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Extracts From President's Message.

When the inability of Spain to deal successfully with the insurrection has become manifest and it is demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuba for all purposes of its rightful existence and when a hopeless struggle for its re-establishment has degenerated into a strife which means nothing more than the useless sacrifice of human life and utter destruction of the very subject matter of the conflict, a situation will be presented in which our obligations to the sovereignty of Spain will be superseded by higher obligations, which we shall hardly hesitate to recognize and discharge.

Deferring the choice of ways and methods until the time of action arrives—for we should make them depend upon the precise conditions then existing, and they should not be determined upon without giving careful heed to every consideration involving our honor and interest or the international duty we owe to Spain—until we face the contingencies suggested or the situation is by other incidents imperatively changed, we should continue in the line of conduct heretofore pursued. * * *

But I have deemed it not amiss to remind the Congress that a time may arise when a correct policy and care for our interests as well as a regard for the interests of other nations and their citizens, joined by considerations of humanity and a desire to see the rich country, intimately related to us, saved from complete devastation, will constrain our government to such action as will subserve the interests thus involved and at the same time promise to Cuba and its inhabitants an opportunity to enjoy the blessings of peace.

The present tariff law took effect on Aug. 28, 1894. Whatever may be its shortcomings as a complete measure of tariff reform it must be conceded that it has opened the way to a free and greater exchange of commodities between the U. S. and other countries and thus furnish a wider market for products and manufacture. The only entire fiscal year during which this law has been in force, ended on the 30th day of June, 1896. In that year our imports amounted, over those of the previous year, to more than \$6,590,000, while the value of the domestic products we exported was nearly \$70,000,000 more than the preceding year.

I am more convinced than ever that we can have no assured financial plans and safety until the government currency obligations upon which gold may be demanded from the treasury are withdrawn from circulation, and this might be done by the exchange for bonds bearing low rate of interest or by the redemption with the proceeds of such bonds. * * * Obligations redeemable in gold, whenever so redeemed should be cancelled instead of being

reissued. * * * National banks should redeem their own notes. They should be allowed to issue circulation to the par value of bonds deposited as security for its redemption, and the tax on their circulation should be reduced to one-fourth of one per cent.

We have placed too much stress upon the danger of contracting the currency, and have calculated too little upon the gold that would be added to our circulation if invited to us by better and safer method. It is not so much a contraction of our currency that should be avoided as its unequal distribution. This might be obviated, and any fear of harmful contraction at the same time removed, by allowing the organization of smaller banks and in less populous communities than are now permitted, and also authorizing existing banks to establish branches in small communities under certain restrictions. The day of sensible and sound financial methods will not dawn upon us until our government abandons the banking business and the accumulation of funds, and confines its monetary operations to the receipt of the money contributed by the people for its support and to the expenditure of such money for the people's benefit.

When our differences are forgotten, and our contests of political opinions are no longer remembered, nothing in the retrospect of our public service will be as fortunate and comforting as the recollection of official duty well performed, and the memory of a constant devotion to the interests of our confiding fellow-countrymen.

Grover Cleveland.

A Smart Parrot.

One of Knoxville's most popular and eloquent divines, who has been spending some time at Lea's Springs, relates the following.

One of the lady guest own a favorite parrot, which has kept the guests amused with his funny sayings, and was taken suddenly sick, in fact every one thought it was the last of pretty Polly, when some thoughtful person suggested to give her a dose of Dr. Hart's Great Relief. At least twenty guests rushed to their rooms to get their bottle, (as no one thinks nowadays of being without it). After giving him one the parrot got entirely well, and now cries all day long: 'Polly wants some Hart's Relief.' This is a fact.

The Waldensian church has, in the Waldensian valleys, 17 congregations with 23 pastors, a membership of 14,248, good supply of schools, 4,684 lay pupils, and 3,695 Sunday scholars. It has also a Theological Seminary and college at Florence, a Latin school and high school for girls. The contributions were 69,643 lire for all church purposes. In other parts of Italy there are 44 Waldensian congregations, most of them having churches: 1,000 members, with 43 pastors, and a membership of 5,018.—Ex.

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WASHINGTON LETTER

From our Regular Correspondent.

There is a great deal more in the announcement that the republican members of the House Committee on Ways and Means have begun work on the tariff bill which they are to attempt to pass at the extra session of the next Congress to be held early in the spring, and that the committee are to grant hearings to manufacturers at once than appears upon the surface. There are reasons to believe that this announcement was hurried up as a part of the plan to elect republican Senators enough to make a majority for that party. The republican Steering Committee of the Senate succeeded in getting Mr. Hanna to undertake this job of electing Senators in Kentucky, North Carolina, South Dakota and Washington and everybody knows that the only lever Mr. Hanna relies upon for success is money. By giving the men who expect to get big profits through the 'protection' of a republican tariff bill hearings before the committee they can be shown that they are to get what they want and thus be put into the humor to furnish what Mr. Hanna wants—more cash.

The same talk about a moderate tariff which is now being given to newspaper men was prevalent when work was begun on the McKinley bill was. It is true that many of the republicans would really like to see the bill made moderate, but it is equally true that the men who made republican success possible this year are determined that the duties shall be made high. President Cleveland has gone to South Carolina on a fishing trip and Congressmen are jocularly charging him with having run away to escape the ex-Queen of Hawaii, who is coming to Washington to present him with a bill of damages for failure to fulfill his promise, not of marriage, but of a restored throne.

The populists in Congress are a little shy about the rumput between Senator Marion Butler and Tom Watson, but it is plain that some of them especially those from the South, believe that Butler will have to do something to show his resentment or lose his influence with the populists of that section. A Georgian, who is not a populist, said about the recent phase of it: "There were fighting words in that signed article of Watson's and when I was a young man it would not have been a question of publishing a similar attack upon the other party. To have said that a man tells an untruth merely for the casual pleasure of having deceived" would have meant duelling pistols and an early morning meeting in the vicinity of Bladensburg in the good old days." There is no idea that Butler will do anything more than to call Watson an other.

If McKinley is half as wise

as his advisers think him to be he will quietly let it be known among the republican Senators that Proctor, of Vermont, is not to be the administration leader in the Senate of the next Congress; a position now assigned him by rumor. Senator Proctor is a nice enough man in his way, but he has not, either as a member of Harrison's Cabinet, or as a Senator, shown any of the qualities needed for successful leadership, and, and there is no reason to believe that he possesses them. There are already a number of republican Senators who do not feel over cordial towards McKinley, and if he isn't very careful, he will be in hot water almost as soon as he is in the White House.

The House made a fairly good showing for the first week of the session, having passed the Pension Appropriation Bill a number of postal bills, a bill against the sale of liquor in the Capitol building, and a whole batch of private pension bills. The Senate held only four sessions during the week, and it has very little to show for them. At one of these sessions some commotion was caused by a motion made by Senator Allen to take up the Dingley bill. The motion carried out the only result was the killing of a few minutes time, at the expiration of which the bill went back to the calendar under the rules.

Senator Teller has been quite a busy man since his arrival in Washington. One of the first men he had an extended conference with was Senator Jones of Arkansas, and the subject of the conference was the future policy of the silver men in Congress. Both Senators declined to be interviewed on the subject and no public announcement is expected until after the conference of silver leaders, shortly to be held, and it may not be deemed politic then to announce any formal programme.

"Five hundred dollars would not go very far towards the education of the children of the State, and we propose that it be spent on the ball." This is a statement made by the Charlotte Observer, and printed in many papers. It was made in view of the fact that the Governor-elect has very sensibly decided to dispense with the usual inauguration 'clap trap.' The ball has always been paid for by private contributions. But the State has been in the habit of appropriating \$500 for the inauguration. The point that we desire is this, that \$500 will run four schools four months; and four schools four months will reach 200 children. This may not be going very far, but it is better than going into 'clap trap.'—Reorder.

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CASTORIA.

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Col. Skinner's Great Scheme.

Washington Post.

"This is what I think will happen in 1900, unless the gold standard brings prosperity that bids fair to be permanent," said Congressman Harry Skinner, of North Carolina, at the Ebbitt.

"The Populists will hold their national convention early, sooner than any of the other parties; as early perhaps, as the 23rd of February. They will proceed to nominate, with practical unanimity, W. J. Bryan for President and Marion Butler for Vice-President, and the leading plank in the platform will be an unequivocal declaration for free silver coinage, at the ratio of 16 to 1, independent of the other governments of the world. Now, if the Democrats who supported Bryan this time were sincere, how can they avoid giving him their assistance four years from now? They will simply have to take him up, and I doubt not they will do so cheerfully.

"I recognize fully that conditions may be changed in 1900 that the leading issue of the campaign just ended may not come to the front. It would be neither patriotic nor wise in Democrats or Populists to endeavor to thwart the incoming President in any of his policies that tend to bring back prosperity. In fact, they owe it to the country to lend him a helping hand and to cooperate in every measure that makes for improvement. And I am satisfied that if McKinley's administration is marked by a restoration of prosperity, that he will be re-nominated and re-elected.

One of the saddest results of the massacres in Armenia is the helplessness of thousands of orphan children, some of whom have lost both parents by death; while others, whose fathers are dead, have mothers who are suffering torments worse than death in Turkish harems. The American Relief Association has undertaken as far as possible to provide for these. It asks contributions. One dollar will care for an orphan for a month. It does not propose to build orphanages, or found endowments, but to relieve present need. In supporting orphans, it will, in many instances, also relieve widows, as in many villages five or ten orphans may be entrusted to the care of a christian widow, who by this means earn her own livelihood.—Ex.

A bill has been introduced in Congress to increase the salary of Senators and representatives in Congress from \$5,000 to \$7,500, to make the Speaker's salary \$10,000 and the Vice-President \$15,000. An amendment is said to be ready to increase these by making the salary of Congressmen \$10,000. The style set for living in Washington has become so expensive that it will not be long before all salaries will be increased. About the people who pay the salaries? They will not be considered.—N&O.

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