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## EFFECT OF AMENDMENT

### As Applied to the White Illiterate Voters.

#### Mr. Settle's Views on The Double-Barrelled Disfranchising Scheme.

#### Correctness of the Gazette's Transcript of His Utterances.

#### Interest Excited by the Ex-Congressman's Opinion That the "Grandfather Clause" is a Nullity.

It would probably be too much to say that the statements made in this city by ex-Congressman Thomas Settle that he is in favor of the proposed constitutional amendment because if it became law both white and black illiterate voters would be disfranchised have had a sensational effect, but they have certainly been received with great interest. They have at least had the result of calling lively attention to the obvious deception in the "grandfather clause" of the law, which while pretending to protect white illiterate voters from disfranchisement can have no power to afford such protection. Mr. Settle is criticised for favoring a measure only a portion of which is constitutional when he knows that the unconstitutional section in it is so clearly unconstitutional that the courts will not allow it to stand. The explanation given by Mr. Settle in his position in this respect is that he desires an educational qualification applied to all voters—that he does not think either white or black illiterates ought to be allowed to vote. How extensively this view is held by other advocates of the amendment it would be difficult to discover, as few are as frank in their expressions of their reasons for favoring the measure or are willing to discuss the consequences of the court's judgment on the section that violates the 15th amendment to the constitution of the United States.

While Mr. Settle has not denied that the Gazette correctly quoted his views on the amendment, an Asheville newspaper has sought to counteract the effect of these views by procuring from Mr. Settle a statement that he refused an "interview" to a Gazette representative, which is a denial of nothing that has appeared in the Gazette. Mr. Settle, during his visit here has expressed himself very openly, on several occasions, as in favor of the constitutional amendment, because it would disfranchise white as well as black illiterates, as it requires an educational qualification from all voters, the section that pretends to afford "protection" to the whites being unconstitutional. The words of Mr. Settle to this effect that appeared in the Gazette of Tuesday were spoken by him on one of these occasions. While no denial is made by him that he was correctly quoted a statement that he was "misrepresented" by the Gazette, he has published in this city and telegraphed to papers in other parts of the state. The Gazette, therefore, not caring to rest under malicious misrepresentation as to itself, has requested expressions from persons who have had opportunities of knowing what views Mr. Settle has expressed openly during his visit in the city. The following letter was in response to a request sent to United States Internal Revenue Collector H. S. Harkins:

Asheville, N. C., Sept. 20, 1899.  
Editor of the Gazette.  
In reply to your request for information from me as to the views of Hon. Thomas Settle on the constitutional amendment, I will say that Mr. Settle on Saturday last in the presence of several persons including myself stated that he was in favor of an educational qualification of voters regardless of race. He said he favored the proposed constitutional amendment because it would shut out ignorant voters, both white and black. The fifth section of the amendment, he said was unconstitutional and would be thrown out. He said he had no doubt of that. The conversation in which Mr. Settle expressed himself I did not regard as in any sense a private one.

H. S. HARKINS.  
Colonel V. S. Lusk stated to a Gazette representative yesterday that he was surprised that anyone should question the correctness of the Gazette's report of Mr. Settle's views on the constitutional amendment, as he had heard Mr. Settle quoted to exactly the same effect by several persons who had talked with the ex-congressman since he had come to Asheville. Colonel Lusk said:  
"I have not talked with Mr. Settle myself but from a number of persons who have discussed with him the question of the proposed suffrage amendment I have learned that his views are as they were reported in the Gazette. Two persons of unquestioned veracity who saw Mr. Settle last Saturday first told me that he held these views of the effect of the amendment and on Monday I was so informed by another gentleman who had just had a

conversation with him. There is no possible doubt that Mr. Settle has related to a number of his acquaintances here, and in a very public manner, that he believes the constitutional amendment, if it becomes law, will disfranchise white men as well as black men, because in his opinion the fifth section of it being unconstitutional, will be thrown out. I have not seen that he has denied making such a statement and I am sure that he will not do so."

## ANTI-TRUST CONFERENCE IN SESSION AT ST. LOUIS.

### Governors and Attorney Generals Start Off with a Wrangle.

St. Louis, Sept. 20.—The anti-trust conference of the governors and attorney generals convened here today with representatives present from Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Tennessee, Texas and Washington. The governors of Louisiana and Georgia sent telegrams of regret and sympathy with the objects of the conference.

Governor Sayers, of Texas, was made chairman and explained the object of the meeting. Governor Stephens, of Missouri, made a lengthy address commendatory of the trust laws of his state and urging federal action against combinations. Governor Thomas, of Colorado, took occasion to denounce Delaware and New Jersey as "breeding grounds of trusts."

Governor Shaw, of Iowa, attacked Stephens, and moved that a committee consisting of the governors of Missouri and Tennessee and the attorney general of Texas be named to formulate an anti-trust bill to be presented to the several state assemblies. He accused Stephens of attempting to make political capital out of the conference by dragging in expansion and other questions. His motion was tabled.

Several other speeches were made, including one by Pingree. Before adjourning a series of resolutions looking to the regulation of trusts were presented and referred to committee.

## HEAVY RAINFALL IN MANILA MAY INCREASE

### Observatory Issues a Warning That Storm May Get Worse.

Manila, Sept. 20.—A severe typhoon is prevailing here. During the past twenty-four hours the rainfall was 6.34 inches.

The observatory has issued a warning that the storm will likely increase. The country is partially flooded, preventing military operations.

Nothing has been heard of the Monterey and Concord which sailed for Subic bay Monday to assist the Charleston in reducing the fortifications there.

## EXPRESS TRAIN PLUNGED DOWN AN EMBANKMENT

### Accident on Baltimore and Ohio—Engineer Killed.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Sept. 20.—Shortly before noon today an engine of the St. Louis express on the Baltimore and Ohio left the track near Petroleum, twenty miles east of here, and plunged over a twenty-foot embankment. The postal car, two baggage cars and two coaches were derailed and badly damaged. Engineer Meyers was killed and several trainmen injured.

## THE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN AGAINST BRYAN IN NEBRASKA

### State Convention Meets today to Nominate a Ticket.

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 20.—Tomorrow the republican state convention meets here today plans to defeat Bryan. A supreme court judge is the only candidate to be selected, but the campaign is considered important, as every effort will be made to beat the allied silver forces.

A high arm machine for \$20.00 at Mrs. L. A. Johnson's, 27 North Main street.

Your choice of our entire stock of Oxford Ties at \$1.75 for this week. G. A. Mears.

Buy a good stove from Mrs. L. A. Johnson and save half the fuel. Yes, she sells on the installment plan.

SUNDAY'S GAMES. R. H. E.  
St. Louis ..... 14 20 2  
New York ..... 4 10 2  
Batteries: Sudhoff and O'Connor; Garrick, Garon and Warner.



## Eyes

Are an every day possession. Almost every one has them. They don't seem to be very wonderful until they hurt us or we lose them. It does not make the affliction any easier to bear, to know that we are to blame. Save yourself this unhappiness by having us examine them for you, and fit you with proper glasses.

**S. L. MCKEE,**  
SCIENTIFIC OPTICIAN,  
45 Patton Ave.

## ENCOUNTER AT BATTERY PARK

### Between Congressman Pearson and Harry Martin

#### A Sequel to the Ballot Box Stuffing at Black Mountain with Which Martin was Charged.

At 11 o'clock yesterday morning while Representative Richmond Pearson was sitting in a chair at the barber shop of the Battery Park hotel being shaved, he was approached by Harry Martin, a stepson of the late Senator Vance. Martin began to discuss some phases of the Pearson-Crawford contested election case, especially evidence appearing in the contestant's (Mr. Pearson's) brief implicating him in frauds at the Black Mountain township precinct. Martin spoke insultingly and struck him. The two men then exchanged several blows until they were separated by Martin's father-in-law, Mr. Burritt, and one of the barbers.

Mr. Martin in speaking of the encounter said: "I wish it to be distinctly understood that politics had nothing to do with it. I had no objection to Pearson's going fully into the election at Black Mountain, but it was brought on by personal allusions to which I had a right to object."

Martin is a man powerfully built and athletic, and had his antagonist at a disadvantage on account of the cloth that had been placed over his arms and shoulders while he was being shaved.

Mr. Pearson made the following statement to the Gazette:  
"While I was sitting in the barber's chair at the Battery Park hotel this morning I was approached by Mr. Martin, who proceeded to deliver a premeditated and well composed speech based upon the testimony contained in the contested election case of Pearson against Crawford now pending before the house of representatives. Four witnesses, citizens of Black Mountain township, had sworn that they saw with their own eyes Mr. Martin stuffing the ballot box at the last election. In response to a question from my attorney in the city of Washington, Mr. Martin admitted that he had been arrested during President Harrison's administration for an attempt to break into the white house in the night time through a window. My attorney was simply exercising their professional duty in eliciting these facts, and the brief naturally contains a recital of the testimony. Mr. Martin's attack could have no other foundation than politics, because I have had no personal differences with him, have not spoken to him in more than ten months and have had only the slightest personal relations with him. He approached me with the evident purpose of ascertaining whether I would submit quietly to the grossest personal insults, and when he intimated that I would allow a man to slap my face without resenting it, I proved to him that he was in error by instantly slapping his, notwithstanding his superior brute force and notwithstanding the fact that I was wrapped in the barber's drape, and of course had not the free use of my arms. About a dozen blows passed on each side but no serious damage was done. I was entirely alone, and the only other persons in the room besides Mr. Martin and his friend, were the two barbers.

"Mr. Martin by such conduct may add to his already unenviable notoriety but he can hardly aid the contestant in the case because the evidence on both sides has already been printed, and the case stands for trial by the house of representatives. The arrest of witnesses in behalf of the contestant cannot benefit the cause of the contestant. I ought to add that I have avoided the publication of this testimony so injurious to Mr. Martin's character, but he has chosen a method which must give it the widest publicity."

The provocation which seems especially to have influenced Mr. Martin is the statement in the brief which we give below:  
"Black Mountain precinct—The record contains the testimony of four witnesses for contestant slapping his, whose character is established by contestant's own witnesses. Each of these four men swears, each corroborating the testimony of the others, that he saw the democratic judge of election at this precinct during the counting of the ballots on election night, take tickets out of the ballot box, put them into his overcoat pocket and take other tickets from his trousers pocket and put them into the ballot box."

Then follows the testimony of the four witnesses referred to, and the brief continues:  
"Here we have a genuine case of ballot box stuffing, clumsily done, but clear, well defined, unmistakable. The interest in this incident is heightened by the fact, admitted by the party accused, that he is the same person who was arrested during Mr. Harrison's administration for an attempt to break into the white house through a window, in the night. It seems that a man who would commit an assault upon the white house is a most fit person to commit an assault upon the ballot box. The ascent or descent, from one crime to the other is easy and natural. The motive in the two cases may have been different, but the person is the same, and the act bespeaks a bold and daring nature. It is proof at once of a resolute heart, and of a lively imagination." In the testimony taken for the contestant, Mr. Pearson, appears the following:  
Q. Mr. Martin, I am obliged to refer

to a passage in your own career that occurred here during Mr. Harrison's administration. Do you recall having made a somewhat violent entrance into the white house sometime at night by breaking the window?  
(Counsel for contestee objects to question unless it is asked for the distinct purpose of impeaching the veracity of the witness.)  
A. My recollection of that event is not very distinct. My attorney, J. J. Darlington, informed me that it was a case of disorderly conduct, which was not prossecd.  
Q. Do you recollect the circumstance?  
A. I recollect the circumstance. I wish to say that it is obvious from this question, which is, of course, directly inspired by Mr. Pearson, that he has some personal malice; because the fact that I was disorderly at the white house, or any other house, has no more relevance to the present issue than the fact that Pearson once laid himself open to indictment for a crime by sending a challenge to fight a duel, this being the best method known to man of keeping out of a fight.

## HAVANA CART DRIVERS STRUCK YESTERDAY

### Transportation of Goods Brought to a Standstill.

Havana, Sept. 20.—Every cart driver in Havana struck today and the transportation of goods was brought to a standstill. The drivers are all Spaniards and complain that Cuban policemen are unnecessarily harsh in enforcing the ordinances. All the other strikers continue to work without disorder. Tonight a big meeting was held to urge a general strike.

## CHIEF OF POLICE HANNAH SHOT BY MOONSHINERS

### Attempted to Arrest a noted Blockader Who Killed Him.

Chattanooga, Sept. 20.—Chief of Police Hannah was shot dead at North Dalton, Ga., this morning by a man named Jones, one of the most noted moonshiners in Georgia. Jones and two others were selling moonshine whiskey in North Dalton, when Hannah attempted to arrest them. Jones then shot him, and the three men escaped. A posse of 150 armed men are in pursuit.

## DETROIT WILL WATCH AMERICAN INTERESTS

### Fearred They will Suffer in Event of Battle in Venezuela

Washington, Sept. 20.—Capt. Hemphill, of the cruiser Detroit, sent a despatch today regarding the situation in Venezuela in which he said that four thousand insurgents have been operating in the vicinity of Puerto Cabello and that he would proceed there, as it was feared that American interests would be injured in the event of a fight.

## BIG EARTHQUAKE IN ALASKA

Seattle, Sept. 20.—Passengers on the steamer Dora today bring news of the biggest earthquake in Alaska since the days of Russian sovereignty. It extended from September 3 to 10 and made a great change in the topography of the north of Cook's inlet.

## NO PROGRESS SINCE WAR.

Santiago, Sept. 20.—General Wood, who, a few days ago, completed a tour of the province, found that little progress had been made since the war. The peasants are quiet, however, and are willing to work.

## KEY WEST'S YELLOW FEVER.

Jacksonville, Sept. 20.—The forty-five new cases and no deaths is the Key West yellow fever report for the last twenty-four hours.

**Oyster Crackers**  
**CRACKER MEAL**  
AND  
**A Fine Assortment OF FRESH CRACKERS**  
In One Pound Tins  
—AT—  
**SNIDER'S**  
ON THE SQUARE

## TRANSVAAL WARNING

### Against Further Movement of Troops Toward the Border.

### Boers Preparing for a Stubborn Defense of Their Territory.

### England Likely to Take Action at Tomorrow's Cabinet Meeting.

### Expectation of Martial Law at Johannesburg—Belgian Corps Organizing to Aid the Boers.

London, Sept. 20.—A Central News despatch tonight says it is stated on good authority that the Transvaal has notified Sir Alfred Milner that any further movement of troops toward the Transvaal border will be regarded as an unfriendly action.

A despatch to the Standard says the Boers are preparing for a stubborn defense.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, liberal leader, made a speech at New Tredegar today, in which he denied the Transvaal's right to be treated as a sovereign state, but denied that there was a casus belli and declared that war would be a shameful catastrophe.

The second edition of the morning Post contains a despatch from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, dated September 19, saying: "I have never known a situation to be graver. The Boers only being two days' rain on the veldt before beginning hostilities. They are determined on war, and consider they can expect nothing else after the last despatch and are prepared to face the consequences."

The correspondent describes the Boers' elaborate border preparations. He says the Orange Free State officials at Pretoria devised a combined plan of action which includes the seizing of Majuba, Laings Neck and New Castle, Natal, the moment the ultimatum arrives. Continuing, the correspondent asserts that Portuguese officials at Tisnado Garcia have arrested Boer officials on a charge of constructing a laager in Portuguese territory. The Outlander's council have decided to address a communication to the British high commissioner, urging the imperial government to break off negotiations with the Transvaal.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain spent today at the colonial office. He looked completely worn out by anxiety.

A despatch from Pretoria says at a meeting of the Belgians, three corps were enthusiastically formed to help the Boers in case of war. The presence of the Orange Free State officials at Pretoria is confirmed. Numerous field cornets are at the border capital.

The second edition of the Times prints a despatch from Johannesburg, saying quiet prevails. Prevailing feeling, however, is one of intense uneasiness, owing to the possibility of martial law being proclaimed at any moment. It probably will be proclaimed at the end of the week. It is said when this is done the government will insist on all persons unfavorable to the Boers leaving within forty-eight hours.

The correspondent says a person having access to the inner circles at Pretoria tells him that a despatch from Mr. Chamberlain was handed to the Transvaal government September 18, demanding the dismantlement of Boer forts, and the reduction of armament by 75 per cent. The Boers are greatly perturbed and are keeping the matter secret until they have decided on a plan of action. The same rumor was current in London yesterday, but nothing has been ascertained tending to confirm it, and in spite of the Times correspondent's reiteration, it is looked upon as improbable.

Durban, Natal, Sept. 20.—The First battalion of the Manchester regiment arrived here and immediately proceeded to Pietermaritzburg. The crowds present cheered the troops, who responded.

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## Closing Out

It will certainly save you money to buy them.

Arthur M. Field.

Corner Church Street and Patton Ave.