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THOMAS BRACKETT REED. Many instructed persons will give room for the thought that the late Thomas Brackett Reed, deceased Sunday morning at 12:10 o'clock, was the greatest American at the time of his death.

Quite naturally, the proposition will be debated. Other men will be offered by some as greater. Yet those others will be few, will be counted upon the fingers of one hand.

In determining Thomas Brackett Reed's intellectual status, it will be necessary to consider the elements of power that went to make up his mental furnishings, and to compel for him a place among his fellows.

Mr. Reed was a good lawyer. He was not a great lawyer, as lawyers such as George F. Edmunds go, nor was he so great a lawyer as Benjamin Harrison. He must class below the grades that run from Edmunds to Harrison. Yet he was an able lawyer, instructed in the philosophy of social governance and weak in no one branch of practice.

Given the other prerequisites, the greatest man must have profound knowledge of the law as the foundation for their careers.

Mr. Reed was one of the able exponents of literary art. He was not comparatively great in this line of effort. There were many above him. Nevertheless, he was a master of English, a writer of lucidity, of pungency, succinct and brief and clear-cut in his forms of expression, with bravery and accuracy to make his writing forceful.

There is no doubt that, had he lived, Thomas Brackett Reed would have risen to a place among the recognized literary characters of his day. He did not prove false to the promise of his youth, when he won honors for proficiency in English composition during college days at Bowdoin, his alma mater.

Since abandoning the arena of politics, Mr. Reed was devoting time to letters, and was rapidly winning the place that comes only to those who rise above the level of mediocrity and impress the world with thought and expression.

He was not a great orator. He was a strong speaker, able to hold attention and to express himself to the understanding alike of sage and peasant. There were no rounded periods. There was no romance, no playing upon the chords of one's nature, no arousing of the human sympathies and compelling the listener to join with him in the accord of thought.

His speaking was direct, pungent, like his writings. It was lucid and clear. It was merely the speech of a man of convictions. It was the arising of one who had something to say upon a mooted question, and who wasted no moments in stealing upon the hearer with subtleties and tricks of oratory.

The one quality that gave him power with an audience was this obvious sincerity, coupled with wisdom that was easily demonstrable, and backed with a courage that permitted him to face a world if he faced it alone, with never a flinch nor hesitancy.

Thomas Brackett Reed was a statesman and parliamentarian. Herein were his elements of chief power. He was great in his conception of economics, masterful in securing recognition for those conceptions.

These two abilities are prerequisites of statesmen. There must be first something great to offer to a people, and then skill in inducing that people to accept it. The two abilities are articulated in the ideal system of thought.

There have been three great speakers presiding over the national house—Clay, Carlisle and Reed. Which was the greater? Each was different from the other. Clay was a marvelous student of economics and an orator of grandeur, Carlisle was a master of finance, and strong before an audience, and Reed was a master of economics and masterful in compelling recognition for his concepts.

Reed was not of the judicial temperament of either Clay or Carlisle. As between them and him, history will accord to them the greater height of attainment and therefore that they were greater presiding officers of the national House of Representatives. But, as for ability to bring things to pass in the school of economic thought which he represented, Reed has had no equal since American government began.

Democrats will not hesitate to accord to Thomas Brackett Reed the credit due him for evolving a system of rules that have solved previous problems of obstruction of legislation, obstructive tactics that had been resorted to by representatives of both parties whenever in a minority.

We may denominate them "Clay Rules," as we may. Nevertheless, no other will permit progress in legislation under the involved conditions of our latter day complex social organization. Thomas Reed was the one man who saw that the time had come to revolutionize the rules of the house—the branch of government closest to the people and therefore needing conditions that make possible quick carrying out of the will of the voters as embodied in Representatives elected to that body.

Able lawyer, distinguished literateur, brilliant parliamentarian, profound economist, Thomas Brackett Reed was withal a patriot, an honest man, a sincere thinker, a brave man in expression of his thought. He was great enough to eschew political preferment that he might remain true to his convictions. How few men in politics have such bravery? How few men are able to withdraw the hand reached out to seize the laurel wreath that is offered by the people to him who will humor their follies?

There have been Websters and Clays and Blaines who were great, yet could not be presidents. Reed belongs in their class. He is one of the few men who will be written at the top of the scroll of fame, with intellect and sincerity and brilliant achievement as the record of his life. One of America's great men passed away at 10 minutes after midnight Sunday morning, perhaps the greatest American of his day of death.

"LET WELL ENOUGH ALONE." "Let well enough alone," is the sole answer of the anti-revisionists to the demands of the people. "To amend the tariff laws," says Senator George F. Hoar of Massachusetts, "would unsettle business relations." "There should be no revision of the tariff," remarks Senator Hale of Maine, "for the reason that it would cause losses to some of the industrial institutions of the country." "I want no alteration in the tariff schedules," is Senator Allison's statement, "for revision would disturb commerce."

Senator Hanna, chairman of the national Republican committee, does not mince words, but says flatly: "There will be no revision of the tariff so long as I can prevent it, and while I am in the United States Senate I will fight the proposition to the last ditch." Senator Hanna gives no reason, and could do so only by confessing his loyalty to the unduly fostered concerns that have fed from the high protection crib for the past generation.

settled at one time and there would be eliminated much of the needless bother and expense that now occur. In the event the proposition come to the Legislature, it should be submitted to the people for their sanction, and then the people should endorse it at the election of 1902. Proper agitation of the subject would secure such a result.

There is discussion of the status of matters at Salem during the session of the Legislature, with reference to the relations between the governor and the assembly. Let it be understood that the people elected George E. Chamberlain as chief executive, and that the executive is a co-ordinate branch of the state government. Respect is due to the governor as the choice of a majority of the people.

Partisanship meddling with the functions and prerogatives of the governor's office will be resented by voters in the future. They intended to make George Chamberlain their chief executive and that he should perform the duties of the office as determined by precedents. Furthermore, it is mildly suggested that not all of the power of state government is vested in the Legislature. The governor might retaliate, if the other branch of the government were to be too mean.

The suggestion is made solely upon The Journal's own initiative, and is not at the instance of Mr. Chamberlain.

Thomas Nast, who died Sunday at Guayaquil, was the greatest cartoonist of his day, and, probably, the most potent newspaper artist of all who have drawn caricatures for the public prints. He was a large part of the power wielded by Harper's and exerted incalculable influence during the pre-war times and during the progress of the Civil War, in the interest of the Union cause.

Davenport is a great cartoonist, and may some time be the equal of Nast. He has not yet reached the position Nast won in that field of art. Davenport, however, is the greatest of these days, and is not losing any of his prestige.

Is there any sincere desire by Oregonians to bring to pass election of Senators by direct vote of the people? Apparently not. The last state election put it to the test and the people voted in a majority for T. T. Geer.

Another phase of the issue here in Oregon is that the Republican party, always protesting that it favored election of Senators by direct vote, failed to prove it by nominating a Senator in state convention. This the Democrats did and named a very excellent gentleman, C. E. S. Wood. The net result is to place the state Democracy in a position of advantage before the people of the commonwealth.

Open and avowed partisanship will probably prevent the admission of the three territories—Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona—because they would add to the Democratic list of Senators. There was favorable comment by national Republican leaders on their admission until it was learned that the territories were divided so as to return Democratic Legislatures to elect Democratic Senators.

Senator Hanna seems to have been able to make good his promise given at the end of the Buzzard Bay conference last summer—that the tariff will not be revised. Hanna apparently has not lost his potency as a dictator of Republican policies.

Prof. Garner has written a very long magazine article to show "how monkeys reason." We differ from him, but strongly recommend the matter to our esteemed fellow citizen—Jack Matthews.

When the new White House warming came off, it was a dream of yellow chrysanthemums, and it might be added, that to protect the color scheme, "Booker Washington was not there."

When you read the names of the literary celebrities attending Mark Twain's birthday dinner party, you can realize that he has not forgotten his humor.

Mark Twain, at his birthday dinner, paid a splendid tribute to his wife. Now the reading public has to wonder, "was he joking?"

While Congress is monkeying with the election proposition, it might abolish the system in the Capitol and see how it likes it.

Here is a prize puzzle: Which does a man like best, his wife, his children or his dog?

The beef combine now has \$100,000,000. This ought to put it in the tenderest district.

Fact is the thing that makes you shut your mouth before you say anything.

NO FIELD FOR AMATEURS. (New York American.) Dr. John L. Elliot, as assistant lecturer of the Ethical Culture Society, addressed a large audience in Carnegie Hall yesterday morning in the absence of Dr. Felix Adler. He chose for his subject "The Slumers of New York," and pictured to his hearers the conditions which exist among the poor of the city. He said:

"What are the remedies for the conditions in the slums? In the first place, the slums are not a field for amateurs. There is not the place for those to go and do good who look for 'amusement' only. Their friends may say it is all right for them if they desire 'amusement' but how little good they do with them when they intend to help! During the past 25 years have grown up the settlement workers, who make a profession of aiding these people.

There is a growing social conscience. This is of inestimable value. How many of us could enjoy our tables or sleep well in our beds if we knew some one in the slums was starving for the lack of the very things we have in abundance? On the other hand, how many of us feel the same moral suffering which is allied with physical suffering? The social conscience feels and guards against the moral starvation."

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JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES. BY K. K. K. Yesterday was the first meeting of the Indo-American Women's League since the new rule was adopted fixing the opening hour promptly at 2:30, and almost every member present thoughtfully remembered and conformed to it.

The officers of Mrs. E. P. Fraser, 559 First street, had been thrown open to the ladies and there Mrs. S. M. Kern, Mrs. David Deigels, and Mrs. Stone carried out the program they had arranged. Selections showing the almost hopeless condition of the poor little child wives of the league's circulating library. In this way the subject was presented by the very best authorities and the ladies had the opportunity of getting more familiar with the volumes in the library.

Not incidentally the pamphlet program now on the shelves of the general circulation: "The Wrongs of Indian Womanhood," author, Mrs. Marion B. Fuller; "Lax Christ, author, Caroline Atwood Mason; "Child Wives and Widows of India," compiled by Mrs. Mary K. Taylor, Childwood in India, published under auspices of the league.

Mrs. Stone read a letter from Mrs. Brown, the sister-in-law of the founder of the league. It was unanimously decided to take up a careful study of Lax Christ for the coming year, and the first chapter was read at the next meeting. Mrs. John G. Fraser, a newly elected member, told of that most wonderful tomb, the Taj Mahal. This next meeting is to open January 4th, with Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway, 408 Market street.

THE YEAR ENDS. President, Mrs. E. P. Mossman, vice-president, Mrs. E. Rose Hoy; third vice-president, Mrs. A. E. Rocky; secretary, Mrs. A. Gilbert; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Fletcher Linn; and treasurer, Mrs. G. W. Dewey, are the officers elected to look after the interests of the School of Domestic Science this year. The meeting yesterday morning was well attended. All the committees were ready with reports, and they showed what a successful year the closing one has had. Miss Voorhees spoke of her interest in the demonstration work she is doing for the school; the fruit committee gave some of their plans for the Xmas sale of gifts; and the committee on the purchase of work committee told of their course of three divisions they are arranging; the secretary, Mrs. A. Gilbert, gave a very full report of the successes and discouragements of the work, and Mrs. Henry Jones as president, made another report. She said in closing: "There is no doubt in the minds of travelers that Americans as a nation are poor cooks. And we ourselves cannot stand with pride and deny the humiliating accusation. For who has ever been into the rural districts of Oregon would ever forget the experience there gained? \* \* \* So, my dear co-workers, my word to you upon vacating the chair is, go on. The opportunity is yours, and the great honor is yours. With the women's council."

WITH THE WOMEN'S COUNCIL. The Temple Beth Israel was well filled last night, as much in honor of the Council of Jewish Women, whose annual open meeting it was, as to hear the scholarly Dr. Voorzanger of San Francisco. Mrs. S. M. Kern, president of the council, presided. Dr. Voorzanger won the applause of the evening when he said in answer to his address: "Until now I have always been opposed to allowing the Jewish spirit to be filled by a woman, but if all the women of the world are to be as Mrs. Blumauer has done tonight, I should vote for their admission to the Seminary at once."

After an opening organ number, "Large as the Leagues," by Fisher, Mrs. Blumauer gave a very interesting account of the council's work. The spirit of her remarks was in the opening words: "I only come to tell what we have done, that we may arouse your interest to help in doing it." She mentioned that a philanthropic work she mentioned that the sewing school under the direction of Mrs. Ben Seiling and Mrs. Bernstein has its first graduate this year. The council has also secured a fund of \$1,000 toward a building fund and hope in time to combine all the branches of their work in one fully equipped home.

Mrs. Rose Bloch Braun filled the church with the glorious strains of Allister's "A Song of Thanksgiving."

In introducing Dr. Voorzanger, Mrs. Blumauer said in a quality original way: "To be president of a woman's organization is not always all it is cracked up to be. It has its compensations, and one of these is the privilege of introducing to this Portland audience, Dr. Voorzanger of San Francisco."

It is impossible to give a fair account of Dr. Voorzanger's address in a few words. We differ from him, but strongly recommend the matter to our esteemed fellow citizen—Jack Matthews.

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THE STATE PRESS. Has Headquarters. Salem Stationer: Charles Fulton has secured headquarters at Salem for the season. Simon has not yet followed suit. There is something sweetly retributive in the fact that Simon is not even being considered as his own successor. He is another man who has betrayed every confidence that was reposed in him. He has thrown down the state and his best friends for his own selfish ends. Long may he be politically dead!

A Corner on Turkey. Junction City Times: "Douglas County still holds the usual place as the banner turkey producing state. The shipments to the San Francisco and Portland markets for the Thanksgiving trade were forwarded Saturday and Sunday and aggregated over 11,000 of the juicy birds. The whole affair brought in light in the last suit, in which a Baron von Muenchhausen accused the marriage trust magistrates of lying. This picturesque combination of circumstances brought out a considerable number of editorial comments, but with few exceptions, they were not up to the occasion. In the sanctum of Harper's Weekly the topic was evidently passed around until it reached the desk of the tariff editor, who treated the matter as follows: "There is evidence enough in plain sight to convince an ordinary jury that an organized effort is being made to invade the American matrimonial market, and without any remarkable degree of scrupulousness, the degree is so high that the statutory acts we have no special way of reaching and discouraging the organization of such floating companies, and we do not know, on the whole, that we should be so much as to see these institutions punished under any circumstances. Every man to his own trade is quite as authoritative a phrase as Chaceau a son goat, and the bureau that embarks upon the mere project of bringing the two factors of a successful combination together is not necessarily to be reprimanded. What is clear, however, is that in the contest for that hand that possesses wealth we are in this country, are beginning to be subjected to a foreign competition which to some degree is to be feared. We are ourselves without bringing to us any measurable corresponding advantage, and against which we are entitled to some protection. We would suggest, therefore, that the tariff committee of congress take this matter up, and see what can be done first, toward putting a tolerably high duty upon unmarried foreign noblemen entering our ports, and, second, toward the placing of a heavy export duty upon our exports of noble men. The tariff committee, as it appears to be carried on today, may be made somewhat profitable to ourselves if it be understood that every titled bachelor, from other climes coming to this country, to pay a 50 per cent duty into the Treasury of the United States, or, failing to do this, shall be sent back home again at his own expense; and if, after the wedding ceremony, the fortunate bridegroom is required to pay an export duty upon his bride of 25 per cent before being permitted to start on his honeymoon, under penalty of having his marriage declared null and void, we shall not be without consolation in the hour of our woe."

Now or Never. Ashland Tidings: Senator Quarles of Wisconsin, has introduced into the United States senate a bill which repeals the present law permitting the purchase of timber under the timber acts of June 3, 1878, in Oregon and Washington, and also repeals the desert land act.

Something Is Dangerous. Grant County News: A Cincinnati man was killed in his bath tub a few days ago, breaking his neck by slipping in the tub and striking his neck on the edge. That is one case in which the bathing habit is to be charged with the sacrifice of a human life.

A Senatorial Candidate. Rogue River Courier: R. D. Hume, the salmon king of Rogue River, has, it is said, aspirations toward the United States Senate. Hume has considerable political strength, has plenty of the "wherewith" and would be by no means an inconsiderable figure.

Here's a Reason. Sheridan Sun: One reason the Columbia government has not put on a hurry-up campaign to have the Panama canal built when we locate in that region the revolutionists will have to be careful where they shoot.

Fixing His Fences. Southern Oregonian: Charles W. Fulton of Astoria, a member of the State Senate, who is one of the leading Republicans of Oregon, and a prominent candidate for U. S. Senator, has been in Southern Oregon lately. He has been looking after his fences.

Forest Fires. Astoria Budget: The indications are that the Legislatures of both Oregon and Washington at the coming sessions will pass more stringent laws to prevent the starting of forest fires. The disasters in each state during last September have warned the people that something must be done.

Lots More Land. The West: By the new irrigation policy of our government nearly 100,000,000 acres of arid land will be reclaimed as rapidly as settlers will take the land and repay the government the cost of the irrigating works required for their reclamation.

Just Cold Nerves. Jefferson Review: A man who has been taking this paper for four years without paying for it, failed to get the last copy and notified us that "if it occurred again I would stop the infernal rag." That's a nerve.

For a New Trial. Pacific Journal: Still further developments in the Paul Underwood case recently the grand jury at Underwood's attorney have amended their request for a new trial on the strength of two affidavits by jurymen on the case that some of their associates were prejudiced and had expressed positive convictions on the subject of the guilt of the accused before the evidence was all heard. In consequence of this other complications are sure to arise and future action will be watched with interest.

Another Opinion. Aurora Borealis: As January approaches, Jonathan Bourne shows some of his hand, and it is filled with lucre. Bourne's idea has been to keep Geer and Fulton before the public as the two prominent Senators in the wilderness. When these two get into a deadlock he will jump into the ring, the only candidate with money to burn.

What's in a Name? Brownville Times: Apostle Reed Smoot, the Utah aspirant for a seat in the United States Senate, may or may not be a polygamist, but a man with a name like that might be guilty of anything.

Town is Booming. Gervais Star: Gervais is enjoying a right smart touch of a building boom, which this paper has been claiming would follow. No idle men in town and all are busy at a good rate of pay every day. The word has gone forth that we are to have a great Gervais and the fact redounds to the credit of the town, and business men as well.

Should Interfere. Astoria Budget: The indignities which the Turks are inflicting on the Macedonians are things which the civilized nations of the world should be sensible enough to acknowledge and resist. When these two get into a deadlock he will jump into the ring, the only candidate with money to burn.

Oregon the Best. Harrisburg Bulletin: People who are complaining of the "Oregon mist" at this time, upon reading accounts of the furious blizzard raging from the Great Lakes to the sea, will be sensible enough to acknowledge the corn, and admit that their complaint is of a fictitious nature and unworthy of a ~~man~~ ~~foot~~.

NOBLE DOWRY HUNTERS. The revelation that there is a "Marriage Syndicate" in Berlin, which promotes the marriage of imperious European "nobles" with American heiresses, was one of the striking features of the daily news a few days ago. The report was telegraphed all over the country, "feared" with big headlines and first-page prominence, and attracted wide attention. How wide, the departments of the old raiding robber barons planning new raids, but planning to carry them out through a "syndicate," and dickerings and haggling over the percentage on the loot—Cupid the victim of cupidity, and the whole affair brought to light in a last suit, in which a Baron von Muenchhausen accused the marriage trust magistrates of lying. This picturesque combination of circumstances brought out a considerable number of editorial comments, but with few exceptions, they were not up to the occasion. In the sanctum of Harper's Weekly the topic was evidently passed around until it reached the desk of the tariff editor, who treated the matter as follows: "There is evidence enough in plain sight to convince an ordinary jury that an organized effort is being made to invade the American matrimonial market, and without any remarkable degree of scrupulousness, the degree is so high that the statutory acts we have no special way of reaching and discouraging the organization of such floating companies, and we do not know, on the whole, that we should be so much as to see these institutions punished under any circumstances. Every man to his own trade is quite as authoritative a phrase as Chaceau a son goat, and the bureau that embarks upon the mere project of bringing the two factors of a successful combination together is not necessarily to be reprimanded. What is clear, however, is that in the contest for that hand that possesses wealth we are in this country, are beginning to be subjected to a foreign competition which to some degree is to be feared. We are ourselves without bringing to us any measurable corresponding advantage, and against which we are entitled to some protection. We would suggest, therefore, that the tariff committee of congress take this matter up, and see what can be done first, toward putting a tolerably high duty upon unmarried foreign noblemen entering our ports, and, second, toward the placing of a heavy export duty upon our exports of noble men. The tariff committee, as it appears to be carried on today, may be made somewhat profitable to ourselves if it be understood that every titled bachelor, from other climes coming to this country, to pay a 50 per cent duty into the Treasury of the United States, or, failing to do this, shall be sent back home again at his own expense; and if, after the wedding ceremony, the fortunate bridegroom is required to pay an export duty upon his bride of 25 per cent before being permitted to start on his honeymoon, under penalty of having his marriage declared null and void, we shall not be without consolation in the hour of our woe."

English Lyrics of a Finnish Harp. (From the above-named volume published by Richard G. Badger, the following poems are quoted.) TO MY BELOVED. Oh, love, my love, is't true that now at last An angel visitant has quietly crept Into my lonely heart, and from it swept All gloom, and doubt into the darkness past? Beloved, is my soul's long-lasting fast Now broken by a love-feast? Have I not been In every truth from out the gloom, and leapt Into a world from some new sun forth cast? Yes! Yes! I feel some god's smile from above, Break o'er my soul, and thrill its latent power! That pain's rough hand had vainly strove To reach to such a quest, O my love! And if the contest were renewed this hour, Pain's not mine, would be the face to blench.

TO MY BROTHER. Last eve the warring squadrons of the air Flung their black tumult o'er the shakethrough heav'n raged their weird artillery— Then fell the crash, were both exultant there. Then, sudden, through a rift, in golden glare Poured from the West the sun's last harmony: When waned the elemental battle cry, And fell low-muttering to some distant lair. So woe at strife within itself my soul, And an my life was dark with battling fate. When a dear voice called low, a hand from gloom stole, Consoled and helped, until, once more elate, I smiled and blessed him to name me whole: Thee, O my brother, true of heart and great.

DU BIST WIE EINE BLUME. (From the German of Heine.) Thou art as generally small, but the eels are sometimes of ample proportions to furnish the workmen with food for their dinners. Some of the fish are so small that they pass through the meshes of the net assigned to the U street pumping station to clean the fish and eels out of the water pipes. The "fishing" takes place a few yards west of the station, where the supply pipes enter the main leading into the building. This main is protected by a wire screen, and twice each week the squirming multitude gathered there is taken out by means of small dip nets. The fish are generally small, but the eels are sometimes of ample proportions to furnish the workmen with food for their dinners. Some of the fish are so small that they pass through the meshes of the net assigned to the U street pumping station to clean the fish and eels out of the water pipes. 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