

POLITICS OF THE DAY

INCOME TAX REVIVING.

A new terror rises up to deepen the dismay of the abject bondsmongers. It is that if war comes there will be another tax agitation for income tax. One of their organs remarks with bated breath: "If the income tax is impossible under the constitution as it stands, there would certainly be a movement to amend the constitution in that particular." This is dreadful to think of. Such a peril is quite enough to put all thoughts of preserving the national honor and dignity out of mind. If the fool people are likely to get at the incomes of those who run the government as a business enterprise for their own profit, and make them pay for their privileges, what is the use of living?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Democratic Gains.

The spring elections continue to result favorably. The disreputable performances of the Republican Congressmen at Washington, the vacillation of President McKinley, and the prospect that Banker Gage, with Grosvenor, Dingley, and the rest, will hatch up some national bank finance schedule which will rob the people by means of taxes and bank issues to pay interest on large sums of borrowed money, have disheartened the Republican masses. Everywhere there is Democratic gain. Chicago has been swept as by a tornado, and the reform element there has encountered a defeat similar to that which it experienced here in New York. The group of Ohio cities has gone back on the Republicans. Cincinnati, which gave nearly 20,000 majority for McKinley, has been carried by the Democrats by 2,000 majority. The same change is to be found in the returns from Columbus, Cleveland, Dayton and Toledo. Milwaukee is to have a silver Democratic Mayor. The general disappointment at the non-arrival of the promised McKinley era of prosperity has disgusted the people, and has started them upon the road of reversing the fraud of 1896.—New York News.

Let the People Buy Bonds.

A New York bank president is quoted as saying that the government could readily obtain from the great financial interests of the country all the funds it needed if bonds were issued. This is true, no doubt. But the biggest financial interests of this continent are the interests of the masses of American citizens who create the wealth of the nation. They are the ones who should first be considered if bonds are put on the market. If these Government securities, backed by the superb credit of the United States, are excellent investments for the bankers, they are equally good investments for the wage earners and the farmers. It is the people who fight the battles and pay the taxes of the Government. They are entitled to the foremost chance when bonds are to be sold.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Taxation to Make Up Deficit.

Whether we have war or peace with Spain we shall have to pay the cost of getting ready for war, and suggestions for internal taxes are heard here and there. But it is misleading, in the present condition of the national income, to call these proposed taxes war taxes. Why should not the ruling political party in Congress face the fact that its revenue laws do not bring in enough income to meet the expenditures of the Government on a peace footing? There should be no humbug about increasing taxation because of making war or making ready for war. What the treasury demands is more revenue than Dingleyism produces whether for war or for peace.—Boston Post.

Too Much of a Stale Fiction.

Let us be done once and forever with the stale fiction of Spain's honor being involved in the preservation of her territorial integrity. It has been said—her public men still say—she cannot relinquish Cuba without compromising her honor. Was her honor, then, compromised when she relinquished Mexico? And Guatemala? And ten or a dozen colonies in South America? And when she ceded Louisiana to France? And when she ransomed Cuba by giving up Florida? And when, after regaining Florida, she once more and finally relinquished it for cash, under fear of military compulsion?—New York Tribune.

Dingley Wisely Keeps Silent.

The Dingley bill isn't such a howling success that its author is howling about it loud enough to be heard. Dingley isn't saying a word in these exciting times. Dingley isn't defying the galleries, like the fearless Johnson of Indiana. He is sitting timidly watching his monumental deficit bill and waiting for the opportunity to amend it to get more revenue, when the stress of war may be pleaded as an excuse, instead of an absolute failure of the bill itself.—Utica Observer.

The Maine Count Remains.

The Maine disaster is the main count in our indictment against Spain. It is our supreme justification for driving Spain from Cuba. It is the high and conclusive reason upon which the nations expect us to act, and they will justly lose respect for us, as we will lose respect for ourselves, if we do not act.—New York World.

Favorite Son of Old Glory.

Fitzhugh Lee returns from his long and difficult experience at Havana to find that the whole nation honors and

loves him. Few public servants have been more promptly rewarded for distinguished services. Not long ago he was the favorite son of old Virginia. Now he is a favorite son of old glory.—New York Sun.

Trusts Number 200 Now.

An expert who has canvassed the growth of trusts finds that fully 200 such organizations are now in existence, with a total capital in stocks and bonds of \$3,002,000,000. This does not include many business and manufacturing combinations in process of formation, for there is scarcely a week that the announcement of a new pool or trust of gigantic proportions is not made. The capitalization claimed for existing trusts is equal to 56 per cent of the aggregate capital credited to all manufactures in the United States by the census of 1890.—New York Journal of Commerce.

Big Standing Army Not Wanted.

It would be hardly possible to state a plainer proposition than that the genius of the people of the United States is opposed to the creation of a considerable standing army. President Jackson, who had had in his character more of the military spirit than any of our Presidents, never asked for it. President Taylor, another military hero, looked with abhorrence upon the thought. President Grant never took a step in that direction. These men all had experience of what standing armies were.—Boston Herald.

What Plain People Think.

The plain everyday people of the United States hold that a nation is like a man; when it has received an insult and a blow it is high time to fight. Furthermore, people unhampered by books feel that for a nation like this to sit idly by and watch cowardly barbarians like the Spaniards torture and starve wretched noncombatants, almost without in cannot shot of its boundaries, would amount to a national compounding of crime.—Kansas City Times.

What Grosvenor Didn't Explain.

Mr. Grosvenor has not explained how Wall street came to know of the postponement of the President's message before Congress knew of it and while that body, as a matter of fact, was waiting for the message. But Mr. Grosvenor is not expected to explain. Like the gentleman who held a prominent position on a certain front porch in Canton some time ago, he has, for obvious reasons, "nothing to say."—Columbus Press Post.

McKinley a Tenderfoot.

President McKinley resorted to diplomacy with a nation skilled in its arts by centuries of practice, while he had but his own inexperience, the aid of his Canton lawyer, and that of an old man in his dotage. When a tenderfoot sits in a game with an expert he is pretty apt to get the worst of it. Sagasta was not slow to take the advantage of him.—St. Paul Globe.

Republicans Growing Scarcer.

While Grosvenor valiantly protests against the injection of politics into the discussion of the Spanish question, at the same time he boasts that if there is a war "it will be a Republican war." Judging by the results of last Tuesday's municipal elections, there are not now enough Republicans in the country, outside of Rhode Island, to make a very formidable army.—St. Louis Republic.

Patriotism Bounded by Pelf.

"Trust us to preserve the honor of the nation!" shouts the broker. "We will keep that honor secure—for a consideration." "War is hell!" shouts the excited dealer in options, and in an undertone he adds: "It depreciates the price of my securities." The patriotism that is confined to pelf seems to be in the saddle now. But it is riding for a fall.—Omaha World-Herald.

McKinley Can't Cut Loose.

If President McKinley could but muster up the courage to cut loose from Hanna and his stock-gambling friends it would perhaps be possible yet for him to regain in some measure the confidence of the people. But with Hanna he is like Sinbad with the old man of the sea astride his neck.—Kansas City Star.

Political Paragraphs.

After the army and navy have evicted Spain from Cuba, why not employ them to evict Hanna from the cabinet meetings?—Chicago Dispatch.

Just how an act of war, such as the blowing up of the Maine, can be arbitrated is hard to understand.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

A circus manager has offered the Government the services of twenty-five patriotic elephants. But with Hanna on its hands the Government hesitates.—Exchange.

In the memorable language of Ambassador John Hay, it looks as if Consul General Lee was determined to hold her nose again! The bank till the last galoot's ashore.—Boston Herald.

The thievery and jobbery, the bad faith and chicanery which have brought the Republican State machine into bad odor are sufficient to bring a heritage of defeat.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

It would take old Grover and Olney about three minutes to decide whether we should have peace or war with Spain, and in view of the way they cut J. Bull's comb three years ago there is not much doubt about which they would choose.—Memphis Scimitar.

AGRICULTURAL NEWS

THINGS PERTAINING TO THE FARM AND HOME.

Alfalfa a Drouth-Resisting Plant—Irrigation Coming to Every Farmer—Clearing Up the Barnyard—Best Branches of Farming.

A Drouth-Resisting Plant.

The chief reason why alfalfa hay will grow in the short grass country is that it has long roots. They have been known to strike twenty-feet deep for moisture. The plant will not thrive, therefore, in soil that is not open and deep. An ideal place for its growth is along the river bottoms in the western part of Kansas—land under which great lakes of "sheet water" miles upon miles in extent, are found from ten to twenty-five feet below the surface. The roots of alfalfa readily push down to the water and drink when they need moisture, and the result is that the plant blossoms and prospers, and becomes a never-failing source of revenue to the man who cultivates it. On the rolling uplands, where there is scarcely an average rainfall of twenty-five inches a year, the plant will live and produce hay nearly always. It makes good pasture under ordinary conditions there, and is almost certain every year to produce a fine crop of seed. All the uplands are fertile enough, the only trouble about making use of that fertility being the lack of moisture. Irrigation has not yet succeeded in bringing water in abundance to the assistance of the tiller of the soil in this region, and therefore only such a plant can live as has deep roots, and a pertinacity that even the hot winds of Kansas can not shake.—Harper's Weekly.

Irrigation.

Irrigation in some form will come sooner or later, and the farmer will then be independent of drouths. In fact, irrigation can be practiced on a majority of farms if the owners will go to the expense of arranging for a water supply. The windmill, hydraulic ram and engine can be used to force water into a tank or reservoir, from which it can be obtained for crops by gravity. What farmers should consider is not the expense but the prospective gain. It has happened year after year that at critical stages during the growth of crops drouth appears and destroys the farmer's hopes, the loss during a single season being greater than the expense of an irrigating plant. It is also possible that with an unlimited supply of water the yields may be more than doubled and the profits greatly increased. In this region the rains will assist the farmer the greater portion of the growing period, the supply of water to be stored being only sufficient to tide the crops over a dry spell. With the ability to apply water to crops at will, and the liberal use of fertilizers, the crops grown on land that has been used for experimental purposes have been enormous, as much as three times the average yield having been secured.

Clearing Up the Barnyard.

After the great bulk of winter-made manure is drawn from the barnyard and spread upon the fields, there always remains a considerable amount of scattering manure, which, if not gathered up, is sure to be in large part wasted. It should at least be always piled in heaps, where it will be less liable to waste than if spread. In most barnyards there are accumulations of finely rotted manure that have been left in previous years. It does not pay to leave such rich manure to go to waste. Two or three loads of such scrapings are easily worth a dozen from the piles of unfertilized manure. Much of this old manure is rich enough to be used as a hill dressing for corn, to be dropped in the hill with the seed grain. It will make the corn come up a dark green and be more vigorous all the season.

Best Branches of Farming.

Dairying and poultry keeping are about the only branches of farming that afford a nearly continuous income. The main and staple crops yield a harvest but once a year. The profits of farming, generally speaking, come slowly, and must be patiently waited for. To some young men, ambitious to get rich fast, this seems to be a reason for choosing to engage in some other business. But the returns of intelligent farmers, although slow, are pretty safe and sure. The young live stock which a farmer raises must be fed and cared for a long time before any profit comes back, but the profit comes in due time. Their growth and increase in weight goes on silently and steadily as money at interest, and in the end, should amount to much more. One important return of profit for labor bestowed and the cost of fertilizers applied comes to the skilled farmer in the course of years through the increased fertility and value of his farm.

Peas on Poor Land.

Land that is too poor for any other kind of crop may be profitably sown with peas, putting in with the seed enough lime, phosphate and potash to make the grain. This on very poor land is a better first crop than clover, as the pea grain is large and will produce a strong enough stalk to live, while the young clover is so small that it may easily be killed out before it gets root held in the soil. It is hard to get a clover catch on poor soil, while peas will grow, no matter how poor the soil may be.

Mutton for Farmers' Tables.

There is no meat quite so convenient for farm use as mutton, as the carcass of an average sheep can be easily kept in most families until it can be eaten. It is very easy to kill and dress a sheep.

Not even poultry can be prepared for the table with so little trouble. What is better, the mutton killed on the farm is of superior quality. It lacks the "woolly taste" which so often comes to mutton from sheep that have been long driven to market, or that have had to endure long journeys by railroad, often without food or drink for twenty-four to thirty-six hours. It is one of the advantages of better prices for wool that more farmers will be able to keep sheep. If mutton could more generally supersede fat, greasy pork on farmers' tables, they and their families would be much more healthy than they are under present conditions.

Sweet Potatoes.

Some of the varieties of sweet potatoes that are most popular in the South will not succeed with Northern growers. The sweet potato requires a long season to grow in, and only the early kind will succeed in the Northern States. It is usually a mistake to send South for sweet potatoes to plant. The Northern varieties, propagated in slips for planting by seedmen, are much better, as well as cheaper, than trying to winter the sweet potato and cut it into sets for planting, as is done with the ordinary white potato. It is a great advantage in growing sweet potatoes to have well-rooted plants ready to set out when the soil and air are warm enough to insure rapid growth. Most of the successful Southern varieties of sweet potatoes are watery and poor when grown North.

Horticultural Hints.

Give the orchard all the potash that it needs.

Coarse, raw manure is not fit for the garden.

Toads, frogs and lizards are useful in the garden.

The gem melon is the best seller in the market.

Prune the quince tree and train it to a single stem.

Extra work in getting a good seed bed pays in garden work.

Cut off all the bruised roots when planting a tree, but do not mutilate the top.

A neglected orchard encumbers land that might be used profitably for other purposes.

A late crop of cabbage is easily grown, for the seed can be planted in the open ground.

Five acres in cucumbers for pickles will ordinarily pay as much as all the rest of the farm.

Seedling Peach Trees.

In every peach orchard free from the yellows, there will be more or less seedling peach trees springing up every year from pits dropped after the peach was eaten the previous fall. It requires freezing to open these pits, and the germ usually comes forth with the first warm weather of spring. These seedlings will usually be of poor quality, as they are only natural fruit. But if they are set out in rich soil as soon as the shoots start, they will grow rapidly and be plenty large enough to be budded in July next. It is a comparatively easy thing to learn to bud. In this way a stock of peach trees can easily be secured if one plants peach stones from healthy fruit in the fall, and takes care to use only buds from healthy stock for budding purposes.

Location for Bees.

Many people fail of success with bees, because they do not place the hives right. If too shaded the bees are likely to be attacked by the moth miller, which breeds those worms that destroy the honey. It is well to have the bees up early, so the hives should front to the east, so as to catch the first rays of the morning sun. Either a well-roofed, low building should be put up as a bee stand, or the hives should be set on a bench under a tree all through the summer. In winter it is not best that bees should see sunlight. If an underground cellar out of doors can be fitted up where the temperature may be kept below freezing all the time, it will be much better than the warmer house cellar.

Guessing vs. Knowing Weights.

When the farmer sells one of his animals to the butcher to kill and market, the latter has every advantage. He is used every day to estimating weights, and his business makes it necessary to guess closely. So in most such sales by guess, the farmer is apt to be cheated, often by fifty or a hundred weight. Every farmer who has occasion to sell anything by weight should procure a pair of farm scales. They will save their cost often in a single year.

Notes for Shepherds.

Sheep fertilize the pastures.

Sheep are death to wild mustard.

Eastern Australia has 100,000,000 sheep.

Don't keep a flock in unventilated quarters.

The Merino matures too slowly for a profitable mutton sheep.

The demand for stock sheep has been very strong this season.

Second growth clover is highly recommended for lambs after weaning.

Once in a while the stables should have an extra and thorough cleaning.

Dry feed and nothing else will likely cause sick sheep before spring. Oil meal is a remedy.

The ram is by no means a coward, and we have seen one put up a successful fight against a dog.

To compel the ewe to raise a lamb and grow a big fleece the same year is too much work for her.

The breeding of lamb rams is a serious mistake to both the breeder and customer, says a flockmaster.—Western Plowman.

A man is always looking for letters, but he never answers them.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

Parity.

We know that for a period of seventy years, to wit, from 1803 to 1873, during which there were greater changes in the relative production of the metals than during any like period in their history, the two metals, gold and silver, were practically on a parity with each other.

During the whole of that time 15½ ounces of silver would exchange for one ounce of gold in all the markets of the world; and this because the mints of France were open to the unrestricted coinage of both metals upon that ratio.

The coins struck from them were unlimited legal tender—that is, they were equally endowed with the money function. For many centuries prior to 1873 both metals were in the world's money stock, and their separation from each other was so gradual as not to practically interfere with their joint use as money metals.

The way the bimetallic principle brings the metals together and maintains their parity with each other can easily be understood. It is made plain by the following familiar illustration of Jevons: "When two receptacles for fluids are separated from each other, the height to which the fluid will rise in each depends upon the quantity poured into it. But when there is a connecting pipe between them the fluid will rise to the same level in both, whichever receives the supply."

And this, says Jevons, exactly illustrates the movement of the metals in western Europe, under the bimetallic law of France of 1803, which provided for the unrestricted coinage of both metals, and gave to the coins struck from each the office of unlimited legal tender.

Their legal tender function, allowing the coins struck from one of the metals to freely take the place of the coins struck from the other metal, for monetary purposes, was the connecting pipe; and as the fluid discharged from the common outflow was a single fluid, though in the inflow the color of one of them may have been white and that of the other yellow, so where the standard is bimetallic the resulting money is a single bimetallic money, and in its relation to commodities as expressive of value as is a single standard, though it is called a bimetallic or double standard because two metals are selected for full monetary use.

Honest Dollars.

As soon as the President was elected he asked authority to send a commission to Europe. What for? To keep the gold standard because it was a blessing? No, to get rid of it because it was a curse.

Why should we send a commission to Europe to ask other nations to help us get rid of the gold standard if the gold standard has been a blessing? Who can say that the gold standard is good and ought to be kept without condemning the sending of a commission abroad to get rid of it?

Not only did the President ask authority to appoint the commission, but Congress gave him the authority, and by an almost unanimous vote. Republicans, Democrats, Populists, everybody, with scarcely an exception, voted to give the authority and then appropriated for the purposes of the commission \$100,000 of the people's money—yes, \$100,000 of the people's money, notwithstanding there was a deficit at the time; but we needed to get rid of the gold standard so badly that we would go into debt further and pay \$100,000 to get rid of it.

Now, I am simply calling attention to what has been done in this country. The man who advocates the gold standard has to do it in spite of all history of the United States. The man who advocates the gold standard as a blessing to this country has to do it against the protest of 99 per cent. of the people as they voted on election day, and against the protest of all the political parties that have any strength in this country. It seems to me it ought to be a rather easy thing to defend bimetallicism with so much on your side and nothing but a look of surprise as defense for the gold standard.—W. J. Bryan.

Cause of Distress.

What is the cause of the present long-continued distress among the producing classes? The cause can be readily explained. By contracting the currency, money is made scarce and its purchasing power is inflated. The market prices of all commodities which are the products of industry are reduced; consequently a given amount of money will purchase a larger amount of products.

This is a great advantage to the creditor class and to all who have fixed incomes, as bondholders, who are not required to labor for support, but it is a far greater injury to the producing classes and also to owners of real and personal property other than bonds, the value of which becomes depreciated.

Great Britain, as the creditor nation of the world, understands perfectly the effect of currency contraction, and has sought since 1816 to fix a gold standard on the world in order, as her most eminent statesmen have acknowledged, to enable her to buy her breadstuffs and raw material at half price and to compel her debtors in the repayment of loans to give, in addition to interest, twice as much as they received when the debts were contracted.

Piscatorial authorities say that, were it not for the natural enemies of fish, the codfish would fill all the available space in the seas, rivers and oceans.

INDIANA INCIDENTS.

RECORD OF EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK.

Tipton Ditchers Came Near Lynching a Spaniard—Sad Romance of a Migrating Family—Anderson's Match-Eating Baby Is Dead

Ire of Patriots Aroused.

A riot occurred a few miles west of Tipton, in which one man came near being hanged. A ditch is being dug in Jefferson township, and about 100 men are employed on the job. A tramp came along and wanted work. When asked his nationality he said that he was a Spaniard and was proud of it. He said that in event of war between the United States and Spain, he would fight for his native country. Some of the ditchers became so enraged at this remark that they jumped out of the ditch, procured a rope and but for the intervention of Samuel Watson, the contractor, they would have hanged him.

Wheels His Wife's Corpse.

A man giving the name of William Jones, late of Paulding County, Ohio, passed through Gaston and Eaton, pushing a hand-cart containing the dead body of his wife, with a 20-months-old child sitting in the cart beside the corpse and a 3-year-old walking with its father. The story is to the effect that the man has been residing near the Illinois State line in the western part of the State and that the family started on foot for their former home in Ohio. The wife is said to have died of heart disease, and the husband being anxious to get and the remains back home, wrapped them in a sheet and continued his overland journey without stopping for sleep.

Poisoned by Matches.

Three-year-old Willie McCamrack, Anderson's "match-eating boy," is no more. He succumbed to his diet after loading up on twenty parlor matches. He achieved notoriety and reputation in his three brief years on earth because of his fond desire for match heads. Ice cream, candy and other delicacies were side-tracked when he got his eye on a match. He wet the head and sucked off the "red" stuff as though it was so much taffy on a stick.

Dying Boy Accuses Another.

Joseph Miller, a Terre Haute boy of 12 years, who is dying from a wound inflicted by a youth named Clifford Gage with a rifle several weeks ago, has admitted it was not an accident, and a warrant has been issued for the arrest of Gage. Miller says Gage became enraged at him and shot him at short range, the bullet passing through one of his lungs.

Dr. Griffith Shot in the Back.

A serious fight occurred at Cory, in which several unknown men played an active part. Dr. Griffith of that place got mixed up in the quarrel, and some one in the crowd opened fire on him with a revolver. He started for home on the run, and some one in the crowd fired a shotgun at him, several shot hitting him in the back.

Fishermen Lost in the Lake.

Charles Lind, Henry Slatter and Chas. Haradon, Michigan City fishermen, went out to lift their nets. Their boat capsized, and, being heavily loaded, sank to the bottom. The three men clung to the net poles for several hours. Then Lind and Slatter, becoming exhausted, were drowned. Haradon was saved.

Within Our Borders.

Thaddeus S. Rollins is dead at Indianapolis, aged 59.

Sherman Bartlow of Holton drove off a bridge. He and his horse were drowned.

A general store and the postoffice at Wall were looted by burglars the other night.

At Evansville, Grand Army Hall and Kohinor laundry were badly damaged by fire. Loss \$5,000, insured.

The Pope has approved the transfer of the see of Vincennes to Indianapolis, from which it will take its name.

James E. Watson has been nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Sixth district, to succeed Henry U. Johnson.

The Republicans of South Bend have nominated Schuyler Colfax for Mayor. He is a son of the late ex-Vice-President, Schuyler Colfax, and is very popular.

Koitz Brothers, engaged in the general merchandise business at Monterey, made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. Assets estimated at \$9,000; liabilities, \$3,500.

Rev. A. J. Bowlin, the Indiana divine noted for his wonderful voice, considered by many the most remarkable in the country, died suddenly at Westfield, Ill. He was stricken with paralysis.

The Governor says that the gamblers must be driven out of Roby and any part of Indiana soil that they are polluting. He says that it is the fault of the officials if they allow it; that they have plenty of law on their side to drive the gamblers out, and if they do not do this they are liable to impeachment.

The Grote Chemical Company at Shirley has wholly repaired the damage caused by a recent fire and is again turning out the peculiar kind of high grade nitric acid. This is the only plant in this part of the country producing the kind of acid used in the high explosives that are now in great demand by the Government.

Fay Tucker, the little girl who narrowly escaped cremation at the hands of her insane mother at New London some weeks ago, still lingers between life and death, with little hope for recovery. An effort is being made to graft new skin on the burned portions of her body. The entire class of the high school to which she belonged volunteered contributions, and fifteen boys and girls bared their arms and submitted to the surgeon's knife for her benefit. Joseph Tucker, an uncle, also furnished twenty separate grafts.

Work on the western extension of the C. I. & E. Railroad has been commenced by Contractor John Slater of Matthews. The work will be pushed as rapidly as possible, and H. E. Drew hopes to have it built to Converse within the next forty days.

Indiana natural gas men have at last got together and are sinking a well a mile deep to try for a second layer or reservoir of gas which many insist will be found at the depth of about 4,000 feet, and will put a new lease on life all through the field. The experiment is being made just north of the Madison County line.