

For President—
WILLIAM M'KINLEY,
Of Ohio.

For Vice-President—
THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
Of New York.

WHAT DOES "UNITED STATES" MEAN?

"What is meant by the term 'United States?' asks a Bryanite contemporary, in an effort to reaffirm the old, rebel, ante-civil war doctrine that the constitution follows the flag. The CHRONICLE would modestly suggest that it means what it says, the United States or the states united. There is, of course, an everyday, geographical sense in which the term includes all the territory of the nation. But in the stricter constitutional sense, it applies only, as we have said, to the states united. How do we know this? By the language of the constitution itself. It was "We, the people of the United States," who "ordained and established" the constitution. Who were "we?" It was only the people of the states who were privileged to vote on the adoption of the constitution.

At the time of the adoption of the constitution, in 1788, we had, outside the states themselves, the vast national domain between the Allegheny mountains and the Mississippi river. A year before the adoption of the constitution the part of this domain lying north of the Ohio river, and comprising the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, had been organized by the famous ordinance of 1787 into the Northwest Territory with a regular territorial government. But no resident of that Territory or of the territory south of the Ohio had any voice in "ordaining and establishing" the constitution.

By the constitution all legislative powers therein granted are vested in a congress of the United States which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives. Only states choose senators and representatives. So that here is a palpable case where the constitution does not follow the flag.

The executive power, under the constitution, is vested in the president. He is chosen by the people of the states, no resident of a territory having any voice in the matter. Here again the constitution does not follow the flag.

The judicial power of the United States is vested by the constitution in "one supreme court and in such inferior courts as congress may from time to time establish."

It is still further provided that the judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior." But the judges of the territories, though appointed by the president, serve only for a term of four years. In this respect also the constitution does not follow the flag.

The thirteenth amendment clearly shows the constitutional meaning of the term "United States." It says: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction." Here, as well as elsewhere in the constitution, "United States" means the states united; hence the necessity of adding the words, or any place subject to their jurisdiction, in order to exclude slavery from the territories.

And, lastly, when the constitution says (Article IV, Sec. 3) "the congress shall have power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property of the United States," it distinctly separates the "territory" belonging to the United States from the union itself and gives congress full and unlimited power over such territory.

Bryanites prate about the "consent of the governed. The phrase, they

will admit, never meant more than the will of the majority. But if the testimony of the Filipino commissioners is to be believed, American rule in the Philippine islands is by the consent of the governed. Not by the consent of all of the inhabitants, for government by universal consent does not exist even in the states nor anywhere outside the paradise of God; but government by the will of the majority. The islands, it is claimed, are inhabited by eighty tribes, numbering about 10,000,000 souls. One tribe alone is in open rebellion and it numbers about a million. The other 9,000,000, it is claimed, are favorable to American rule. Bryanism would have one tribe govern the other seventy-nine; one million tyrannize over the other nine millions, without a thought of asking the consent of any one of the latter. And all this in the name of liberty and the constitution of the United States! Gentlemen, gentlemen, you make one unspeakably weary.

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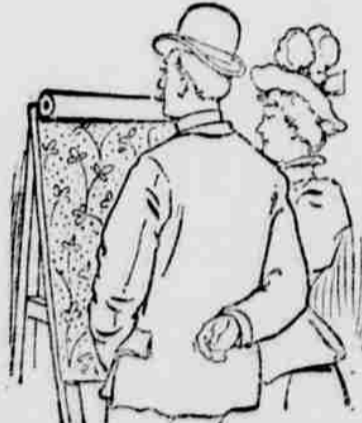
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