

FORCED BILL

A FORCE BILL SENATOR

The author of the famous force bill will be a member of the next United States senate. Henry Cabot Lodge was yesterday made the caucus nominee by the republican members of the Massachusetts legislature. As the party has a large majority, the nomination is equivalent to an election. In the caucus ninety-four votes were necessary for a choice and he received 147, which shows that he was the favorite with little vigorous opposition. His opponents were such men as ex-Governor John D Long and ex-Congressman William W Crapo, both able and broader minded men than he, but neither had the whip over the members that Lodge held.

Henry Cabot Lodge is a brilliant man in certain respects. His rise has been rapid. His hold on his party is largely due to his tremendous energy, boldness and partisanship. Never did a more devoted republican occupy a seat in the lower house of congress. It was in the natural order of events that he should be senator. He has been the practical manager of the republican party in Massachusetts for the last eight years. He is an excellent debater, a hard fighter, and a scholar and author of some repute. But for all this his influence has been pernicious, and Massachusetts has not done itself proud by electing him to the senate. He may be on a par with such men as Chandler, Aldrich and Hisscock, but his influence will not extend beyond his own party.

When Lodge introduced and fiercely supported the infamous force bill, he showed a lack of broad statesmanship, a sectional spirit, and an egotistical selfishness that merited the disapprobation of the entire country, and received it, except among the republican hero worshippers of his own state. He is, as indicated before, an ideal republican, and therefore in that party a great man. Why? Because narrow partisanship characterizes its policy, and sectional legislation is its joy. It thinks of the few, not the many. If the ex-Governor John D Long had been nominated, the seat once occupied by Charles Sumner, after many years of comparative eclipse while occupied by Dawes, would have again been held by a man of whom his party could be proud, and whom democrats as well as republicans would respect. As it is, Henry Cabot Lodge will be a weakling in the senate. How can the author of the force bill expect favors from such men as Gorman, Faulkner and Mills?—Tele-gram.

In the California legislature including the nonpartisan from San Francisco, the democrats have 60 votes on a joint ballot. Sixty-one votes are necessary to a choice, and there are no indications, as yet, where the extra vote is to come from. The eight populists with the one independent from San Diego have the balance of power. Stephen M White will be nominated by the democratic caucus tonight. T V Cator is the nominee of the people's party, and either Charles N Felton or D M Burns will receive the republican complimentary vote. The independent from San Diego has not said how he will vote. He was formerly a republican, but great efforts are being made to induce him to vote for White. If he should do so, White of course, will be elected.

In Kansas a republican county clerk, in canvassing the vote for member of legislature, by mistake, (he says) transposed the vote for that office, giving the number of votes cast for the democrat to the republican and that cast for the republican to the democrat thus securing the certificate of election to the republican. And now the supreme court of that state has decided that the republican was duly elected. By such means as this the republican leaders have determined to control the senate of the United States and thus prevent that legislative relief which the people in November, by such an immense majority, declared in favor of.

Rocks do not grow in the sense that a plant grows. They may increase by accretion, and the may undergo chemical change. The old sea bed being lifted up becomes sandstone and limestone; the volcanic ash and lava strewn over the plains becomes tufa, hard enough for building stone; the pebbly shore of a river becomes conglomerate. The simple mineral does grow, however, when it takes the crystal form. The sparkling prism of quartz increases from an atom to a crystal as large as a forearm by a process of addition and assimilation wonderfully slow, but beautifully regular, exactly as crystals of ice form on the window pane.

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The DEMOCRAT believes that if the proposition to amend the assessment law prohibiting deductions for indebtedness should be passed by the legislature, the class of people who now seem to oppose it most, the farmer, would realize the greatest relief from it. The farmer, as a class, have a much smaller amount of sham indebtedness than other classes, hence, while this proposed law would increase the amount of property upon which the farmer would pay taxes, the increase in the case of other classes would be relatively much larger, and as the amount of total taxable property of the state increases the rate should decrease, the farmer class would really reap a benefit from such legislation.

The Oregonian is authority for the statement that Judge Boise has changed his views on the subject of taxation in that he now favors the repeal of the mortgage tax law and the law permitting deductions for indebtedness. This is a radical change, but there are changes going on all over the state especially on the question of deductions of indebtedness. We are glad there is to be no party politics in this question. There is one danger that threatens all efforts at reform, and that is that reformers may ask too many radical innovations.

In Paris there is a barometer 41 feet and five inches long.

Whiting, plaster of Paris, barytes, silica and white clay are the commonest paint adulterants. A recent lecturer showed a number of boards painted with three coats of these materials that had been ground in oil. In each case the grain of the wood could readily be seen, while one coat of white lead was sufficient to practically cover the grain.

The new publications issued from the press of the United States during 1891 amounted to 3500, of which 1104 survived at the beginning of 1892. The total number of American periodicals of all sorts, including newspapers, is now 20,115. Some of them are pretty cheap stuff, but, as a whole, they indicate that the people of this country are the hungriest readers on earth.

A rather amusing, but possibly practical invention, is that which erases a railroad switch in an iron cage. The switchman who is to throw the switch from the main line to a siding must enter this cage, and throwing the switch locks him in. The door can be unlocked only when the switch is thrown back, and thus, says the inventor, if the switchman derails a train he is there in the cage to answer for it.



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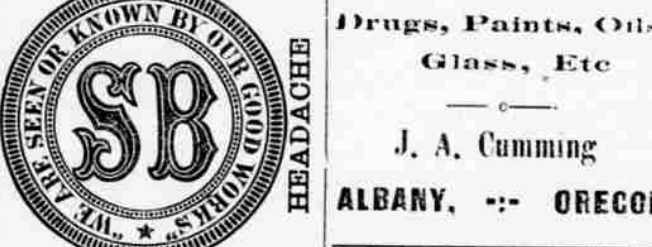
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