

CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

THE WAR TAX PILING UP A GREAT SURPLUS

Standing Invitation to Every Rascal in the Land.

FEAR OF IMPENDING DEFEAT RENDERS REPUBLICAN LEAD- ERS IRRITABLE.

[Special Washington Letter.]

An unnecessary tax is an unjust tax. The federal treasury contains a vast surplus which is increasing every day and which is produced by the continuation of the Spanish war taxes.

Therefore these taxes, being unnecessary, are unjust and should be abolished.

But the signs indicate that the Republican leaders will not permit any change at this session of congress of any feature of the Spanish war revenue bill, not even of those features which are the most irritating to the people and the least productive of revenue.

Everybody knows that the bill was hastily prepared, passed under whip and spur as a temporary measure and abounds in crudities and inequalities.

Still we are not to be permitted to change it, even in the estimation of a hair, because the Republican bosses have so willed it.

The stamp taxes on medicines are 20 times what the rates are on John D. Rockefeller's products, but no change must be made, because the bosses don't want it, don't you know.

Stamp taxes on small notes, contracts, mortgages, etc., are more productive of profanity than revenue, but they must stand, because the bosses have so willed it.

By the end of the year the surplus, at the present rate, will be betwixt \$50,000,000 and \$70,000,000, but the bosses appear to deem that an evidence of statesmanship, hugging to their breasts the delusion that people don't know that every dollar of that surplus is unjustly wrong from the overburdened taxpayers of the land.

A surplus in the treasury is a standing invitation to every rascal in the land to move on Washington with some scheme to deplete Uncle Samuel's patriotic pocketbook, but the bosses decree that matters shall remain in statu quo.

Thomas Jefferson's declaration is as good and wise today as when first made—"Economy in the public expense that labor may be lightly burdened"—but the bosses care nothing about labor or its burdens so long as they can point with pride to a huge surplus, the result of unnecessary taxation. They could easily double the surplus by the simple process of doubling the taxes. There is no end to such a plan, except the exhaustion of the people's patience.

Republicans Irritable. What seems to be the certainty of impending defeat renders the Republican leaders irritable, querulous and Kilkenny catfish. They yowl and howl and claw and otherwise disport themselves to the infraction of the public decorum. They use loud, violent, abusive and tumultuous language toward each other in such a reckless manner as to disturb the peace of their Democratic neighbors, who are in a peculiarly happy frame of mind contemplating what reforms they will work when they come into possession of the government at high noon March 4, A. D. 1901.

During the debate on the Nicaragua bill Uncle Joe Cannon of Illinois, chairman of the great committee on appropriations, and Colonel William Peters Hepburn of Iowa, popularly denominated Colonel Pete, chairman of the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, committed most assaults upon each other with intent to kill and murder—at least to do great bodily harm.

On the 7th day of this month Uncle Joe was 64 years old, has been in the house a quarter of a century and should know better than to quarrel like a fishwife.

Colonel Hepburn is past 66, though he does not look it. He has been in congress many years, was once solicitor of the treasury, and it would appear that he has seen enough years to "cool his heart of fire."

Not so, however. These two veteran statesmen fell a-foul of each other, like two Greco-Roman wrestlers, and tugged, strained, tore up the ground in such disgraceful manner that Charlie Wheeler of Kentucky demanded that they be called to order, but nobody paid any attention to his call, as everybody wanted to see the two illustrious Republicans wool each other to their hearts' content, but it must be confessed that when a row gets too hot to please a Kentuckian things are liable to melt. Perhaps Wheeler was disgusted because they were confining themselves to shaking fists and hurling epithets instead of adopting the Kentucky plan of settling difficulties, which plan was recently illustrated by Colonel David G. Colson, when he killed three men at one time.

Colonel Hepburn cast aspersions on Uncle Joe's sincerity. Uncle Joe, with

many gesticulations, genuflections and gyrations, reflected on Colonel Pete's integrity and good faith. Colonel Pete, white with rage, gave Uncle Joe the lie conditionally, and when Uncle Joe taunted him with putting in the conditions, Colonel Pete, fairly sizzling with wrath, withdrew the conditions, thereby giving the lie direct to the venerable Sucker. To one hilariously disposed this exhibition of Republican intelligence, this exposition of Republican manners, was better than a circus.

A Contest of Billingsgate. Now, be it remembered that this was a scene between Republican statesmen, and the Democrats had precisely the interest in it, and no more, which the old woman had in the fight between bruin and her liege lord, when with perfect impartiality, she encouraged both by first shouting, "Go it, husband!" and then, "Go it, bear!" First and last Republican Pharisees have had much to say about the sweetness and purity of Republicans and much about "the plantation manners of Democrats."

O wad some power the glistie gie us! To see ourselves as others see us!

If some New England transcendentalist will write an essay on "Sweetness, Purity and Good Manners" as illustrated by this billingsgate contest of Uncle Joe and Colonel Pete, I will cheerfully agree to incorporate it in these letters for the delectation of my hundreds of thousands of readers. As matters stand I think Colonel Hepburn got a little the best of Uncle Joe, but the latter, like Major Joe Bagstock, is "sly, sir, devilish sly; tough, sir, devilish tough," and he will bide his time.

The quarrelsome spirit seems to have entered into all Republicans.

Down in Tennessee, where they have only Republicans enough to elect two congressmen, two factions, one headed by Pension Commissioner Colonel H. Clay Evans and the other by Congressman Brownlow and Gibson, are waging against each other a war of extermination. On with the dance!

Even the ex-soldiers are becoming disgruntled as to the way things are being run by this administration, as is shown by the following letter, which explains itself:

WASHINGTON, April 26.
Dear Sir:—There is a proposition in congress to give to the present adjutant general of the United States army—against whom, of course, we have nothing personal—the rank of major general. The Union Veterans' union, which I have the honor to command, respectfully, but most earnestly, protests against this.

In every possible manner attempts are being made by individuals and branches of the public service to get something more out of the colossal revenues which are being collected and for which the people are being heavily taxed. The expenditures for the war department are already swollen to an enormous extent. Most urgent pleas by patriotic citizens in and out of congress are being made for retrenchment in the public expenditures. If there be a plethora from the immense revenues, let taxation be lowered instead of giving the people's money away; but, under extravagance, even these revenues do not seem to suffice, and in consequence thereof and perhaps of a stretched little war in which we are engaged and which costs more than the entire pension roll, every obstruction is said to be put in the way of the applicant for a pension in order to save (?) money. If this be true, it may be remarked that such does not embrace the proper idea of retrenchment. Retrenchment does not consist in avoidance of payment of just debts any more than it consists in presenting the public money to shoulder strapped or other individuals and unnecessarily increasing salaries.

In addition to the fact that it appears irrelevant to increase the rank of the adjutant general without increasing the rank of the heads of the other staff officers of the war department and to the fact that increasing the rank of the adjutant general is a reflection upon the efficiency of the adjutant general's office of the civil war, when we had an army of more than 2,000,000 men and the rank of the adjutant general was that of brigadier general, it would seem to be untimely and particularly wrong to give him increased rank and thus increase the cost of his office, while and inasmuch as we are involved in increased, even if unavoidable, expense. This, especially when the duties and responsibilities of the adjutant general's office are at present as nothing compared with the duties and responsibilities of the adjutant general's office during our civil war, when, as above said, the rank of the adjutant general was that of brigadier general. Very respectfully,
R. G. DRUESFOHR,
Commander in Chief, U. V. U.

A Case of Dog Eat Dog.

Colonel John W. Gates has recently given the country a startling object lesson in operating trusts and in fleecing the lambs of Wall street. He moved on Gotham, shut down several wire mills in order to influence value of stocks, ruthlessly threw out of employment thousands of innocent, industrious laborers and cleaned up a million or two. Now the Wall street gang are talking of indicting him as a common cheat and swindler. With the result of the controversy between Gates and the Wall street outfit I am in no way interested. It was a clear case of dog eat dog, and the more they eat each other the better the world will be off, no doubt. So let the merry war go on. But my guess is that it will not go on. Perhaps Colonel Gates ought to be in the pen. I am not expressing any opinion on that point. Perhaps the Wall street gamblers whom he skinned ought also to be wearing the stripes of a convict. And perhaps if they indict Gates he will follow suit and do the same thing to them. Stranger—far stranger—things have happened. They are as deep in the mud as Gates is in the mire. He beat them at their own game.

But there is a much more serious question connected with the matter than the circus between Gates and his Wall street victims, and that is that Gates or any other man shall be permitted, for gambling purposes, to shut down mills and throw out of employment thousands of honest, industrious men who are anxious to earn their own bread and the bread of their wives and little children in the sweat of their faces. That concerns the public welfare. Gates could have cut no such brutal caper had he not been the head of the steel wire trust, which is no worse and no better than scores of other trusts. A man who steals a loaf of bread is a thief and is sent to jail or to the penitentiary, but a man who rates in a cool \$1,000,000 or \$2,000,000 by taking the bread out of the mouths of thousands of men, women and children is a financier and hero, with aspirations for a seat in the senate of the United States. O Mores! O Tempora!

Senator Hear's Plea For Justice.
Here is a paragraph from Senator Hear's great speech, than which few, very few, finer ever fell from human lips. I commend it to the boys of the land as a thing to be treasured up and committed to memory:

Mr. President—Our friends who take another view of this question like to tell us of the mistakes of great men of other days, who have vainly protested against acquisition of territory. One worthy and most exalted gentleman in another place points out to his hearers the folly of Webster and Clay, the delusions of Charles Sumner and contrasts them with the wisdom of Jefferson and Tyler and Polk. Mr. Jefferson declared that the acquisition of Louisiana was unconstitutional and wanted a constitutional amendment to justify it. I think the general sense of the American people is that in that particular Mr. Jefferson was in error and that our power to admit new states clearly involves the power to acquire territory from which new states are to be made. I wonder, however, if there be any man now alive who now holds of who ever did or ever will hold a seat in either house of congress willing to say that, having taken an oath to support the constitution, he would, for any purpose of public advantage, forever renounce the right of a real or fancied good to his country. I hope and believe that the spirit of Fletcher of Saltoun, who said he would die to serve Scotland, but he would not do a base thing to the detriment of the spirit of American statesmanship. That exuberant gentleman contrasts the statesmanship of Polk and Tyler with that of Daniel Webster and Henry Clay and Charles Sumner. Somehow or other the names of Webster and Clay and Sumner were in Jefferson and on the lips of their countrymen, while the men who brought on the Mexican war in the interest of slavery are forgotten. I do not think we hear of men building statues to those counselors or celebrating their birthdays or writing their lives. In all generations of men who have appeared to righteousness and justice and freedom have left an enduring place in the loving memory of their countrymen, while the men who have counseled them to walk in the path of injustice and wrong, even if it led to empire and even if they were the majority in their own day, are forgotten and despised. Ah, Mr. President, that gentleman says we are the apostles of the Lord, as the Jews were the apostles of the Lord. But the Jewish empire is forgotten. The sands of the desert cover the foundations of her cities. The spider spins its thread; the owl makes its midnight perch in their palaces. But still those little words: "Thou shalt not steal; thou shalt not covet that that is thy neighbor's; whatever ye would that men shall do to you, do ye even so again unto them," shall through the ages, blasphe and unadvised. Mr. President, you may speculate, you may refine, you may doubt, you may deny, but the one foremost action in our history, the foremost action in all history, is the writing upon its pages the simple and sublime opening sentences of the Declaration of Independence. And the men who stand by it shall live in the eternal memory of mankind; and the men who depart from it, however triumphant and successful in their little policies, shall perish and be forgotten or shall be remembered only to be despised.

Coming Statesmen.
One purpose of these letters is to introduce to the notice of my readers the rising members of the house, especially new and young Democratic representatives who give unusual promise of future eminence. In the great debate on the armor plate feature of the naval appropriation bill a trio of young Democrats showed forth resplendent—William Walton Kitchin of North Carolina, Charles Kennedy Wheeler of Kentucky and Willard Duncan Vandiver of Missouri. They put up a magnificent fight for the people and led the Democrats to a notable victory.

The Hoosier Republicans had hardly adjourned their more or less perfunctory state convention before the spring municipal elections were held, in which the grand old party was the recipient of a most righteous but most astounding wallop. The Porto Rican bill did it; the Cuban scandals did it; the Macrum exposures did it; the Hay-Pauncefote treaty did it; the Gage-Hepburn dark and damnable performance did it; the administration's pro-English tendencies did it; it's evident lack of sympathy with the heroic Boers did it; the pro-English gold standard bill did it; Mark Hanna's ship subsidy bill did it; Colonel John W. Gates' bold and brazen trust caper did it; Beveridge's speeches did it; Fairbanks' presidential aspirations did it; Governor Steele's thrilling oration on shirtless Caribbeans did it; but, whatever did it, the Democrats of Indiana didn't do a thing to the Republicans! Oh, no! They trampled them in the mud; that's all.

Quay and Hanna.
In some respects General Charles Henry Grosvenor of Ohio is the unluckiest of mortals. The newspapers are always pestering him. They represented him as publicly congratulating Senator Mark Hanna on the undoing of Matthew Stanley Quay, whereupon the general publishes a card avowing that when he fell, figuratively at least, on Mark's neck in a public place it was to thank that great and good man for some kind and complimentary remarks personal to himself. Whether Quay will believe the explanation I am not authorized to say, as I am not in the confidence of the ex-Keystone boss. Lord Byron says, "Sweet is revenge," and far stranger things have happened in this world than that ex-Senator and ex-Chairman of the National Committee Quay should find some way of evening up the score with Senator and Chairman of the National Committee Hanna. It may be that he will avenge himself on Mark's protegee, William McKinley, or he may be satisfied with defeating Mark's ship subsidy bill. If the newspapers are to be believed, that palpitating patriot, Senator Tom Carter of Montana, meditates the latter method of revenge for Mark's part in taking off his friend, the late senator from Quaysylvania. It would be awful on the Republicans to lose that \$180,000,000 steal, but not so bad as to lose President McKinley.

Rats instinctively leave a sinking ship. Senator Wellington of Maryland deserts the Republican party, or, more correctly speaking, he claims that the Republican party has deserted him. Anyway, he announces that he will not train with the McFannates this year. It affords great and genuine pleasure to a lover of his country and his kind to observe the multiplying signs of disintegration now manifesting themselves in the grand old party, whose battleries has so long been, "The old flag and an appropriation!"

PRECINCT NO. 4.
BEGINNING at the intersection of Patton avenue with West Court Square, and running thence west with Patton avenue to its intersection with Haywood street, near Buttrick street; thence north to the intersection of Gudger street; thence north with Gudger street

PRECINCT NO. 5.
BEGINNING at the center of Patton avenue where it intersects West Court Square, and running with the center of same to the intersection of Church street; thence with Church street southwardly to its intersection with South Main street; thence with South Main street to the intersection of Southside avenue; thence with the center of Southside avenue to the intersection of Victoria avenue; thence with the center of Victoria avenue to the corporation line; thence eastwardly with the corporation line to the top of Beauchatcher mountain; thence continuing with said line in a northerly direction to its intersection with South Beaumont street at Beauchatcher Gap; thence westwardly with South Beaumont street to its intersection with South Pine street; thence with South Pine street to the intersection of Eagle street; thence westwardly with Eagle street to the intersection of Valley street; thence northwardly with Valley street to College street; thence with College street to North Main street; thence with North Main street and the Court Square to the BEGINNING, with a voting place at the county court house.

PRECINCT NO. 6.
BEGINNING at the intersection of Church street with Patton avenue, and running west with Patton avenue to the intersection with Depot street; thence southwardly with Depot street to Bartlett street and its meanderings to French Broad avenue; thence south with French Broad avenue and Graham street to the corporation line; thence east with the corporation line to its intersection with Victoria avenue; thence north with Victoria avenue to Southside avenue; thence north-eastwardly with Southside avenue to its intersection with South Main street; thence north with South Main street to the intersection of Church street; thence westwardly and northwardly with Church street to Patton avenue, the place of beginning, with a voting place at or near the Buncombe warehouse in said precinct.

It was also ordered by the Board that the voting place in Limestone township be changed from Arden to Skyland; and that the voting place in Blittmore precinct No. 2 be changed from T. J. Brookshire's store to Gash's Creek school house; and that the voting place in Haw Creek precinct be changed from the negro school house to J. C. Redmon's store; and that the voting place in Flat Creek township be established in or near the village of Georgetown, near the Asheville and Burnsville road.

All other precincts and voting places in the county remain as heretofore established.

This 21st day of May, 1906.
JULIUS C. MARTIN, Ch'm.
JNO. P. KERR, Secretary.

Critical buyers and lovers of Bargains will find much to interest them Friday, Saturday and Monday

BIG BALTIMORE

★ THE BARGAIN CENTER OF ASHEVILLE ★

SHIRTS
30 dozen Colored all over, stiff bosom Shirts, Cuffs to Match, worth 75c... 50 cts
50 dozen Men's Colored Shirts, Soft Bosom, Cuffs to Match, bargains at 75c. our price... 50 cts
10 dozen Best Quality French Madras cloth shirts, stripes and checks, all latest styles and colors, cuffs to match, regular price \$2.00, for this sale, only... \$1.25

WASH GOODS
Big reductions have been made in our Wash Goods Department. If in need of anything of the kind consider the following extra low prices:
25 Lawns and Dimities in all the newest styles19c
The 15c. kind9c
The 10c. kind5c
12c. Percales10c
10c. Percales8c
12 1/2 and 15c. FK's and Duck have all been reduced to10c
Also big reductions throughout the whole department.

MEN'S UNDERWEAR
25 Dozen Gentlemen's Balbriggan Shirts and Drawers, well made, the kind that gives satisfaction and good wear—worth 50c..... 25 cts

NECKWEAR
Have just opened 100 dozen Gentlemen's Ties, all the latest styles and colors; values at 50c., our special price only..... 25 cts
Also a beautiful line of Wash Ties for soft bosom shirts, only..... 5 and 10c

SHOES

Our past week's Shoe Sale has proved such a success we will offer for these three days this lot of Bargains as follows:—

CHILDREN'S SLIPPERS.
5 to 8 50 cts
8 1/2 to 11 60 cts
11 1/2 to 2 75 cts

LADIES' OXFORDS
Worth \$1.50, only 98 cts
Worth \$1.00, only 50 cts

We also have for this sale several styles of Men's Shoes, worth from \$2.50 to \$3.50, at the low price of \$1.98

Yours for business,
THE BIG BALTIMORE, 10 AND 12 PATTON AVE.

Notice.

It is ordered by the Board of Elections of Buncombe county that the precincts and voting places in the city of Asheville be and they are hereby established as follows, to-wit:

PRECINCT NO. 1.
BEGINNING at the center of Patton avenue where it intersects West Court Square, and running with the center of same to the intersection of Church street; thence with Church street southwardly to its intersection with South Main street; thence with South Main street to the intersection of Southside avenue; thence with the center of Southside avenue to the intersection of Victoria avenue; thence with the center of Victoria avenue to the corporation line; thence eastwardly with the corporation line to the top of Beauchatcher mountain; thence continuing with said line in a northerly direction to its intersection with South Beaumont street at Beauchatcher Gap; thence westwardly with South Beaumont street to its intersection with South Pine street; thence with South Pine street to the intersection of Eagle street; thence westwardly with Eagle street to the intersection of Valley street; thence northwardly with Valley street to College street; thence with College street to North Main street; thence with North Main street and the Court Square to the BEGINNING, with a voting place at the county court house.

PRECINCT NO. 2.
BEGINNING at the intersection of College street with North Main street, and running thence with College street east to the intersection of Valley street; thence south with Valley street to its intersection with Eagle street; thence eastwardly with Eagle street to its intersection with South Pine street; thence south with South Pine street to South Beaumont street; thence with South Beaumont street to Beauchatcher Gap at the corporation line; thence north with the corporation line to the northeast corner of the corporate limits of Asheville; thence west with the corporation line to Charlotte street; thence south with Charlotte street to its intersection with Woodfin street; thence west with Woodfin street to North Main street to the BEGINNING, the voting place to be at or near Oates' livery stable in said precinct.

PRECINCT NO. 3.
BEGINNING at the intersection of Woodfin street with North Main street, and running thence with Woodfin street east to the intersection of Charlotte street; thence with Charlotte street north to the corporation line; thence with the corporation line west to where the same crosses Cumberland avenue; thence southwardly with Cumberland avenue to its intersection with West Chestnut street; thence east with West Chestnut street to Flint street; thence south with Flint street to Hiwassee street; thence with Hiwassee street to the intersection of Woodfin street; thence with Woodfin street to the BEGINNING, with a voting place at or near the junction of Merrimon avenue and North Main street in said precinct.

PRECINCT NO. 4.
BEGINNING at the intersection of Patton avenue with West Court Square, and running thence west with Patton avenue to its intersection with Haywood street, near Buttrick street; thence north to the intersection of Gudger street; thence north with Gudger street

to Hill street; thence southwestwardly with Hill street to Maiden lane; thence north with Maiden lane to a branch or ravine; thence westwardly with said branch or ravine and its various meanderings to French Broad river; thence down the French Broad river to the corporation line; thence east with the corporation line to where it crosses Cumberland avenue; thence southwardly with Cumberland avenue to where it crosses West Chestnut street; thence eastwardly with West Chestnut street to Flint street; thence south with Flint street to Hiwassee street; thence with Hiwassee street and Woodfin street to North Main street; thence south with North Main street to the BEGINNING, with a voting place at or near the Farmers' warehouse on North Main street in said precinct.

PRECINCT NO. 5.
BEGINNING at the intersection of Patton avenue, Haywood street and Buttrick street, and running north-eastwardly with Haywood street to Gudger street; thence north with Gudger street to Hill street; thence south-westwardly with Hill street to Maiden lane; thence with Maiden lane north to a branch; thence westwardly with the meanderings of said branch to the French Broad river; thence up the French Broad river to the corporation line; thence east with the corporation line to Graham street; thence north with Graham street and with French Broad avenue to the crossing of Bartlett street; thence westwardly with the meanderings of Bartlett street to Depot street; thence north with Depot street to Patton avenue; thence west with Patton avenue to the BEGINNING, with a voting place at or near Pearson's store in said precinct.

PRECINCT NO. 6.
BEGINNING at the intersection of Church street with Patton avenue, and running west with Patton avenue to the intersection with Depot street; thence southwardly with Depot street to Bartlett street; thence eastwardly with Bartlett street and its meanderings to French Broad avenue; thence south with French Broad avenue and Graham street to the corporation line; thence east with the corporation line to its intersection with Victoria avenue; thence north with Victoria avenue to Southside avenue; thence north-eastwardly with Southside avenue to its intersection with South Main street; thence north with South Main street to the intersection of Church street; thence westwardly and northwardly with Church street to Patton avenue, the place of beginning, with a voting place at or near the Buncombe warehouse in said precinct.

It was also ordered by the Board that the voting place in Limestone township be changed from Arden to Skyland; and that the voting place in Blittmore precinct No. 2 be changed from T. J. Brookshire's store to Gash's Creek school house; and that the voting place in Haw Creek precinct be changed from the negro school house to J. C. Redmon's store; and that the voting place in Flat Creek township be established in or near the village of Georgetown, near the Asheville and Burnsville road.

All other precincts and voting places in the county remain as heretofore established.
This 21st day of May, 1906.
JULIUS C. MARTIN, Ch'm.
JNO. P. KERR, Secretary.

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Charleston and Western Carolina

"Augusta & Asheville Short Line." Schedule in Effect May 27, 1906.

Lv. Augusta	8:40am	1:40pm
Greenwood	12:15pm	
Ar. Anderson		6:10pm
Ar. Laurens	1:20pm	1:10pm
Ar. Greenville	3:00pm	9:00am
Ar. Spartanburg	3:10pm	
Ar. Hendersonville	6:00pm	
Ar. Asheville	7:00pm	
Lv. Asheville	8:20am	
Lv. Spartanburg	11:45am	4:10pm
Lv. Greenville	12:01pm	4:00pm
Lv. Laurens	1:37pm	7:30pm
Lv. Anderson	6:35am	
Ar. Greenwood	2:37pm	9:35pm
Ar. Augusta	5:10pm	10:40am
Ar. Alken	7:20pm	

Close connections at Greenwood for all points on S. A. L. and C. & G. railway and at Spartanburg with Southern railway.

For information relative to tickets, rates, schedules, etc., address
W. J. CRAIG, Gen. Pass. Agt., Asheville, Ga.
T. M. Emerson, Traffic Manager.