New York tonight.

Received Justice. KANSAS CITY, Feb. 28.—Lon Curry, one of the train robbers who was engaged in the Wilcox, Wyo., hold-up on the Union Pacific last June, when something like \$30,000 was secured, was shot and killed by officers near here this morning while resisting arrest.

Mr. J. T. Slate died at Alea last Tuesday at the age of 87 years. He had resided there thirty years, and was respected by all knowing him. He leaves three children, N. P. Slate, of Tangent, Mrs. Vernon, of Alea and Mrs. McLagan, of Prineville.

Joaquin Miller came up from Salem this noon where he lectured last night and left for Lebanon on the afternoon train to lecture tonight. Several will go out from Albany to hear the famous statesman, one of the old geniuses of the day.

## A Silver Jubilee Offering.

One of the rapidly growing religious bodies of the country is the Christian church, sometimes known as the Disciples of Christ. They number 1,118,000 in this country, and made a gain last year of more than 40,000 in their membership.

This church is doing a very extensive work in foreign lands as well as in our own country. The Foreign Society of the Christian church has planted successful missions in Japan, China, India, Turkey, Africa, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Cuba. Their missionaries will soon sail for Hawaiian Islands and the Philippine Islands. They now have 229 missionaries in different foreign lands. This foreign work is only twenty-four years old. The society was organized in 1875. This is the Silver Jubilee year. The foreign society is asking all the congregations of this religious body for a Silver Jubilee Offering the first Sunday in March. It is expected, and no doubt will receive, \$200,000 this year. Last year it amounted to \$152,000. The Christian church of Albany will doubtless do its full duty in helping to raise the \$200,000.

Captain Williams, of Iowa, Chaplain of the Fifty-sixth Regiment of the United States Army at Manila, has returned to this country enthusiastic over the missionary prospects of that distant land. He has been appointed a missionary to Manila, and in company with other missionaries of the Christian church proposes to give \$5,000 for this special purpose, and has already given \$5,000 to plant a mission in the Hawaiian Islands.

Speaking of the Christian church and this part of its work reminds us of the national convention held in Cincinnati last October. The attendance was something phenomenal. There were fully 15,000 present, the greatest attendance of any religious body in the history of our country. It opened the eyes of the snobby old town of Cincinnati, and made her realize that there was something going on in the world besides the beer business.

## Using High Words.

Having seen F. E. Allen & Co's advertisement now running in the Democrat, Mr. John Swikehammer, M. A. S. A. P. S., the erudite wood chopper, who is in the city today, tried his hand at big words with the following result, and defies competition:

Because of anthropological dogmatical superfluous incantations and agglomerations in proximity to gigantic aggregations in weird hallucination of complex metastadonic centralization and complexity of heterogeneity in opacity and the verberatory rhythm to the tuncia abgivialia of the oreola process effective integrates the percipit influence of the epigastriac and ollository assimilations, become a simile to the spiritual ductum and resolves itself in the pigmentum and final onlogomy.

Lebanon, Or; Feb. 27.—Will you please state through the columns of your paper the amount of the bonded indebtedness of the United States and the date of its maturity? M. A. MILLER.

The bonded debt December 1, was \$1,687,019,699, maturing all the way from the present up to 1925. The Treasury department will forward circular statement on application, or fuller information may be had from any of the standard almanacs. Does Mr. Miller intend to pay off the debt or invest in gold bonds?—Oregonian.

While Mr. Miller will not be able to pay the bonded indebtedness the people will have to, and the Morgans of the country are getting the interest.

Thirty men in Chicago were arrested so the local papers report, for engaging in a prize fight. They were cultivating the strenuous life in the wrong state. Had they been arrested in New York for that offense, Gov. Roosevelt would certainly have pardoned them. He might have gone so far as to provide them with a professional bruiser to give them instructions.

The Bethlehem Steel company has declared a dividend of 50 cents per share, payable March 1, as registered Feb. 15. A sample of protection for an infant in dustry.

LONDON, March 2.—Lord Roberts expects to send relief to Mafeking soon, as reported today.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—President McKinley sends a special message to congress asking authority to use the revenue of Porto Rico for relief of the islands.

## This and That

Smiley's Clean Printing. In novelties Will & Stark lead. Open till 12 o'clock p. m. at Stetter's. Dr. J. H. Erskine is now in the Foster Block, 2nd story.

Oysters cooked any way you wish at Stetter's. Leave your orders for Fresh Oysters at Stetter's.

Oysters opened fresh every day at the Leading Restaurant. Fresh Soda-water a healthful summer drink, at Barkhart & Lee's.

For sale, good carpeting, 33 cents per yard, by T. S. Alexander, east end of 8th street.

There are Diamonds. In other places besides South Africa. Will & Stark keep a choice line of goods in this line, in rings, ear rings, studs, etc.

It makes no difference how bad a wound if you use De Witt's Witch Ha Salve; it will quickly heal and leave a scar. Fosby & Mason.

**SEND US ONE DOLLAR**

Get this ad. and send us one dollar, and we will send you the best of our goods. We have a large stock of goods, and we will send you the best of our goods. We have a large stock of goods, and we will send you the best of our goods. We have a large stock of goods, and we will send you the best of our goods.

**GUARANTEED 25 YEARS.** With every PARSON'S OIL BURNER we give you a 25 year guarantee. We have a large stock of goods, and we will send you the best of our goods. We have a large stock of goods, and we will send you the best of our goods.

**OUR RELIABILITY IS ESTABLISHED.** If you want to see our goods, write to the publisher of this paper, or to the National Bank, or to the Chicago National Bank, or to the Chicago National Bank, or to the Chicago National Bank.

**SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (Inc.),** Fulton, Desplaines and "Kymon" Sts., CHICAGO, ILL.