

EX-PRESIDENT HARRISON ON OUR NEW ACQUISITIONS

When the Porto Rican tariff bill was under consideration in Congress, in reply to a question as to what he thought about it, ex-President Harrison said he feared that we were making "a grave departure" from established principles.

Holding the views he does it is not strange that, stalwart Republican as he is, he so positively refused to make even one speech in the last campaign for the reelection of McKinley, for he is uncompromisingly opposed to the administration policy of expansion and to the reasons advanced in justification of it.

If the Supreme court should, in the cases now being argued before it, hold with those who contend that the constitution does follow the flag, and that we cannot have a Republic in one part of the land and an Empire elsewhere under the flag, it will be interesting to note the devices that will be resorted to to get rid of this acquired territory and take the back track on that kind of expansion.

A few days ago we referred to the letter of Wm. E. Curtis, Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record, in which he said the Hanna subsidy bill was in danger of defeat. In analyzing the bill he gives the following as one of the strong objections to it:

"One of the principal arguments against the bill is that it favors Europe over the United States. It is a trade treaty, which is already well supplied with transportation facilities, and it is a trade treaty which is already well supplied with transportation facilities, and it is a trade treaty which is already well supplied with transportation facilities."

"It is too much to say that this view of the American Constitution is shocking? An outline of a possible law might include the suspension of the habeas corpus, creation of a dictatorship, one special religion, a censorship, trial without an indictment, etc. All these could be done if the constitution has no relation to the people in the territory. And if Porto Rico why not in Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Alaska?"

"A government of unlimited powers is an American government, and I don't believe the framers of the constitution were careful only of their own liberty. It is one thing to tolerate a constitution that already exists, and it is another thing to create a constitution that is wrong. Our fathers were not content to hold things in the hands of another man's benevolence. It stands for a people who are the act of acquiring territory does not extend to the constitution, nothing will, except by its admission as a State. That we get back to Porto Rico all the money that we get from her is not extensible. When a tribute is levied and then returned as a benefit it is only to declare the territory in a state of vassalage."

"It is said that expansion is the law of national life, but expansion may be dropped. The conquest of the Dutch republic has not strengthened Britain. It has multiplied a disappointed people. It has made a revelation to her that there is need of larger armies and coast defenses at home. I do not argue against expansion, but I do argue that there may be a safer vehicle for the folks than the bicycle."

This is a Government of limited powers, limited by written law, which the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States are as much bound by as the humblest citizen. They have no more right to ignore or violate the written law than the humblest citizen has, and it is no defence for them to declare that the constitution is not operative in a case where they choose to ignore it.

Some of the defenders of this arbitrary departure have gone so far as to assert that the flag does not carry the constitution into contiguous territory of the United States, such as the Indian Territory, Arizona, New Mexico or Oklahoma, which might all, if Congress saw fit, be governed outside of the constitution. They say this because they couldn't give a logical reason why the constitution should go with the flag into one territory and not go into another simply because it was surrounded by water. Suppose Congress were to act on this contention and put a tariff tax on products of these contiguous territories coming into the States and levy duty upon the products of the States going into those territories what a protest of indignation would ring out from one end of this land to the other. They would not dare to do that, they would not think of it, and yet they have just as much right to do it as they have to tax the products of these island acquisitions, which they claim to be territory of the United States, coming to this country or the products of this country going to them.

THE BALANCE SHEET.

In view of the contention that ship subsidies are necessary for the upbuilding of American commerce, the following analysis of the United States Treasury report, showing the growth of our commerce for the past ten months, as compared with last year, which we clip from the New York Herald, will be interesting:

Table with columns for Raw cotton, Exports, Imports, Net exports, and various commodity categories like Iron, steel, and manufactures.

Commenting upon these figures the Herald says: "The value of the oils—vegetable, animal and mineral—exported is surprising, and the sum might be increased by adding 10 million dollars for oleo, included above under provisions. More than one half of all this, or about 78 million pounds, went to the Netherlands, where it is converted into the margarine some 20 million dollars worth of which is exported yearly by that little country, and cynics fancy that some of it even gets into that famous Holland butter. Some of the bills we have to pay abroad are light in comparison with what they were some years ago. For instance, the sugar exported in the ten months cost us 80 1/2 millions, coffee 46 1/2 millions and tea 10 millions. Imports of tobacco in all forms cost us 14 millions, while on the other hand we exported 27 1/2 millions worth. Presumably owing to the war in China, our exports of cotton manufactures were but 18 million, a decrease of 11 millions, while the increased purchasing power of our people is reflected in an increase of nearly 7 millions in imports of manufactures of cotton, which amounted to nearly 80 millions."

And yet the subsidy boomers insist that the people tax themselves \$9,000,000 a year for twenty years (and no telling how long afterwards) to help a commerce which is hustling along at such a remarkable pace.

There is but one thing that compares with this fraudulent scheme and that is the colossal check that dares advocate it.

THE NEW YORK SUN IS ONE OF THE organs that gets red hot when it discourses on the Hay-Pannocote treaty, which it denounces without stint. It has no hesitation in saying that if Secretary Hay did the proper thing he would resign forthwith for the part he has taken in trying to force that intolerable document upon this country. Without discussing the merits (of which, according to the Sun, this treaty has none) or its demerits, why should the Sun vent its indignation upon Secretary Hay and let the rest of the Cabinet and the President go free?

Are they not all practically as responsible for it as Secretary Hay? Wasn't it discussed in Cabinet council and approved before it was submitted to the Senate for ratification?

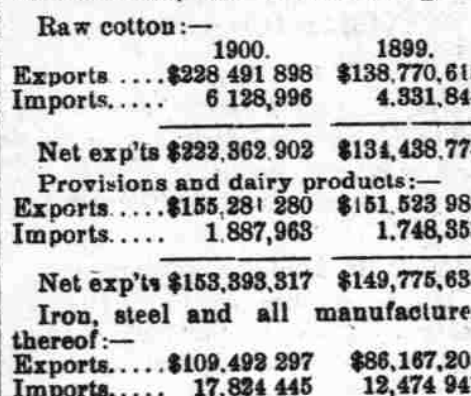
If the President had not approved it it would never have gone to the Senate, and yet the Sun has not a word of reproach or rebuke for the President, but jumps on Secretary Hay as if he alone were the offending party.

The fact is it is an administration measure, and the President is as anxious for its ratification as Secretary Hay is, and is using his influence to secure its ratification, and therefore it is manifestly unjust, and dishonest, too, to hold responsible for it a man who is really less responsible than the chief under whom he serves, and with whose approval that treaty was submitted to the Senate.

But it is the custom with some party organs to make scapegoats to screen the more responsible parties. Alger was made a scapegoat to screen the administration and now they are playing the same game with Hay.

Two hundred bushels of potatoes remove eighty pounds of "actual" Potash from the soil.

Unless this quantity is returned to the soil, the following crop will materially decrease.



We have books telling about competition, use and value of fertilizers for various crops. They are sent free. GERMAN KALI WORKS, c/o Nassau St., New York.

THE TIMBER PROSPECTS.

Mr. H. McL. Green, a Veteran Dealer, Talks of the Prospects and Prices for the Coming Season.

With the advent of Winter and Spring, the season of logging up the Cape Fear and the rivers tributary to that stream, comes much speculation on the part of the timber prospect for the coming year. This speculation is not alone confined to the saw mill men but there is also a large number of other people who are dependent to a more or less extent upon the industry.

A STAR representative yesterday had an interview with Mr. H. McL. Green, who has been in the timber business for the past 29 years, fifteen years of which time, at first, he was a dealer and the past fourteen years an inspector of timber. Mr. Green has recently found time, aside from his duties as county treasurer, to again enter the field as a dealer in timber and has, therefore, informed himself of the situation which, combined with his long experience in the business, has well qualified him to speak with authority on the subject.

Asked as to what the market will do this Winter and next Spring, he said the general outlook for long leaf, hard and yellow pine was bright and he thought it would bring good paying prices all the season. But as to short leaf or Rosemary timber, he said that he could not speak so favorably, as it was dull and hard to sell, but he thought it would improve, and advised all who thought of cutting short leaf to observe the length of 16, 24, 28 and 32 feet.

Logs, he says, are bringing the following prices according to size and quality: Pine—Sixteen feet long, 12 inches and up in diameter, \$5.00 per m.; knotty, \$3.25; wormy and box-faced, \$3.00. Cypress—Sixteen feet long, 20 inches and up in diameter, \$5.50; same length, 16 to 20 inches in diameter, \$5.50; same length, 12 to 16 inches in diameter, \$4.00; knotty timber, \$3.00. Ash—Sixteen feet long, 12 inches and up, \$7.50; knotty, \$5.00.

Mr. J. L. Griffin has secured Letters Patent for Improved Mechanism. Mr. Jno. L. Griffin, of this city, and a machinist in the shops of Mr. C. M. Whitlock, has just received through his attorneys in Washington, Messrs. C. A. Snow & Co., letters patent for a very useful invention in the form of a key-seat cutter, which will prove a boon to the "workers in iron and steel" everywhere.

His Sentence Extended. Mr. S. E. Memory, of Whiteville, who was in the city yesterday, told of a rather unusual incident which took place at Whiteville Sunday. A negro who was sentenced at the present term of the penitentiary for stealing a horse, became so violent and uncontrollable in the jail Sunday that it was necessary for the jailor to chain him to his cell. Judge Robinson, who is presiding over the court, hearing of the negro's frenzy, ordered the clerk to extend his sentence to five years instead of three. Cutting up campers cost him two years longer imprisonment.

CHAMBER COMMERCE.

Special Meeting Yesterday Afternoon for Consideration of Important Matters.

THE CULLOM BILL ENDORSED. Proposed Inland Water Route for Wilmington Explained—Manufacturing Plant for Castle Haynes—Stevadore and Pilotage Laws.

Probably the most important session of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce held this year was the special meeting yesterday afternoon at 8.30 o'clock, at which a number of matters of vital consequence to the business interests of the port were brought up. Prominent among these were the Cullom bill; the matter of the proposed canal from New Topsail inlet to Harrison's creek; a project to dredge out the Northeast river to Castle Haynes; the compulsory pilotage and stevedore laws, and other matters of minor importance.

Messrs. M. S. Willard and J. A. Taylor, comprising the committee to whom was referred the matter of the Cullom bill, presented an exhaustive report, dissenting from the request of the Louisville Board of Trade, that the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce exert its influence for the defeat of the measure in Congress. The report consists of over six typewritten pages and is entirely too lengthy for publication in the STAR to day. The bill is designed to extend and enlarge the powers of the Inter State Commerce Commission and has been pending for some time. Consideration of it was given by the Chamber less than a year ago and a comprehensive report endorsing it by Mr. J. Allen Taylor was approved at the time.

The question was upon this occasion brought up by a request from the Louisville Board of Trade that the Wilmington Chamber go on record as opposing it, which the meeting yesterday afternoon failed to do but adopted the report of Messrs. Taylor & Willard answering every objection raised by the Louisville body and pointing to many advantageous propositions embodied therein. The secretary was instructed to furnish a copy of the report to each member of the House and Senate from North Carolina and request their cooperation in the matter of the passage of the Cullom bill.

The question of the proposed canal from New Topsail inlet to Harrison's creek, in Pender county, was next introduced and Capt. Edgar D. Williams, by request, explained the many advantages that would accrue to the port from the improvement and illustrated the details of the project by charts. Capt. Williams began his remarks by saying that Wilmington was the only port of any size that did not have some inland water way provided by the government. The plan is to cut a canal of 8 to 8 1/2 feet depth from New Topsail through Harrison's creek to Northeast river, thereby connecting with Wilmington by North-east river, which has a uniform depth of 9 to 10 feet from Harrison's creek to Wilmington. By this method small vessels bound north or south may travel an inside fresh water route free from danger and adverse winds. It would prove especially beneficial to larger such as trade through the canals from Philadelphia and Baltimore and through the Albemarle and Chesapeake and Dismal Swamp canals to Elizabeth City, Washington and Newbern and also to the small class of government vessels, cruising up and down the coast, and yachts bound South to Cuba and Porto Rico. All of these would come by the proposed route instead of going from Beaufort 90 miles to Frying Pan Lightship; thence to the Cape Fear bar 23 miles and up to Wilmington 30 miles, making a total of 143 miles. The distance by the new route would be 50 miles from Beaufort Cape Lookout light to New Topsail, 8 miles, through the canal to Northeast river 8 miles, and thence down to Wilmington 27 miles, making a total of 85 miles and escaping the dangers of Frying Pan, likely adverse winds and to the smaller craft.

It is calculated that the dredging would cost the government from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per mile but Capt. Williams thinks the amount would well spent as it would greatly increase the commerce of the port and prove an untold benefit to yachts and other small craft.

On motion of Mr. J. A. Taylor the committee having in charge this project, was continued with instruction to report at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. J. H. Chadbourne, Jr., stated that a party of capitalists had in contemplation the establishment of a \$300,000 manufacturing enterprise at Castle Haynes and he desired that the Chamber of Commerce take up the matter of having the government to dredge Northeast river to a depth of 12 feet to that point. He stated that he was informed that the river already had a depth of 9 feet to Castle Haynes and for this reason the plan would be very feasible. The matter was referred to the committee on Harbor Shipping and Commerce, consisting of Messrs. E. G. Smallhouse, Jas. H. Chadbourne, Jr., and Capt. E. W. Van C. Lucas. The matter of a change in the laws governing and regulating stevedoring at the port of Wilmington was upon motion of Mr. M. S. Willard and seconded by Mr. J. A. Taylor, referred to a special committee, consisting of Messrs. C. W. Worth, J. T. Riley and J. A. Springer.

Mr. J. A. Arringdale, president of the Cape Fear Lumber Company, brought up the matter of alleged excessive port charges and attacked the compulsory pilotage law. Action on the matter was deferred until both sides could be heard upon the subject. The question evoked quite a lengthy discussion participated in by Messrs. M. S. Willard, Jas. H. Chadbourne, Jr., and others. At length a motion prevailed that the president appoint a committee to investigate the matter and report at the next meeting. President Jacob stated that as the question was one of so much moment, he would take time to make selections of members of the committee.

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Will send you a little to try if you like. SCOTT & BOWNE, 40 Pearl Street, New York.

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THE FIRES LAST NIGHT. Residence of Jos. Sternberger and Store of Dan Benton Burned.

THE TWO BROTHERS KILLED. Shot by Deputy Sheriffs While Releasing Arrest in Guilford County.

MARRIED AT ROCKY POINT. Prominent Young Man of Currie Led to the Altar Miss Carrie Sparkman, of Rocky Point.

ACCIDENTAL KILLING AT FAYETTEVILLE. Charlie Byrd, a white youth of Fayetteville, and a son of ex-Chief of Police Byrd, of that city, was accidentally killed late Saturday afternoon by the accidental discharge of a pistol in the hands of Charlie Jones, an associate of about his own age, with whom he was swapping pistols on Person street, as they were on their way home to Campbellton, a suburb of Fayetteville.

NEWBERN JOURNAL. The twice-escaped prisoner, John Manning, whose various adventures have already been prominently before the public, is again in the custody of Craven county. He was arrested Monday at Ayden, Pitt county, and taken to the county jail in Lenoir. Yesterday he was brought here by Deputy Sheriff H. G. Draney. Manning was at once across the river to work on the roads with the force of assistants brought here from the farm. His abrupt departure will be hindered by a ball and chain attachment, which is fastened to one of his ankles.

CALL TO DR. WELLS.

He Will Be Asked to Become Pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

HE WILL PROBABLY ACCEPT. Now Serving Second Church of Staunton, Va., and Will Visit Wilmington on a Trip South During the Holidays. Congregational Meeting.

A congregational meeting of the members of the First Presbyterian church, of Wilmington, held Sunday immediately after the morning service, a unanimous call to the pastorate of the church was extended to Rev. Dr. J. M. Wells, Ph. D., pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, of Staunton, Va., to succeed Rev. Dr. Peyton E. Hoge, who resigned more than a year ago to accept a call to Warren Memorial church, Louisville, Ky. The action was merely an endorsement of the selection made by a committee appointed for this purpose several months ago and it is believed that the Rev. Mr. Wells will accept. The committee has had much correspondence with him and the members think he is inclined to the idea of coming. He will visit the church and preach a sermon very soon and he will likely announce his decision about that time. He is regarded as a very able man and the church will feel fortunate in securing his services in the event he will accept.

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Johnston's Sarsaparilla builds up the system, tones the nerves, and strengthens the muscles more promptly and effectually than any other remedy known.

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GREAT FIRE AT COLUMBIA. Jerome Hotel and Other Buildings Destroyed—Total Loss is Estimated at \$142,000.

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Advertisement for Winchester "New Rival" Factory Loaded Shotgun Shells. Includes text: "No black powder shells on the market compare with the 'NEW RIVAL' in uniformity and strength." and "WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS CO. New Haven, Conn."



Advertisement for Syrup of Figs. Text: "Syrup of Figs. Cleanses the System Gently and Effectually when bilious or costive." and "BUY THE GENUINE - MANFD. BY CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. NEW YORK, N.Y. For sale by druggists - price 50¢ per bottle."