

THE OLD RELIABLE



Absolutely Pure
THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

CONGRESS
IS HIS
CREATURESpeaker of the House
Has Tremendous
Power In AffairsCan Force or Prevent Legis-
lation According to His
Will-- One-Man Pow-
er In the Republic

Washington, Nov. 7.—Alexander Hamilton has triumphed. If there be intense interest in mortal affairs, in the Land of the Living, then Thomas Jefferson may be weeping tears of anguish.

The Democratic and Republican caucuses were held this afternoon and evening. The Democrats will cast their complimentary vote for Hon. John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi. This will make him their logical candidate for the Speakership, whenever the Democrats happen to have a majority of the House of Representatives. In the meantime, during the fifty-eighth congress Mr. Williams will be the Democratic leader on the floor, and he will be loyally followed by all Democrats in the House.

The Republican caucus nominated "Joe" Cannon, of Illinois, and he will be elected on Monday afternoon. His full name is Joseph G. Cannon; but he is best known as "Uncle Joe." He has been in Congress for so many years that everybody knows him; and almost everybody likes him. He has just enough enemies to make his friends the prouder of him.

In former times, and the writer has seen forty-odd years of those former times, the party caucuses meant something. They meant struggles for mastery; hard fought battles for leadership. Now-a-days the caucuses are merely ratification meetings. The principles promulgated by Alexander Hamilton have triumphed. The principles promulgated and eloquently advocated by Thomas Jefferson have been defeated.

Alexander Hamilton believed in centralization of power. Thomas Jefferson believed in the dissemination of power, among the states and among the plain people. The narrator does not discuss the merits of either doctrine; but states a fact which has escaped the observation of some of the writers on national affairs.

Because in each state there is a political machine, with a leader erroneously styled "the boss," because of this condition of political affairs, it is become the custom for the entire state delegations to cast their ballots for a particular candidate. Therefore it was, that, more than a year ago, it became known just what the Republican caucus would do; and the caucus to-night has merely ratified what the leaders declared more than a year ago, should be done. Nine months ago the Democrats decided, in like manner to support Mr. Williams; and they have ratified what was declared they should do, so long ago. So you see, neither party is free from the centralization of power which Alexander Hamilton promulgated and strenuously advocated.

It was the purpose of Jefferson and of the statesmen who voted to ratify the Constitution of the United States, that each Representative should indi-

vidually and independently represent a certain number of thousands of free-men. Therefore was the aggregation of representatives denominated the House of Representatives. Jefferson indeed supposed that ours would forever be a government as far removed from the plain people, as it could be removed.

Well, the House of Representatives is no longer a body of independent representatives of the people. On the contrary, it is an aggregation of non-entities; because the representatives have abdicated their individuality, and independence of thought and action. They are pawns on the chess board, and are moved with ease by the master mind of their own making. When they elect a Speaker, they surrender their independence. When Jefferson was writing and when statesmen were ratifying the Constitution, they never even dreamed that the popular body would abdicate its independence.

The power they committed to the Speaker is tremendous. Fortunately for the country it has almost always been wisely and patriotically used. The Speaker appoints all the committees, and, of course, all of the chairmen of committees. This is his power. Every other Representative must do as the Speaker desires, or he will secure no legislation for his people. Not only can the Speaker refuse to grant him recognition on the floor of the House of Representatives; but, the Speaker can direct the chairmen of committees to do nothing for any recalcitrant who defies his will or ignores his power. No Czar ever sat enthroned in Russia with more imperial power over his subjects than the Speaker may wield over his fellow-members of the House of Representatives; each one of them as duly elected by the people as himself. But it is because the Representatives have abdicated that this power is held by one man. Moreover this condition has existed so long, that gentlemen are becoming accustomed to it, and do not complain.

At the other end of the Capitol sits the other co-ordinate legislative body, the United States Senate. No one man rules that body, and no one man ever can rule it. The committees of the Senate are appointed by the Senators themselves. The Republicans will hold a caucus and appoint a temporary committee "On committees." The Democrats will hold a caucus, and they will designate a similar committee. After careful consideration of the rights of all Senators to committees assignments, these two Committees on Committees, will hold a joint meeting. The Republicans will state their list of committees and the Democrats will state their list. The joint committees will reach harmonious conclusions. They will then report to their several caucuses, and their work will be ratified, or amended. Then, when the Senate is in session, the Senator who shall be the Chairmen of the Committee on Committees, on the majority side of the Chamber, will offer the list agreed upon, and it will be ratified without discussion. Thus you see, the rights of all Senators are courteously guarded; and thus it will always be. There can never be one-power man in the Senate.

The spirit of Thomas Jefferson prevails the Senate; and it will forever prevail. Jefferson, the Commoner, must look lovingly upon the American House of Lords; the aristocracy of the republic. Hamilton, the aristocrat, finds himself dominating the representatives of the plain people. How anomalous; former Speaker Reed, sarcastically referring to the long talks of Senators, which are permitted by the rules of their body, said: "The talkative Senate is the only deliberative body on earth." Mr. Reed spoke

more sapient truth than he perhaps intended. The deliberative senate is the bulwark of the republic; when the representatives of the people surrendered their constitutional prerogatives, and learned to "crook the leg, and bing of the knee, that thrift may follow fawning."

The reader must not suppose that the narrator of facts has any animus against the speaker. On the contrary, after an acquaintance of 20 years, it is a pleasure to be able to testify to the broad-mindedness, fairness, courtesy and Christian spirit of Speaker Cannon. Principles and performances are under consideration. Since the spirit of Hamilton prevails in the popular body, and since the representatives choose to abdicate their rights and sustain a one-man power, they could not have chosen an abler, nor a better man than the Illinois statesman.

Thomas B. Reed, of Maine, was the first incumbent of the high office of speaker, who openly and above board declared himself to be master of the house of representatives; and mentor of its individual members. But he was not the first, by any manner of means, to make use of the power of the position, in spite of the desires of all others. He went but little farther than did Blaine or Randall, or Catfish, in the exercise of power. But, he did it openly and almost brazenly; so that his sway stands as a precedent for any other man who may choose to be an autocrat. And, unless the people shall compel their representatives to actually represent them in an independent manner, there will come, some day, a man who in the speaker's chair, will be not only an autocrat, but an autocrat for the plutocrats.

Then (there will be a revolution. Then, the people will exercise their constitutional prerogatives. Unless, mayhap, it may be too late.

Imperialism is not expansion. Imperialism is unwarranted exercise of imperial power; that is to say, one-man power, in a republic. But that subject will necessarily be amplified in another article. The trend of affairs may develop worse imperialism than anti-expansion writers have dreamed.

SMITH D. FRY.

Lifting Chicago's Tracks.

Few persons realize the enormous work which is being done in Chicago elevating the railway tracks and abolishing grade crossings. Fourteen thousand cubic yards of sand from the dunes of Indiana are being brought into the city every day for this purpose, the plan being to lay the tracks on sand, which is held in place by retaining walls. In ten years, since the movement to elevate the tracks first began, the number of lives lost per annum has fallen 50 per cent. Seventy-five miles of main line and 425 miles of other tracks have been elevated, and 350 grade crossings done away with, while ordinances are now in force which will raise fifty miles of main lines, 250 miles of other tracks, and do away with 140 more grade crossings. All this has been done, and when the work has been completed the total cost will have been \$41,000,000, while the total cost to the city has been \$6000 a year.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

Swedish Ore Exports.

Negotiations have been proceeding for some time between the iron ore exporting companies of Sweden, viz., the Grangesberg-Oxelösund Traffic company on the one hand and the Lapland Ore company on the other, with the object of concentrating the Swedish ore export under one management. According to the British consul at Stockholm they have now resulted in the former company making proposals with a view to acquiring the control of the mines of Gellivare, Loussavaara, Kirunaavaara and Malmfjärden, all situated in Lapland in 67 to 68 degrees north latitude and 21 to 22 degrees east longitude. The total price to be paid is 2,971,500 pounds which, with the capital of the Grangesberg company, 1,173,000 pounds, makes the total capital invested in this business of mining Swedish ore for export about 4,144,500 pounds.—London Engineer.

Postal Cards Popular.

Interesting statistics in regard to the use of postal cards have just been published by the international bureau of Berne. They show that during a year more postal cards are used in Germany than in any other country, the figures which throw light on this point being as follows: Germany, 1,135,000,000; United States, 670,000,000; Japan, 435,000,000; Australia, 250,000,000; France, 60,000,000; Belgium, 55,000,000; and Switzerland, only 43,000,000.

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BROTHER

**Jennie Bamber Marries
John Dezoza In
Jail**

**Her Husband Has Five Months
to Serve and Apparently
is an Innocent
Man**

The San Francisco Chronicle of Wednesday tells the following interesting story:

Cupid crept through the bars of the county jail today, laughed to scorn the bolts and iron doors, and attended the joining of two hearts, assisted by Justice of the Peace Geary. John Dezoza, serving a sentence of six months on conviction of vagrancy, and Jennie Bamber, a pretty girl, who was recently released from the city prison after serving 30 days for a similar offense, were married in the jail office this afternoon.

Dezoza, under the name of George Wilson, and his bride, who gave her name as Alice Wyman, were married five weeks ago at the Victoria House on Clay street, this city. It was shown at that time that the girl was barely 18 years old, and representations were made to the police that her companion had fled with her from one of the interior towns of this state. As they could show no marriage license they were accused of vagrancy. When Wilson, now known as John Dezoza, had been convicted and sentenced to serve six months in the county jail, the girl pleaded with the police judge to also sentence her to the same institution for six months. If it is good enough for him it is good enough for me," she exclaimed. She was bitterly disappointed when a 30-days' sentence in the city prison was meted out as her punishment.

No sooner had the girl regained her freedom than she began to make frequent calls at the county jail to see Dezoza. By the grace of the jailers, the lovers were permitted to meet in the jail office to talk over their difficulties, though always under the watchful eyes of the jailers and other attendants. Today Miss Bamber announced that she intended to marry. She secured a marriage license, called in Justice Geary, and in the jail office was wedded to the man of her choice. The groom kissed his bride and was then returned to a cell, to remain five months, unless pardoned.

Dezoza is 24 years of age and is said to be well connected, having relatives in Yreka. The bride originally resided at Guerneville.

Dr. Kuykendall Won.

Eugene, Nov. 7.—The case of Beadle against Paine & Kuykendall, for \$10,000 damages, for malpractice, went to the jury yesterday forenoon. At 6 o'clock last night a verdict was brought in for the defendants.

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—Mrs. Col. E. J. Gresham.

MRS. COL. E. J. GRESHAM, Treasurer, Daughters of the Confederacy, and President Herndon Village Improvement Society, writes the following letter from Herndon, Fairfax county, Va.:

Herndon, Va.
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