THE FRANKLIN TIMES.

JAS. A. THOMAS, Editor and Proprietor.

THE COUNTY, THE STATE, THE UNION.

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Champ Clark's Letter

The Blistering Administered to Littlefield—Democratic Day In the House of Representatives

[Special Washington Letter.]

IN his Fourth of July speech at Pittsburg President Roosevelt exclaimed in a burst of exuberant confidence that "relief for Cuba is as certain as fate!" It was dead easy to say a thing like that, but it will be interesting to know what Hon. Stephen Benton Elkins of West Virginia and the rest of "the senatorial Boxers" who put Cuban reciprocity to sleep in the senate at the session just closed think of that declaration. They hold the balance of power, and they know their advantage. Can any sane man believe they will not use it to the utmost? The president might just as well have announced that the Mississippi would just as certain as fate be running into Lake Itasca before Christmas. He put up a great bluff; that's all. He can't budge "the Boxers." They know that the Cuban reciprocity bill, if enacted into law, would be the first hole in the tariff dike which would finally cause the whole dike to topple over, and they do not propose that that hole shall be made, not if they can prevent it by fair means or foul. There is not a pound of beet sugar produced in West Virginia, but Elkins knows that while the sugar tariff is aimed at in the Cuban reciprocity bill, if that passes other schedules will be attacked. So he is fighting the scheme ab initio.

Littlefield Versus Schley.

In the last letter I told how Mr. Littlefield of Maine, a leading Republican, in replying to me in a running debate imputed cowardice to that great naval hero Admiral Winfield Scott Schley; also how he was hissed by Democrats on the floor and by the patriotic people in the gallery. I also stated that Judge De Armond of Missouri blistered Mr. Littlefield in his reply, but I did not then give De Armond's caustic speech for want of space. That portion of it devoted to the Maine congressman's attack on Schley will be found below. Personally I regret for Littlefield's sake that he made such a bad break, for I like him as a man and admire his talents. The Chicago Record-Herald gives this account of how Littlefield got into the scrape:

Loud hisses on the Democratic side followed an assertion by Representative Littlefield of Maine in the house that Admiral Schley was cowardly during the battle of Santiago. The dullness in congress during the final consideration of the Philippine bill was enlivened by Champ Clark of Missouri in a humorous speech in reply to Mr. Landis of Indiana. His wit and satire quickly filled most of the seats upon the floor, and the members thoroughly enjoyed his remarks. He grew serious in refuting the charges that the Democrats had turned their backs and run away from the Philippine question and reviewed briefly the record of his party in refutation.

Mr. Littlefield replied. Mr. Clark had mentioned Dewey, Schley, General Joe Wheeler, Hobson and several other heroes of the Spanish war to emphasize his statement that the Democrats had got as much glory out of it as the Republicans, had fought as bravely and had brought as much glory to their country's flag. When Mr. Littlefield reached that part of Mr. Clark's speech, he referred disparagingly of Schley, and the hisses followed.

Replying, Judge De Armond said:

The gentleman from Maine seems to be in the business of making suggestions in regard to "running away," and he seems to suggest that Schley made "the loop" in order to escape danger. The gentleman must have said that without thought. He did not mean, I think, to make an attack upon Admiral Schley. He did not mean that the man who commanded the American fight, the man who won for America's arms the great victory down at Santiago, was a coward.

Schley and "the loop!" Let us dwell a moment on that. Let us dwell for a moment on the man who stands in the naval history of this country with reference to these recent events second only to the hero of the battle of Manila Bay. Making a loop to get out of danger! Taking the coward's part! Surely the gentleman from Maine could not have meant that. What he said must have been said in the wild exuberance of his enthusiasm, in the exultation with which he was exploiting something through the feeling upon him of the necessity of magnifying and expanding, because he has too good an intellect to mislead him into the belief that he was really intending to talk so. His intellect is altogether too good for him to have intended to say anything about it. The gentleman really, I think, made his remark about Schley without thought and without meaning. He did not think, but he talked, and unfortunately he slandered an American hero when he did it.

Mr. Chairman, if all of us could be as safe in history and as prominent in history as Admiral Schley; if there could be attributed to us no shortcomings and no evidence of cowardice which may not be attributed to him; if we might be credited with the same candor and the same manliness that he displayed, and if by any possibility our services to our country could be as valuable and as glorious to all our fellow citizens as his, and if a page of the world's history could be illumined by anything which we might do to a thousandth part of the extent to which it has been gloriously illumined by what he did, fortunate indeed would we be. I am satisfied that the gentleman from Maine would do well—not justice to Schley and Schley's record, because Schley and Schley's record and Schley's achievements are far above the reach of flippant words or evil designs—but will do justice to himself, so that he will not pose as the slanderer of Schley.

Judge De Armond's irony to the effect that Mr. Littlefield had spoken unadvisedly and the fact that the latter did not seize that opportunity to recant prove that his assault on the fame of Schley was made deliberately and that to assail Schley is part of the Republican programme. Will it win? Can it win? Not so long as Americans love honor, admire courage and demand fair treatment for the men who fight valiantly and achieve stupendous victories battling under the American flag on land or sea.

Speech by John Sharp Williams.

Truth to tell, the oratorical scrap in which Mr. Littlefield charged cowardice to Schley was redhot from start to finish—lasted three hours and was participated in by several of the heavyweights. There is no abler man in the house of representatives than John Sharp Williams of Mississippi. He is a graduate of both the University of Virginia and the University of Heidelberg. His power of luminous statement is truly wonderful. He has no superior as a debater and brings to the discussion of any question perfect courage, absolute candor, wealth of learning and marvelous skill. He delivered a five minutes' speech which has rarely been excelled. Here it is verbatim:

Mr. Chairman, much has been said here in the last two or three days about "running away," much about "cowardice" and "weaklings" and much about our "facing the responsibilities" and "obligations" thrust upon us by the Spanish treaty. Now, I invite every member of this house not to "run away" from the pending proposition; not to show any cowardice, but faithfully perform the very first duty laid upon you by the treaty with Spain and to meet bravely the great obligation that is thrust upon you by that treaty.

As a congress the first obligation thrust upon you is to "fix the political status of the people of those islands." Now, why will you constantly "run away" even from your own breath? Why are you constantly afraid even to declare your own policy so much as to let your words go out upon the circumambient air so that somebody somewhere may possibly know what you intend to do?

Why not now give notice of your policy to the world, as the gentleman from Massachusetts has said, even in the negative way in which he proposes? Have you any policy that you dare utter? Do you want simply to drift without the courage to meet the real responsibilities and the real questions; continue to drift without a declaration of policy or intent until you have drifted so far that you cannot retrace your steps, until there have drifted into the islands capital and invested interests of many different sorts that will hold you there whether the people behind you want you held there or not? An unsought policy may drift on to you.

Gentlemen, let us not talk always about "courage;" let us show some; let us not talk always about "facing responsibilities;" let us face one now. Suppose before we leave here this evening the American congress shall declare "the political status of the people of the Philippine Islands," as the treaty of Paris requires, one way or the other—either declare it our way by giving them their independence or declare that they are subjects, colonial subjects, by saying that you are going to hold them perpetually or indefinitely as you are now holding them or declare that they are to be citizens. We will vote with you if you do the first; meet you in confidence before the people if you do either of the other two things. But declare something.

Don't you think that the American people have a right to expect something of this kind from a great party that has absorbed the initials "G. O. P."—"Grand Old Party?" But I think those letters might better be "S. O. P."—"Smart Old Party," "Dexterous Old Party," "Cunning Old Party." Why not once in your lifetime let it be a "Brave Old Party?" Don't you think the people have a right to expect from you simply that you shall utter your thoughts out loud in the public ear, not "run away" every time anybody proposes anything definite?

What do you declare in this bill? You are afraid to declare for the people of the islands their political status. You declare them to be "inhabitants" and "citizens of the Philippines." What is that in God's name? Everybody knew that they were "inhabitants of the Philippines" and "citizens of the Philippines." What does that mean? What are the Philippines? An independent government? Not yet. How can anybody be a "citizen" of something that is not an independent country?

You decline to say that they are citizens of the United States. You decline to say that they are subjects of the United States. The nearest you have ever got anywhere to a declaration on this subject was in a judicial construction made by one of the judges of the supreme court—the others did not unite with him—that they were "citizens appurtenant." Now, just let us have it out here now. We have told the American people what we propose—announced our policy. Say what you mean. If you mean anything at all, have the courage to tell the American people what it is, and do not "run away" or face something.

De Armond's Aqua Fortis.

After some more scrapping, in which General Charles Henry Grosvenor of Ohio, Crumpacker of Indiana, Melbermott of New Jersey and others took part, Judge De Armond of Missouri once more got the floor and poured a torrent of vitriol on the Republicans for five minutes. Since John Randolph of Roanoke was gathered to his fathers De Armond has the sarcastic faculty more largely developed than any other man who has appeared in Washington. Perhaps old Thad Stevens or Thomas B. Reed has equaled in bitterness any single sentence ever uttered by De Armond, but neither of them could hold a candle to him in wholesale skinning. He is the most deceptive mortal in appearance now on the boards. No casual observer would ever pick him as a fighter, but that is his forte. He is a delicate looking man, mild mannered, but unusually wide between the ears at the base of the brain, where the phrenologists locate the bump indicating combativeness. In debate he is in the heavyweight championship class. He is a fine lawyer, a long time judge, and his sentences, which cut like a razor, have the polish of a cameo. He fell afoul of the Republicans in general and of General Grosvenor in particular in the following vigorous and amazing fashion:

Mr. Chairman, I believe that we are now at a very important stage of this legislation. The venerable gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Grosvenor] is apprehensive of a deep laid design on the part of my friend from Mississippi [Mr. Williams]—to do what? To force the Republican party to say what it desires to do and what it will do! Now, that is a spectacle for gods and men! The gentleman from Mississippi in this late hour in the last days of the session is seriously trying to force that valiant, that warlike, that brave party to say what it desires to do and to do what it desires to do!

I do not wonder at the apprehension of my friend from Ohio—to be thus suddenly attacked in this way, an effort to be made suddenly to force that great party to be honest with the country and honest with itself, to speak out and throw away subterfuges, to declare what its purposes are and to give the American people the great surprise once, in connection with this Philippine transaction, of finding the party honest and candid! Will my friend from Mississippi refrain from this course of conduct?

Why pursue the gentleman from Ohio in this heartless way? Has my friend from Mississippi no bowels of compassion? Does mercy have no influence with him? Where will he stop? Does he think what is the character of his performance? About to force the Republican party to an act, single and alone, of course, in recent years, of honesty and candor! Forbear, forbear, my friend from Mississippi! This is asking too much! It is attempting too much.

I know you can bring enough of force to move those who desire to be honest and those who have any inclination to be candid. I know that. I know that everything involved in the question. I know that every incident and every surrounding fact unites in the protest and in the claim in urging and persuading to one single, lone act of candor and honesty in connection with this Philippine play, but it is too much to hope for; it is too much, when you are in the minority, to strive for. It cannot be done.

The gentleman from Ohio is right about it. The party will not be honest. You cannot make it honest. It will not be candid. Why, it would cease to be the Republican party of today if it were to be candid. It would be a disorganization; it would be abandoning the organization that lives for spoil and plunder, that lives by pretense and hypocrisy. Do not ask it; do not expect it. The astute gentleman from Ohio is right about it. The party cannot afford to be honest. The party is damned if it is honest.

Honesty is the bane of the party. The party shrinks from it as it shrinks from death. Do not ask so much; do not go into a cruel performance here and endeavor to force it. We cannot do it; we have not the numbers. Moral forces, high sentiments, lofty appeals, stern duty, persuasive eloquence—all these will fail. The gentleman from Ohio is going to stand by his guns, and he is going to turn his guns the wrong way. Already they are spiked. The conduct of the party, the pretense, the shambling and shuffling of the leaders, have been effective in spiking their guns. Let the gentlemen alone, alone in the political cowardice and hypocrisy in which they revel. Let them proceed, and by and by my friends, we will learn what the American people say about it.

Democratic Day in the House.

The debate spoken of in my last letter and in this occurred on Thursday, June 26, A. D. 1902, which the historian of our times will describe as Democratic day in the house.

Richer than anything mentioned in my previous letter or in this—rich and racy as they were—was the complete flooring of Mr. Littlefield by John Wesley Gaines, the hard hitter who so ably represents the old "Hermitage district" of Tennessee, where Andrew Jackson sleeps the sleep of the brave and just. Gaines comes from Nashville and in his three terms in congress has become a national figure.

Late in the afternoon of June 26 he obtained the floor for five minutes and started in to make a few remarks about trusts. What he intended to say may never be known, for he had hardly started when Mr. Littlefield interrupted him, very luckily for the Tennesseean, very unfortunately for the man from Maine. John Wesley dropped the trust question to answer Littlefield and amid tumultuous applause declared that Littlefield had sought his advice and counsel in preparing the Littlefield antitrust bill and had cabbaged the Gaines antitrust bill, which antedated the Littlefield bill, and incorporated most of it in the latter. Littlefield tried to explain, but John Wesley kept reiterating his charge and the house kept applauding him until Littlefield dropped into his chair, discomfited utterly, and the hammer fell with Gaines master of the field and of Littlefield.

A Rising Statesman.

No man in the house grew faster in the last session of congress than W. W. Kitchin of North Carolina. Under his leadership the Democrats won a great victory and forced congress to authorize the building of one first class battleship in the government navy yard, a proposition bitterly and persistently fought by leading Republicans, notably by Mr. Foss of Illinois, chairman of the committee on naval affairs, and by Mr. Dayton of West Virginia. It was a long fight to get that provision into the bill and keep it there. Kitchin led in the fight on the floor of the house, and he handled himself and his theme and the opposition with commanding ability. He is a lusty, handsome, courageous, able and studious young man in the very flower of his years, with a brilliant career before him. Keep your eye on W. W. Kitchin and watch him grow.

In Illinois.

Over in Republican Illinois strange things are happening. In the northern part of the state the other night they had a train robbery, which recalls those days of the long ago when Jesse James was on the road and when every Republican hypocrite in the land who made a stump speech or edited a newspaper swore that a train robbery could take place only in a Democratic state. Isn't Illinois Republican? And did not the train robbery occur? Therefore the Republican slanderers of Democrats in general, and of Democratic Missouri in particular, ought to go down on their marrow bones and exclaim: "Peccavi! I have sinned!" But they'll do no such thing; they'll start a new slander and work it for all that it is worth.

Champ Clark

When you want a modern, up-to-date physic, try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are easy to taken and pleasant in effect. Price, 25 cents. Samples free at M. K. & F. R. Pleasants.

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Often the over-taxed organs of digestion cry out for help by Dyspepsia's pains, nausea, dizziness, headaches, liver complaints, bowel disorders. Such troubles call for prompt use of Dr. King's New Life Pills. They are gentle, thorough and guaranteed to cure. 25c at M. K. & F. R. Pleasants.

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Blood poison and deadly cancer are the worst and most deep-seated blood diseases on earth, yet the easiest to cure when the basic Blood Balm is used. If you have blood pain, pimples, ulcers, have pain pimples, mucous patches, falling hair, itching skin eruptions and rheumatism, or other form of catarrh, make and enable deadly cancer, rading bleeding, lacerating sores, swelling lumps, pain behind want so sore take Botanic Blood Balm. It will cure even the worst case after everything else fails. B. B. B. drains the poisons out of the system and the blood, then every sore heal, making the blood pure and rich, and building up the broken down body. Botanic Blood Balm thoroughly tested for 30 years. Drug stores $1 per large bottle. Total treatment free by writing Blood Balm Co., 33 Lamar Ga. Describe trouble and free medical advice given until cured. B. B. B. does not contain mineral poisons or any injurious drugs as so many advertised remedies do, but is composed of Pure Botanic Ingredients. Over 3000 testimonials of cures by taking Botanic Blood Balm. M. K. & F. R. Pleasants.

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Notice to Teachers.

All persons wishing to teach in the Public Schools of Sandy Creek township will please file their applications with E. M. Gupton, at Laurel, N. C., on or before the first day of September, 1902. Only written applications will be received.
E. M. Gupton, Chairman.

Notice to Teachers.

Notice is hereby given to all persons wishing to teach in the public schools of Louisburg township to file their applications in writing, with Geo. S. Baker, at Louisburg, before the first day of September, together with grade and date of certificate, and such recommendations as they may wish to file.
C. W. Bobbitt, Ch'm'n.
Geo. S. Baker, Secretary.

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begins a new era in the Louisburg tobacco market, and means great good to the farmers of this section of the State. Equipped with superior advantages and ample capital, we intend to make every pound of tobacco placed on our floor

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PARHAM & FORD.