

WHAT DOES "UNITED STATES" MEAN?

The arguments in the Porto Rico and Philippine cases have been made in the United States supreme court and the cases have been submitted for the final adjudication of the court. To the ordinary lay mind the constitutional question involved appears quite simple. It becomes complex and difficult only when the lawyers begin quoting authorities and decisions whose relevancy the lay mind is unable to determine. As to the question involved there can be no doubt. It all hinges on the meaning of the first clause of the eighth section of the first article of the constitution, which reads as follows:

"The congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imports and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States, but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

Reduced to still more concise dimensions the thing to be determined is, What did the framers of the constitution mean by the term "United States?" When this has been determined the controversy would seem to be at an end. It was "We the people of the United States" that "ordained and established" the constitution. Who were "we?" There can be only one answer. It was only the people of the states united who were privileged to vote on the adoption of the constitution.

At the time of its adoption in 1788 we owned, outside the states themselves, the vast national domain lying 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 or establishing" the constitution.

The constitution was thus ordained and ratified by the people of the states that comprised the Union and by them only, and from that hour to this the people of the territories never have had a voice in making, ratifying, amending or operating the constitution. To a lay mind, therefore, capable of construing a plain English sentence, and not befogged by the subtleties of the law, it would appear that the term United States means the states united and nothing more.

Matters of great and far-reaching importance to Oregon have been and still are before the United States senate. Yet Senator Simon remains in Oregon, attending to his own private interests and, incidentally,—for Joseph is very far from being a philanthropist—to the interests of his political party and dupe, "the old man of the sea." Yet the big Portland papers say never a word. But O, my countrymen, if McBride had acted that way, wouldn't these papers have roasted him from hades to breakfast and from Dan to Bersheba?

Oh for a chance for the people to get a direct whack at Corbett and his gang of grafters! The result would be worse than it was in Portland last June when the gang named the republican ticket, and a county that rolled up a majority of 5000 for McKinley mopped the earth with it.

The Portland organ of Mr. Corbett, when it copies from the Baker City Republican, should not claim the views of that paper as the sentiment of the people of Eastern Oregon.

Col. Alley is too well known for his opinion to have much weight, and it is well understood that he is more interested in his own mouth than in the mouth of the Columbia.

Senator Simon stayed in Washington when he should have been at home, and now he is at home when he should be in Washington.

Dissolution of Partnership.

The partnership heretofore existing between A. M. Stringer and T. S. Kennerly, under the style of The Dalles Distillery Company, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, A. M. Stringer retiring and T. S. Kennerly continuing the business and paying all debts and collecting all bills.

The Dalles, Dec. 10, 1900.

A. M. STRINGER  
T. S. KENNERLY.

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Dull Headache, Pains in various parts of the body, Sinking at the pit of the stomach, Loss of appetite, Feverishness, Pimples or Sores, are all positive evidences of impure blood. No matter how it became so it must be purified in order to obtain good health. Acker's Blood Elixr has never failed to cure Scrofulous or Syphilitic poisons or any other blood diseases. It is certainly a wonderful remedy and we sell every bottle on a positive guarantee. Blakeley, the druggist.

Many persons have had the experience of Mr. Peter Sherman, of North Stratford, N. H., who says, "For years I suffered torture from chronic indigestion, but Kodol Dyspepsia Cure made a well man of me." It digests what you eat, and is a certain cure for dyspepsia and every form of stomach trouble. It gives relief at once even in the worst cases, and can't help but do you good. Sold by Clarke & Falk's P. O. Pharmacy.

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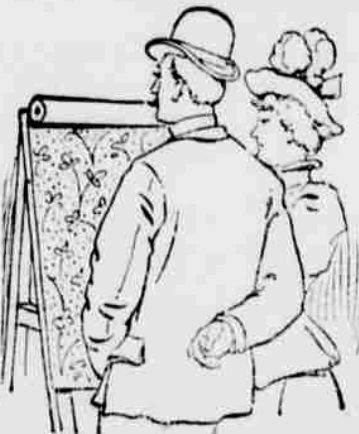
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