

**A Party Without a Policy.**

Representative Sibley of Pennsylvania, formerly one of the most earnest of the advocates of free silver, has not only renounced that financial heresy, but has turned his back completely upon the democratic party as now constituted. Mr. Sibley was a tower of strength to the 16 to 1 cause in the last national campaign, but events having shown the fallacy of the free silver contention he frankly acknowledges that he was mistaken and declines to continue in a false position. As the Bryanite party has nothing else to offer, Mr. Sibley drops out of it.

He said in the house of representatives two weeks ago: "If the democratic party is to live it must have a policy. It must do something besides carp and faultfind. If it will adopt a policy I will keep step with it, but if it invites me to a banquet of carping and faultfinding it will have to excuse me." There are a great many other democrats who feel this way. They realize that with the exception of the free silver issue, which a large majority of the people have repudiated and which is very much weaker than in 1896, their party has no well-defined policy upon which it can unite. They see the hopelessness of another campaign with silver as an issue and they know that with Bryan again the candidate this question will of necessity have a leading place. Some of these democrats are still hoping that another leader will be found—one that will represent the true principles of democracy. There is said to be an effort made on the part of some democratic leaders of the south to induce Bryan to withdraw as a candidate. It is needless to say that any such attempt will be fruitless. Mr. Bryan will remain a candidate, he will dominate the national convention and his renomination is a foregone conclusion.

Meanwhile the democratic party will continue to carp and to find fault. That has become its predominant characteristic. It refuses to be satisfied even with the prosperity of the country and declares it to be unreal or based upon superficial conditions. Every act of the republican administration, however clearly shown to be in the public interest, is criticized and denounced. Its policy is obstruction and reaction. The party will continue in this course so long as it is under its present leadership, and this will be until it has again experienced an overwhelming defeat. Men like Sibley, with the candor to acknowledge past mistakes and to admit the defects of their party, will drop away from it, hoping that defeat will bring about a reorganization which will again give the democracy a claim to respect and confidence of the intelligent voters of the country. The Pennsylvania representative has set an example that will have many followers.

**Work on the Canal.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce today reconsidered the Nicaragua canal bill, which had been reported with an appropriation of \$140,000,000, and changed the appropriation section so as to make \$10,000,000 available, with authority to contract for the entire excavation and completion of the canal at a total cost not exceeding \$140,000,000.

Before this action was taken, Mr. Hepburn, chairman of the committee, stated that, as all the members of the committee were anxious for the success of the bill, it was well to consider some objections which had been raised. He had heard several objections on the ground that the whole \$140,000,000 was appropriated now, and three or four gentlemen had said they would not support the bill if the entire sum was appropriated now, but would support it only if a portion was made available at once to begin the work. Mr. Corliss, of Michigan, thereupon offered the following new section, which was adopted.

"Section 6. That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby appropriated towards the project herein contemplated, and the secretary of war is further hereby authorized to enter into a contract or contracts for materials and work that may be deemed necessary for the proper excavation, construction, defense and completion of said canal, to be paid for as appropriations may from time to time be hereafter made, not to exceed in the aggregate \$140,000,000."

Fletcher of Minnesota said: "When you get that canal half built for \$140,000,000, what will you do for the other half?"

Corliss answered that the highest estimate of cost thus far made was \$133,000,000.

Hepburn added that in the amended form the bill simply applied the contract system and limited the aggregate to \$140,000,000. In the amended form the bill was ordered reported.

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**Real Estate Transfers.**

U.S. to Elbert Lynch, W 1/2 of Sw 1/4, Ne 1/4 of Sw 1/4 and Nw 1/4 of Sec. 24, tp. 8, R. 9 W.

Alfred Magnuson to Altha Magnuson, N 1/2 of Sw 1/4, Se 1/4 of Sw 1/4, of sec. 5, and Ne 1/4 of Nw 1/4 of sec. 8, tp. 2 N, R. 9 W.

Jennie Bunker to Alexander Watt, lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, bk. 19, Thayer's addition to Tillamook.

U.S. to Thos. Dwier, W 1/2 of Nw 1/4 and W 1/2 of Sw 1/4 of sec. 22, tp. 2 S, R. 7 W.

Thos. Dwier to L. D. Peters, W 1/2 of Nw 1/4 and W 1/2 of Sw 1/4 of sec. 22, tp. 2 S, R. 7 W.

R. O. Richards to John M. Tresenriter, a tract in tp. 3 S, R. 9 W.

Albert W. Plank to J. S. Bosler, N 1/2 of Sec. 25, tp. 5 S, R. 11 W.

William Plank to J. S. Bosler, N 1/2 of Sw 1/4 of sec. 30, tp. 5 S, R. 10 W.

**KISSES AND CARESSES.**

**Various Schedules of Rates Promulgated by Judges.**

A seeker after novel features of everyday life has compiled and printed in the Boston Traveler a record of the cost of kisses and caresses as established by various judges. The schedule of rates follows:

Chicago—Joseph Branigan fined \$11.50 for kissing Mrs. Maggie Oberle, a widow, on the cheek—December 15, 1899. Nagymalmy, Hungary—Bride's kisses a penny apiece for charity—New Year's day, 1899.

Macedoo, Pa.—Martin Kimball thrashed by Miss Honore Jonsbick for trying to kiss her in the dark—April 23, 1899.

Chillicothe, Mo.—Gardiner Vandiver lost his job as gardener of the Chillicothe Home for Girls for kissing the girls—May 7, 1899.

Atlanta, Ga.—Ten dollars each, with 25 per cent rebate when a confession follows—February 11, 1899.

Watertown, N.Y.—Samuel Cohen sent to the penitentiary for four months for kissing 11-year-old Florence Chaffee—June 17, 1899.

Peterson, N. J.—Hartman Van Riper fined \$10 for kissing Mrs. Marie Lehmann, a widow—February 24, 1899.

Elmhurst, N. Y.—Unidentified man pronounced a lunatic for kissing Elmhurst girls—January 24, 1899.

New York—Charles H. Crowley, 23 West Eighty-eighth street, discharged for kissing young women in Broadway. Women made no complaint—January 28, 1899.

Wilmington, Del.—Chief of Police Dolan rules that kisses cannot be given away, but places no market value on the same—December 3, 1897.

Englewood, N. J.—Mayor Fellows fined Miss Emma Marshall for kissing her sweet heart—December 27, 1897.

Hoboken, N. J.—Kissing in public no offense. Ruling by general sessions judge—December 28, 1897.

Bayonne, N. J.—It cost Marshall McDaniels \$27.50 and a lot of trouble to kiss Mrs. Viola Dias, a young married woman—October 7, 1897.

Wichita, Kan.—Etta Ashkraft fined \$5 for throwing a kiss to T. A. Fawcett, tailor—May 18, 1896.

Rochester, N. Y.—Charles Drobble paid \$400 for kissing Mary E. Himple, his stenographer, only once—September 21, 1894.

Bridgeport, Conn.—George Butler was thrashed and sent to jail for thirty days for kissing Mrs. William Beck—July 4, 1893.

Geneva County, Alabama—William Horton pays the court \$150 for kissing Callie Jones 150 times. No fine for the 151st kiss—February 24, 1892.

St. Louis—Dr. Fisher thrashed by Ernest Bertram for kissing Mrs. Bertram. Dr. Fisher was unable to leave his bed for four days—September 24, 1890.

Chicago—Blanch Nelson fined \$5 for kissing a clergyman without his consent—October 17, 1889.

Utrecht, Holland—"No offense" to kiss a Dutch girl, rules the highest court of Holland.

Admiral Schley—Kissed by two women for assisting to destroy Cervera's fleet.

Lieutenant Hobson—Sent to Manila after kissing many women.

Admiral Cervera—Kissed by pretty Norfolk girls.

Osborne Deignan—Kissed by girls in Stuart, Ia., for being a hero and a companion of Hobson—Nov. 12, 1898.

President McKinley—Kissed by a Chicago woman because she was a democrat but loved the president—October 17, 1899.

**Devil and the Newspaper.**

The man from Georgia who occupied the pulpit of one of our churches last Sunday as a clergyman who failed in being also a gentleman, must not be accepted as a type of the religious teachers of the South. What particular spite he may have against newspapers does not appear, but when he took occasion to remark that the devil would clap his hands for joy to see the faithful fall out of the ranks and that in this jubilation he "reckoned" the newspapers would join, he went far afield and belied his own sincerity in a cause having charity that thinketh no evil, but is kind as one of its leading tenets. It is not necessary for us to come to our own defense and the incident is touched only to remind him that the practice of casting stones runs back to the days of the Redeemer, and the vilest of the vile were among those who cast them, and the preacher lowers the standard of his cloth and reveals his own ignominy of soul in attacking teachers, who, through the press, are more powerful for good than those who fulminate false doctrines at the sacred desk. But there is this comfort—the spoken word dies; the written word remains. The thralldom that once held the mind to the will of a spiritual guide is passing away. The soul's censor is the still small voice within it, known as conscience.—Ex.

A dispatch to the Herald from Manila says: The war in the Philippines is over. No further surrender can be hoped for. The danger in the present situation is that a bloody feud may arise between the American army and the Filipinos. This danger can be greatly lessened by action of congress, which is now imperative, outlining the policy of the government in the Philippines. It is likely that many insurgents are still holding out for the very terms which congress will be willing to give. The time is ripe for a conciliatory policy, allowing the Filipinos to have some say as to the nature of the government under which they will be obliged to live.

The question of establishing a department of the government to be known as the department of commerce, with a cabinet officer at its head, has been discussed at considerable length by the senate committee on commerce. The discussion was based upon a very complete report on the subject prepared by Senator Nelson. It is proposed to include in the new department a bureau of manufactures, and to transfer from the treasury department the lifesaving, lighthouse, marine hospital and steamboat inspection service, the bureau of navigation, immigration, statistics and coast and geodetic surveys; to transfer from the interior department the commission of railway, the census office and the geodetic survey and from the state department the bureau of foreign commerce. The department of labor and the fish commission are also placed under this supervision.

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