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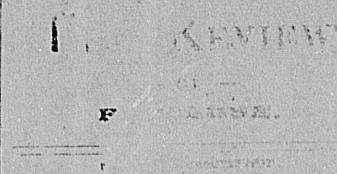
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SATURDAY DEC. 27, 1890

THE FINAL OF SITTING BULL.

Sitting Bull, the Sioux chief, was killed last week near the Bad Lands of Dakota by a detachment of mounted police under the control of the government. His taking, if under the circumstances was but a grade above murder, and is a shame and disgrace upon a government that would countenance it. Sitting Bull in aiming to keep back the white people from his lands and those of his people was inspired with the same patriotism that has moved thousands of white people everywhere—he was contending for the homes of his race and his ancestors. He may have been treacherous as is the characteristic of so many of his race, but he was courageous and ready to battle for his people and what he knew justly belonged to them. The same spirit that moved Pontiac, Tecumseh and other noted Indians of the past in their contentions with the more powerful race, animated Sitting Bull. It was understood that in the event that the police failed to bring Sitting Bull to the Agency alive, that he was to be brought in any way, and he was—they killed him. The "government," that is the republican party, advised by a few shoulder strapped warriors, who do most of their fighting for finely furnished headquarters in Chicago, thought that was the best plan to end the "Indian War," which a few Indian agents have aided in bringing about and it was done—they simply assassinated him. And the curses of civilization shall be showered down on such cowardly warfare. Ben Harrison, the popinjay president of the republican party, with that meek, charitable, Christian spirit, that distinguishes him, considers the act preposterous under the circumstances and that hostilities will now cease. The other nations of the earth, who are really civilized, will look upon this act toward a brave, although misguided in some respects, man, as ill advised, cowardly and unfair from every point of view.

THEY CATCH IT NOW.

Since Michael Price voted the other day for a democrat for county poor superintendent the way the republicans have been giving it to him and the Irish in general is quite interesting to hear. Said one of them: "Old Price is only showing the characteristic of his race. They are the most deceitful, lying people in political matters of any other class. I never believe one of them, republican or democrat. The voter placing any confidence in any Irishman in anything of a political nature is a d—d fool." Said another man: "We had Johnson on our side for recorder, and Price for commissioner, but I am pleased to know that neither got my vote. I am not voting for that class of people. I have as much belief in their professed fealty to party as I did in the pretended loyalty of you copperheads during the rebellion." (We were not aware of any copperheads pretending to be loyal to the republican party during the war.) Still another good republican observed: "You never saw one of these people but what in fifteen minutes after he had landed in this country was a candidate for some office. I expect there are fifty of them in town now that intend being candidates for something in one party or the other hereafter. They are always wanting some official position and hint at their great influence among the Irish voters. I am a knew nothing party is an illustration of this. We care not what it is mission, what wrongs it is to correct and reforms it is to bring about, all its actions must have the broad light of day upon them that they may be seen and known of all men. The intentions of the alliance may be of the best, most honorable and advantageous to the people, but the secret manipulations to bring them about will never convince the masses that it is a safe and honorable way to accomplish this."

THE SECRET FEATURE.

There is one feature of the farmers' alliance that will always render it unpopular with the mass of voters and sooner or later cause its dissolution. We refer to the secret feature of it—the closed door part of its platform. The political party in a free country controlled by oaths, signs and pass-words, can not expect a prolonged existence. It soon dies. The knew nothing party is an illustration of this. We care not what it is mission, what wrongs it is to correct and reforms it is to bring about, all its actions must have the broad light of day upon them that they may be seen and known of all men. The intentions of the alliance may be of the best, most honorable and advantageous to the people, but the secret manipulations to bring them about will never convince the masses that it is a safe and honorable way to accomplish this.

COLLEGE DONATIONS.

It is somewhat questionable whether the big cash-donations frequently made to colleges is the wisest disposal to be made of money. So far as increasing the number of students or extending its influence we doubt very much in the case of Wabash College, at least; whether, in ten years past, it has aided it in the least. It has had several munificent gifts in the past few years, and has constructed some fine educational edifices with it and made other substantial improvements, yet for all this the attendance of young men at the institution is very little larger than it was thirty years ago and the influence of the institution does not appear to have extended very much in all that time. Therefore why give it money and other gifts if its management does not use them more judiciously? It should put more energy into the work, and infuse new blood into the instructors. They seem to belong to past age. Other and newer institutions through the west have moved ahead of it. This should not be, and would not be with a judicious use of the means from time to time donated to the college. If the same management prevails in the future as in the past it is doubtful if the increase of students will be much greater within the next thirty years than it has been in the past thirty. They have got too much money in that college now. The trustees should order them to get out and hustle, and build up the institution, and not depend on the gifts of charitably disposed persons to keep it moving.

The great exaggeration so often observed in rating the wealth of men had a fitting illustration in the reputed wealth of the late John W. Head, of Lafayette. He was a banker, farmer, speculator and hustler in general, and was supposed to be worth anywhere from \$300,000 to \$500,000. His estate was sued and judgment taken a few weeks ago in favor of a New York bank for \$25,000, and the administrator finds the liabilities fully as large if not larger than the assets.

THE "Indian war" in Dakota is about over and the army sutlers and government supply gentlemen must feel bad in consequence.

LEGISLATIVE DUTY.

A correspondent of the Sentinel from Waynesburg says that whatever style of law and salary bill the ensuing legislature may enact it should not be one that is the least w. and conflict with those county officers elected on the 4th of November last, but should apply to those hereafter elected. Presuming that the legislature will pass a law fair and equitable in all its parts toward county officers we cannot see the force of the objection to a law that shall be in force six years from to-day that would not apply equally well in six months from this time. We do not believe that the legislature will be moved by such a spirit as to pass a law that will render county officers of no pecuniary value to the incumbents of them. There would be no sense in such work as that, but it is the bounden duty of the law-makers to see that no county office in any county in Indiana, large or small, shall be a torture to its possessor after filling it four years. It has been such in many counties in many instances. The duty of the legislature is to correct that. If a new law stops that system of finaing the sooner it is passed the better. While a law like that may play thunder with wheat and corn speculation in Chicago quite often, it will be of much value to the tax-payers.

CITY ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

The city council should be in no haste to buy an electric light plant and should thoroughly investigate each system before purchasing. It should remember that it is acting in the interest of the tax-payers—those who have to pay for it—and while laboring in the line of economy should not purchase something that is inferior and would prove to be worthless or not at all equal to its expectations. There is plenty of time to make a thorough examination and visit a dozen cities where the different systems are in operation. Parties who claim to have some knowledge of the matter claim that the Edison system of arc or incandescent light is far from being a success, and that on the recent visit of our council to Rushville to see the Edison, the manager of it who knew the councilmen were coming, put forth extra efforts to produce the brilliant effects of the light which seemed so pleasing to most of the visitors. This may and may not be true, but at least, they should visit more cities than Rushville before closing the deal. We want cheaper electric illuminating power than we are now having and better too, but an inferior system may be more expensive than that now in operation.

THE MCKINLEY TARIFF BILL.

The McKinley tariff bill has greatly increased the cost of imported cigars. Those which have been sold at \$70 are now quoted at \$80; those which formerly brought \$50 are now priced at \$96, \$98, \$100; those which were \$55 are now \$100 to \$110. It will be said of course that these imported cigars are expensive luxuries, and that no one is compelled to buy them unless they wish to. This is true, but the raise in price demonstrates that the Cuban cigar manufacturer does not pay the tariff duty, else the cost to the American consumer would not be advanced. Again the increase in price will in time involve a corresponding increase in the cost of domestic cigars, because by the laws of trade the price of the home cigar is governed in a certain degree by the price of the imported article. Thus the McKinley bill will make itself felt to every consumer of cigars, besides demonstrating beyond denial that the tariff duty falls on the consumer and not on the importer.

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It has been proposed that the Democratic party should at once re-organize its National and Congressional committee for the next Presidential campaign, in order that the members-elect of the Fifty-third Congress may be represented thereon, and also that the campaign of education, by means of tariff and other literature, may at once be begun. It is a most timely suggestion, and should be carried out at the most practical moment. The value of a thorough organization and dissemination of sound Democratic doctrine, both through the party press and by means of carefully prepared pamphlets, can not be overestimated.

THE bluffing which Rev. Switzer received at the jail the other day at the hands of Pettit, who refused to speak to him, but in his presence spoke of him as an "infamous scoundrel" to another visitor, is not to be wondered at. The peculiar energy exhibited by the former toward aiding in Pettit's conviction, was certainly a new feature in Christianity, at least to many who have heretofore supposed what genuine Christianity was. The last persons to visit Pettit now and converse with him should be those who aided in his prosecution. It looks too much like kicking a man already prostrate.

A SENATOR'S OPINION.

Farwell, of Chicago, the leading republican U. S. Senator from Illinois, in a short interview last week said:

"I do not think the Federal Election bill will be passed; it will be killed by the obstructive tactics of the Democrats and others in spite of the President's entreaties. Little Ben has as much influence around Washington as he might have. He freezes everybody, and people who go to him with respect leave with disgust. The country opinion of his Administration was shown in the recent election. Mind you, I was a supporter of him because I imagined he had sense enough to fill the position. He is to small mentally and every other way to fill the chair."

MCBRIDE who ran against Judge Mitchell for Supreme Judge on the State ticket, was appointed by Gov. Hovey last week to the position on account of the death of Mitchell. It is remarkable the number of hungry men for office in this country. No sooner was the death of Mitchell announced than over a half dozen prominent republicans through their friends were beseeching Gov. Hovey for the position. The appointment