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CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

The Troubles of a "World Power" in Current Talk About Men and Measures

[Special Washington Letter.]

THIS year Mr. Dayton of West Virginia, whose chief claim to distinction is that in the landslide of 1894 he defeated William L. Wilson for congress, celebrated Washington's birthday by reading Representative Burton of Cleveland, O., out of the Republican party. Indeed Dayton seemed to think he was endowed with plenary powers in the case, for while he was about it he also read Burton out of the Democratic party, a party to which he never belonged. Burton had stirred Dayton's gorge by opposing the naval appropriation bill, which carries $96,000,000 in round numbers. Dayton is a member of the naval committee, and the Republican members of the naval committee think they own the United States absolutely and that the other people in the world are trying to steal part of their possessions. Burton is not only one of the ablest men on the Republican side, but is one of the most omnivorous readers in congress. He was fighting the bill not only on the ground of the extravagance of the measure, but also on the theory that we do not need an immense navy. At one point in his speech he exclaimed:

Oh, but it is said: "This is merely a defensive measure. The best way to secure peace is to be ready for war and so build up a great navy." How similar to that are the words of Uriah Heep when he said, "We know that we are humble, but we are afraid that other people that are not humble will get the start of us."

Dayton may not know it—indeed, the chances are a thousand to one that he didn't know it—but he wasn't doing the Republican party any good when he undertook to read Theodore E. Burton out of it. All this talk about the Monroe doctrine being "just as strong as the American navy and no stronger" is absolute tommyrot. It sounds well, but it is idiotic. Our navy was as a pygmy to a giant when compared with England's navy at the time Mr. Cleveland issued his famous pronunciamento in the Venezuelan matter, but it has not been forgotten that England beeded what G. C. said.

Troubles of a "World Power."

"The white man is very uncertain"—likewise the Asiatic. We have been told time and time and time again that the Filipinos were thoroughly pacified (so they are—the dead ones) and that they were greatly and hysterically in love with Old Glory (so they are—those who are holding good fat offices under our Uncle Samuel). General Otis informed us repeatedly that they were pacified. He was followed in his declaration by all his successors in command. Then Governor General Taft announced that "peace reigns throughout the archipelago." Then General Leonard Wood pacified some 300 Moros by loading them up with lead. Leonard was then hotfoot after the double stars of a major general.

Notwithstanding all these assurances of complete pacification and bubbling enthusiasm of the Filipinos for the stars and stripes, recently I quoted a dispatch in these letters to the effect that some two or three hundred constables had taken their guns and accouterments and all the money they could cabbage and had deserted to the jungles. A later dispatch describes a battle in which an American officer and several privates were killed. Perhaps these are signs of perfect pacification, but sensible people will not so regard them. The truth is that so long as we attempt to hold the Philippines we must pin them down with bayonets.

But we have been told all along that the Porto Ricans are the most docile of all our "subjects" and would never give us any trouble whatever. Others might buck and kick and cavort, but the kindly, gentle and grateful Porto Ricans never! Nevertheless, as the following dispatch shows, we were deceived in that matter also, reckoning without our host. The Porto Ricans were represented in both branches of the Spanish cortes. We permit them to send a nondescript and powerless "commissioner" to Washington. Now they are clamoring for statehood or independence. Here is the dispatch, which is self explanatory:

San Juan, Porto Rico, Feb. 20.—The federal assembly today, by a vote of 60 to 15, demanded that Porto Rico be admitted to statehood or that the island be granted independence.

Here we are confronted with the identical question about which our forefathers got up the Revolutionary war. As there are only about 1,000,000 of the Porto Ricans, they cannot, of course, achieve their independence, but if they should set up the standard of revolt at the same time the many times pacified Filipinos do there would be something doing in the outlying provinces of this world power.

But the Porto Ricans and the Filipinos are not the only inhabitants of "territory appurtenant to the United States" who are giving trouble. The big sugar planters of our sugar colony, commonly called Hawaii, for the privilege of maintaining which we paid several million dollars, are demanding of Uncle Sam that they be permitted to import Chinese coolies and Japs ad libitum. This Republican congress would no doubt hearken to their voices, but this is election year, and there are the labor unions to be considered. So the sugar barons will have to wait until next session. In the meantime they will be bled by the Republican campaign managers. The conglomerate peoples now under the American flag are enough to make a Roman empefor stare if he should revisit the glimpses of the moon. White men, red men, black men, saddle colored men, yellow men, brown men, mottled men, Americans, Africans, Europeans, Asiatics, Oceanics, Christians, Jews, pagans, Mohammedans, heathen, cannibals, anthropophagi, lepers—oh, we are getting there as a world power with both feet! What becomes of the old conception of a great republic of American freemen worthy of their heritage? The savages and semisavages "appurtenant to the United States" will soon outnumber those in "the United States proper," a beautiful kettle of fish surely!

Straws.

The signs of the times indicate that the people of the north are at last waking up to the business opportunities in the south. They have been slow to realize the financial potentialities of that section of the country, but finally the truth is beginning to percolate through their brains. The chances are that the next census will be a great eye opener in this respect. Some years ago the movement of cotton manufacturing southward became so pronounced that even so prominent a man as Governor Dingley of Maine took alarm and desired a constitutional amendment which would give congress jurisdiction over the labor question in general, hoping thereby to enact such legislation as would neutralize, partially at least, the advantages possessed by the south, such as longer summers, warmer climate, less need for fuel, etc. That the entire cotton crop of the south will some day be manufactured in the states where it is produced cannot be doubted.

What started me on this train of thought just now was seeing an item in a newspaper to the effect that a company has purchased 60,000 acres of land in Alabama on which to colonize northwestern farmers. That item alone would be of little interest and would not possess much significance, but it is simply a straw showing which way the wind blows. Iowa and Illinois farmers move to Missouri, buying the rich Missouri farm lands. The Missouri farmers who sell out move farther south—to Arkansas or Texas. This process is in perpetual operation. The tide of immigration has turned from the extreme west largely toward the south, and this movement is a good thing all round. The northerners find cheaper and better homes, and the southerners find good neighbors.

Poking Fun at Massachusetts.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has lots of gall—enough, in fact, to poke fun at venerable Massachusetts, which it does in this editorial about Benjamin Franklin:

Representative Adams wants congress to appropriate a comfortable sum to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Ben Franklin. So may we all of us. Here is a man who ought to be honored by the world regardless of race, color or any condition whatever, the man who was the first citizen of the colonies and long the first citizen of the republic, without whose wonderful tact and sagacity the constitution could neither have been framed nor adopted. If this country owes honors to any man more than another, outside of Washington, it certainly is to Franklin, the scientist, philosopher, diplomatist and sage, who, in the happy language of the Frenchman, "tore the lightnings from the heavens and the scepter from the hand of the tyrant." Delightful, but not exactly correct.

Franklin was born in Massachusetts, which was his chief misfortune, and he early in life remedied it as best he could. And he was also born on a Sunday, which was in many parishes of Massachusetts infamy for the babe and a crime on the part of the parents. He survived the shadow which hung over him and achieved a position in the world which is absolutely unique. He was not a straitlaced Puritan, but rather an easy going citizen, who took advantage of the morals of his age to have a good time and never was hypocritical about it, as he charged his New England brethren were. He served his country well and died in a good old age, having seen many vicissitudes, but having tasted, on the whole, of the joys of life, sensual and intellectual, to a sufficient degree.

With all his failings Franklin is the man to whom this city and state owe a debt they can never repay except in the line of gratitude. We presume that if congress makes the appropriation Massachusetts will want to claim it and will assure the world that all there was good in the man was due to his ancestry and that he depreciated steadily after leaving its precincts. We trust that Mr. Adams will see to this.

"Moving Against High Finance Pirates."

Under the above head the Philadelphia Inquirer, a stanch Republican organ, speaks out in meeting in this vigorous fashion:

One of the developments of the week is the possibility that criminal action may be taken against Charles M. Schwab as a result of his methods of handling the shipbuilding trust. If the information received by the New York World is accurate, there is more than a possibility, there is a probability, of it. Important interests, so the information goes, that have been acting with Mr. Schwab's adherents have deserted him, and in certain contingencies criminal suits will be brought for which "abundant grounds exist."

It is to be hoped that the threatened steps will be taken. High time it is that an end should be put to the robbing of the public on a gigantic scale. The starving man who steals a ham goes to jail very promptly. But it is "high finance" and commendable to mislead the people into purchasing worthless stock for the benefit of a few millionaire promoters.

Schwab is a very good man to begin on. Could he be hauled into the criminal dock and the iniquities of the shipbuilding outrage laid bare, such movements might become popular. They might, indeed, be extended even to United States Steel. Suffering and deluded stockholders, putting their faith and money in the promises of men of supposed integrity, would welcome the day that should bring the financial sharks up with a round turn. Let us turn on the limelight of publicity and thrust the probe to the very core.

Schwab is just as good a man now as he was a year or two ago when he was held up by the Republican papers as the highest type of American citizenship whom our boys were urged to imitate. He has been found out—that's all.

A Buckeye Boss.

A recent issue of the Pittsburg Post contains this startling editorial:

An amazing story of legislative scheming—amazing even for Ohio—has found its way from Columbus. It is to the effect that Boss Cox has everything ready to put a bill through the legislature this winter that will virtually give him a title to the Miami and Erie canal, which runs the entire length of the state from Toledo to Cincinnati. That canal cost the people of Ohio something over $4,000,000, but it is to be taken completely out of their control and turned over to the Cincinnati boss. He will string electric wires on one side of it its whole length, the ostensible purpose being to substitute electricity for mules in the hauling of the boats. The other bank he will turn over to a railroad that for years has been seeking another entrance to Cincinnati through that part of the state penetrated by the waterway. Cox will then control the water and the power of the canal. He will utilize them to the best possible advantage in monopolizing the light and water supplies of the towns and cities along the canal. The people are protesting against the contemplated outrage, but thus far it has produced no effect upon the minds of the legislators, most of whom were sent to Columbus with the distinct understanding that they were to do the bidding of Cox, and the other Republican bosses of Ohio.

The Virginians are making great preparations to celebrate the tercentenary of the planting of the first white colony on this continent. This interesting historical event happened at Jamestown, May 13, 1607. While it has not been so widely exploited as the landing on Plymouth rock, it ought to be, for it was of as much importance, if not more. Three years hence the denizens of "ole Fergimy" propose to make up for past negligence by putting the big pot in the little one and by inviting all creation to the feast and celebration.

One effect of Senator Hanna's death will be to make Senator Joseph Benson Foraker, temporarily at least, absolute master of the Buckeye Republicans. Foraker's presidential stock for 1908 has advanced about 1,000 per cent by reason of that event. This year he probably will content himself with being the biggest man in the national convention. In time, no doubt, the Ohio Hanna anti-Foraker Republicans will find a leader to rally around. Just now they are political orphans groping in the dark for a Moses. They may find him in Governor Myron T. Herrick or in General Charles Dick, and then again they may not.

The factional fight among the Pennsylvania Republicans is warming up in fact, it is red hot, so hot indeed that Senator Matthew Stanley Quay has felt constrained to take his pen in hand in his Florida retreat and to indite a lengthy epistle to the Republicans of Pennsylvania, rending certain Republican chieftains a vigorous lecture on the way that they are discussing Governor Pennypacker in connection with a place on the supreme bench of the state. The aged and usually mild mannered senator uses the words "malicious" and "mendacious" as applied to one of the supreme court judges, a performance not exactly in the nature of pouring oil on the troubled waters. The more that Pennsylvania Republicans quarrel with each other the better it will be for the country.

Hon. Thomas Taggart of Indiana declares that he knows the identity of the dark horse that is to win the Democratic presidential stake, but he is too bashful to disclose his information to an expectant and eager world. Clearly this is a case where a bird that can sing and will not sing ought to be forced to sing. That is too valuable a secret for any man to keep it locked up in his own breast for his own enjoyment. T. T. ought to be compelled to disclose, if for no other reason, in the interests of economy. Think of the money it would save the newspapers if he would only tell! They would not have to waste valuable space then in guessing, theorizing and exploitation. Yes; T. T. should be made to unburden himself.

Mr. Secretary of the Treasury Leslie M. Shaw may know all about finance, but his ideas on poultry are hazy, not to say preposterous. He has decided that frog legs are dressed poultry. Since when did a fowl or bird have four legs, Mr. Secretary?

One of the hardest working and most valuable representatives in congress is Hon. John Wesley Gaines of Tennessee. He discovers and uncovers wrong where other busy going statesmen are content to pursue the even tenor of their way, avoiding snags and having a good time. Just now John Wesley is waging war on unclean money. He declares that dirty money is a great disseminator of disease, and he proposes that the government shall keep it clean. People smiled at first, but they have quit that, and Gaines will gain his point.

Champ Clark

If troubled with weak digestion belching or sour stomach use Chamberlains Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will get quick relief. Sold by Aycock drug co

You cannot carry a crooked rule along the straight road.

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Any child can take Little Early Risers with perfect safety. They are harmless never gripe or sicken and yet they are so certain in results that robust constitutions requiring drastic means are never disappointed. They cannot fail to perform their mission and every one who use DeWitts Little Early Risers prefer them to all other pills. They cure billiousness. Sold by Aycock drug co.

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R. H. Bobbitt. Cedar Rock.

The road of prejudice never leads to the realm of truth.

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THE DESPISED TOAD.

POPULAR HATRED OF THE ANIMAL IS OF GREAT ANTIQUITY.

It Is Legendary as Well as in Superstitious Lore the Uncouth and Misshapen Creature Plays No Small Part—The Belief in Toad Stones.

The unfortunate toad has from time immemorial been an object of distrust and aversion, especially among the common people. A pleasing tale runs that a gentleman, walking along a country lane, came suddenly upon a village boy belaboring the crushed body of a toad with a heavy stick and exclaiming at each blow, "I'll larn 'a to be a toad!" whereat the indignant newcomer, seizing the miscreant by his collar, vigorously applied a cane to his legs, remarking, "I'll larn you to be a boy!" The popular hatred of the toad, indeed, is of such antiquity and is still so general as to seem ineradicable. That the creature is not dangerously poisonous it is hopeless to attempt to convince the ordinary rustic. Doubtless this belief has its origin in the fetid secretion which the toad has the power of emitting when disturbed, or annoyed unduly and which will cause a dog that has incautiously picked up a toad to foam at the mouth. Again, the uncouth appearance of the creature has had much to do with the feeling of repulsion with which it has always been regarded. "Squat like a toad" is the phrase by which Milton describes the evil one essaying to reach the ear of Eve.

Superstition, in truth, has laid a firm hold on the toad's misshapen figure. The belief, not only in the efficacy of "toad stones," but in their efficacy as a sovereign remedy for certain ills, which is still common in parts of the country, is of very ancient date. There is to be found in the heads of old and great toads, says Fenton, writing in 1569, a stone they call borax, or stesom, which, being used as rings, gives forewarning of venom. In the Londesborough collection is a silver ring of the fifteenth century in which one of these toad stones is set. They were supposed always to bear on their surface a figure resembling a toad, being somewhat similar to one may imagine, to the scarabaeus ornament of the Egyptians. Another early writer remarks: "A toad stone called 'crapaudin,' touching any part envenomed by the bite of rat, wasp, spider or other venomous beast, ceasaeth the pain and swelling thereof." It was believed that when brought near to poison the stone sweated and changed color, thus conveying to the wearers a timely warning of danger.

It is to these peculiar notions that Shakespeare is supposed to refer in "As You Like It":

Sweet are the uses of adversity
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head.

Is it not probable, however, that the poet, being a poet, is here alluding to the eye of the toad, an object, as all who are really familiar with the appearance of this humble batrachian will agree, than which there are few more beautiful in nature!

Perhaps the most familiar superstition in regard to toads is that still rife, which supposes them capable of existing for an indefinite period in the interior of rocks, stones or hermetically sealed cavities. Numberless "authenticated instances" of this remarkable power have been brought forward from time to time. The following example from an old book is typical: "In 1708 Mr George Wilmot, a mason, met with a toad, which he wantonly immured in a stone wall that he was then building. In the middle of the wall he made a close cell of lime and stone, just fit for the magnitude of its body and accordingly so plastered up to prevent the admission of air. In 1719, thirteen years afterward, it was found necessary to open a gap in this wall for a passage of carts, when the poor creature was found alive in its strange hold. It seemed at first to a very languid state, but it soon recovered motion and activity and, as if sensible of the blessings of freedom, made the way to a collection of stones and disappeared." It is known that toads can exist for a long time without food, and it is generally believed that they live to a great age, and doubtless these two peculiarities have had much to do with the superstition in regard to their supposed penchant for a hermit's life. The fallacy, however, was conclusively exposed by Dean Buckland, father of Frank Buckland, the great naturalist, who went to the trouble of testing the truth of the theory by an exhaustive series of experiments. It need only be remarked that none of the victims survived the imprisonment.

In legendary as in superstitious lore the toad plays no small part. It may not be generally known that the Fleur-de-lis of France was originally an adaptation of a toad. Thus at least runs the tale. Clovis, king of France, bore on his banner the device of three toads or "bodens," as they were called in old French. His baptism gave great umbrage to the Arians, who rebelled and accomplished a large host against him under King Cambet. Clovis while on his way to meet the heretics was granted a vision, wherein he saw in the heavens his device of three toads miraculously changed into three lilies "on" on a banner "azur." Such a banner he caused instantly to be made, calling it his "oriflamme."—London Globe.

The Only One.

"Charlie," said Miss Fussey coyly, speaking of her dance, "is quite individual. He is different from other men."

"Of course; he's willing to be engaged to you," replied Miss Sharpe.—Exchange.

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Rev Parker Williams Pastor of the Int M E Church South Hickory N C says I have used Rydales Stomach tablets for indigestion and regard them as a positive remedy for this disease. I take pleasure in commending them to all suffers from indigestion. Rydales Stomach tablets for your stomach trouble and you will join the thousands in this strong endorsement.

These tablets will digest the food even when stomach is weak and give instant relief. Sold by all druggists. Large size contains 75 tablets and sells for 50 cents. Prepared only by the Rydale Chemical Co. Atlanta Ga.

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When a man has lost his grip on the affairs of his home, complaints of gastronomic disorders are the chief business topic. Daily tongued tones tell the tale of a weak Rydales Liver Tablets are what is needed. One dose thoroughly will two always. Will remove gastric confusion of body and mind and in a man's or a lady's feeling and physique of life again. Rydales Liver Tablets are easy to take, gentle in action and entirely vegetable. Sold by all druggists. Large size contains 75 tablets and sells for 25 cents. Prepared only by the Rydale Chemical Co. Atlanta Ga.

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NOTICE

Proverbs

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