

# Democratic Watchman

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### Halting Down the Flag.

For thirty three years, or ever since the transfer of Alaska from the sovereignty of Russia to that of the United States, the American flag has floated over and protected the Porcupine mining district of that country.

It is a strip of territory as large as the State of Rhode Island and within it have lately been developed the richest gold placer mines in the world.

It has been undisputed American territory since 1867.

Up to the time of the discovery of its rich gold deposits no claim or pretense of British authority over it was ever made. American soldiers occupied it, the American flag was its recognized emblem and American authority was accepted and respected by all.

Two years ago two thousand American miners had located claims upon it, the output from which annually amounted to \$3,000,000. The American flag protected them and under American authority their disputes were settled.

England had occupied it for a short time under lease from Russia, before our purchase of it, and on ascertaining its wealth—a wealth developed by American enterprise—made claim for it. That demand was rejected and that act of Mr. McKINLEY'S administration was heralded as a "complete victory of the United States over the encroachments of England."

But it was only two years ago.

It was before Lord PAUNCEFOTE and Mr. McKINLEY'S Secretary of State, Mr. HAY went into the treaty making business. It was before imperialism had taken root and begun to grow rank. It was prior to the time of the making of the secret alliance now existing between the Republican administration at Washington and the government of Great Britain.

The Porcupine country was American territory then and the American flag waved over and protected it.

It is not so now. The American flag has been hauled down! American officials have been withdrawn; the country and all its wealth has been given to England without protest, and American miners are left to pay taxes to British tax gatherers and look to English authority for such rights as they can obtain and such protection as it is willing to give them.

Old Glory no longer waves over the Porcupine mining district of Alaska.

It would be a crime in the eyes of Republicans to suggest that we haul down the flag in the Philippines and allow its people, who for two hundred years have been struggling for independence, to have what is their own, and to enjoy a government of their own making.

In their estimation it is no crime, however, to haul down the flag at the dictation of Great Britain and give them possession of the richest gold bearing district the United States could boast.

Such is the consistency of Republicanism. Such the cowardice and flunkeyism of the out-growth of imperialism. Such the result of secret alliances with our old time enemies and oppressors, and such the disgraceful act of the McKINLEY-HAY-HANNA-PAUNCEFOTE outfit.

Let us hear no more from the mouth of any Republican about the cowardice of hauling down the American flag.

It will be done by McKINLEY whenever England demands it. It was done in the Isthmian canal case. It has just been done in the Porcupine mining case.

—Mr. QUAY, whose Republicanism has never been doubted, and our good friend Ex-Lieut. Governor BLACK, whose Democracy cannot be questioned, both profess to believe that the proper way to insure better election laws is through a constitutional convention. Their beliefs, however, don't prevent the people believing that the quickest way to this desired end is the best. As constitutional amendments are the easier and more certain method of securing what is needed in this line, the voters of the State will very likely go ahead and adopt them whether Mr. QUAY and Mr. BLACK agree to them doing so or not.

—Bishop FOWLER of the M. E. church may be both the bitter partisan and the blatant demagogue his recent utterances would seem to make him, but we cannot imagine that he has reached that state of imbecility that would induce him to classify "the firing on Fort Sumpter" and the "blowing up of the Maine" as two events in missionary work, equaled only by the crucifixion of Christ and the conversion of St. Paul. If he has, and newspaper reports of a speech lately made by him would indicate such to be the case, it is high time for the fool-killer to be on duty, or for some crazy asylum to add another to its list of inmates.

—It has just been discovered that all the rain on Wednesday was to make Commodore A. J. GRAHAM of Philipsburg feel in his element.

### Will We Be Partners in this Alliance.

Conditions and the actions of the administration at Washington have made us one of the allied powers now at war with China. That we will have reason to be proud of this fact, after the trouble is over is exceedingly doubtful.

Under a pretext of protecting our own people, residents of that far-away country, we have joined with others in invading a land upon which we have no claims. We became allies of Russia, Germany and England, all of which have declared for a war of revenge. We are partners in a fight with Germany whose troops go forward with instructions to spare none—to give no quarter; we are tied to Russia, whose forces show no mercy and whose acts of barbarism are commended by the authority that sends them to the field; we are united with England, whose armed men, upon the first occasion of success, showed their Christianity and civilization by looting everything they could lay hands upon and shooting down in cold blood those who resisted.

We are one of the allies, and what one of the powers do all must stand accountable for. We may be more merciful than others, but our soldiers stand by without protest, while others sack and burn villages, loot stores, destroy homes, and make war upon helpless women and children.

A Japanese correspondent who is at the front writes that "the world outside of China has no conception of the appalling barbarity practiced by the allied forces. The soldiers kill peaceful citizens without provocation, slaughter women and children, pillage shops and massacre their owners. Wherever they have power they destroy; wherever they find life in any form they take it." "The Peiho River," he continues, "is full of corpses of women and children. At one place the bodies of 300 were burned on a single junk. Around Tien-Tsen the callous destruction of human life was simply awful—none were spared—women, children, the decrepit, aged and helpless, all fell victims to the furious lust for blood that seems to have seized upon the soldiers of the invading forces."

And we are one of them. How our Christianity, that makes mercy its cornerstone, will shine in the eyes of the "heathen Chinese," when he wakes up to find what that mercy means, and understands the humanity that underlies the civilization we offer him!

### What Republican Militarism is Doing For This Country.

In 1896, the last year of the late Democratic administration, the war budget, as the appropriation by Congress for all military purposes is called, amounted to \$23,252,608. This included subsistence and pay for the army, repairs to and maintenance of fortifications, the cost of the Military Academy and all expenditures connected with the army. It was less than thirty three cents of taxation for every man, woman and child within the country.

France, for the same purpose, at that time, was taxing her people at the rate of \$3.20 per capita; Germany, \$2.70; Austria-Hungary, \$2.05; Russia, \$1.15; Turkey, \$0.59; Italy, \$1.52; and England \$2.32.

This is what the tax ridden people of the old world were paying for the glory of having a standing army, when the American citizens were each paying but thirty three cents for the same purpose.

At that time we were not cursed with militarism, nor did imperialism threaten its ever increasing taxation and its continuous curtailment of the liberties of the people.

Under the benign rule of McKINLEYISM we have started on new paths. We have discovered new duties, and are in the pursuit of new destinies.

For the same purposes now that an expenditure of \$23,252,608 was amply sufficient to meet in 1896, we pay \$122,257,313.12. This sum is divided in the congressional appropriation bill as follows: Army.....\$114,229,025.55  
Fortification.....7,383,028.00  
Military Academy.....653,989.67  
Total.....122,257,313.22

When we add to this the \$145,245,230.00 that was appropriated for pensions we have a grand total of \$267,502,543.22 making a greater tax upon the American people for the maintenance of its army, than is imposed upon the people of any government in the world for the same purpose.

So much for militarism in the United States. A jump from 33 cents to \$3.57 per capita, in four years, is making strides in the increase of taxation that over tops all the governments that ever existed.

Possibly it might be well for thinking people to consider what militarism means to them and their descendants. It has been begun under McKINLEY, and it is the McKINLEY-HANNA idea to make and continue it a permanent policy of the government for all time to come.

—If they actually need "heavier guns" at Taku why in the world don't McKINLEY send TEDDY ROOSEVELT over.

### "BELLE FONTE"

For the WATCHMAN.

A copious fount of beauty rare,  
So gurgled, gurgled up,  
Within a shady valley, where  
'Twas so enclosed, that nature there,  
Seemed formed in one huge cup.  
'Twas thus a wanderer first had seen,  
It gurgling brightly up;  
And nothing in proportion, mean,—  
He saw its glories had not been,  
As down he knelt to sup.

When quenched his thirst, he 'rose to gaze  
Upon this cool retreat;  
Shut in by hills, the woods, a maze,  
It seemed as if no end of days  
Could make it a village seat.

For thus it was, his thoughts would take  
A quite ambitious stand;  
'A spot so grand, oh! who'd forsake,  
Although it all his genius wake  
To clear and till the land!"

But thwarted not by such a doubt,  
He first began to think,  
'I'll workmen bring, this pool scoop out,  
And put a wall of stone about,  
And put a cup to drink."

"And soon the world will learn its fame,  
And some will come and stay;  
And by degrees 'twill get a name  
When nature wild turns nature tame,  
And then, a town, we'll say."

"The iron rail will pierce you hill,  
And science find us out,  
Where deep the vale, there'll be a will  
To bridge it so that trade may still,  
Come in, and stir us 'bout."

"Thus, I foresee a town will rise,  
Around this lovely spot,  
And it will grow to wondrous size,  
And when this generation dies,  
This scene there's naught can blot."

Thus queried he; the dream seemed wild  
It grew to be a fact;  
He acted as the dream had styled,  
And proved at last 'twas very mild,  
He called that town BELLEFONTE.

—By Rev. W. A. C.

### Trade and the Flag.

From the New York World.

The official statement of the exports from the Philippines during the calendar year 1899, made public, gives the total at \$19,256,091.

Of this the hemp exports were valued at nearly \$5,000,000 and raw sugar about the same—only one tenth of which came to the United States. The remainder was made up of copra, leaf tobacco and cigars. The exports by countries, including gold and silver, show: To China, \$6,910,498; the United States, \$4,040,255; Ecuador, \$3,701,353; Japan, \$1,083,806; and Spain, \$1,170,231.

So that China, which has no "flag" in the Philippines, got nearly \$3,000,000 more of the small trade than we did, and England almost as much. We receive at this port on a single steamer day more imports from Europe than come to us in a whole year on our wonderful new possessions. The entire value of the commerce for a year does not equal the cost of the occupation and war for a week.

### The Mouthings of a Mountebank.

From the Springfield Republican—Ind.

It is a singular fact that Mr. Bryan, the alleged apostle of anarchy, should be so much more moderate in his use of language when characterizing his political opponents than the child of Fifth avenue and Harvard, Gov. Roosevelt. The Rough Rider's denunciation has a wide range and no qualifying adjectives or adverbs. When he speaks of at least 6,000,000 voters in the United States he says "they stand for lawlessness and disorder, for dishonesty and dishonor, for license and disaster at home and cowardly shrinking from duty abroad." The Chicago Journal is tempted to remonstrate with the cultured Colonel for so sweeping condemnation of nearly half of his voting countrymen, but its remonstrances will be wasted. Before November comes the Colonel will probably class all Bryanites with savages or burst a blood-vessel in restraining himself.

### The One Great Issue.

From an interview by Ex-Representative H. U. Johnson, (Rep.)

Imperialism is the overshadowing issue of the campaign. Compared with it every other question sinks into insignificance. It is not the declaration of the Kansas City Convention declaring it to be paramount which makes it so. This declaration simply records a self-evident fact. It would be strange indeed if the issue, which involves their very system of government, and which is pregnant with vital and far-reaching consequences both to themselves and to alien races, did not occupy the first place in the minds of the American people.

### The Cowboy Method.

From the Indianapolis Sentinel.

Mr. Roosevelt has reached the stage where he not only announces his faith in "expansion" but also denounces anyone who disagrees with him as a "copperhead." This is the regular cowboy method. When a cowboy has views he gets out in the middle of the saloon and "declares himself."

### Grabbing Trouble.

From the Chicago Chronicle (Dem.)

In the shocking events of the last few weeks in China we may learn how much better it is to respect the independence and the rights of other peoples, "derelict" though they may be, than it is to go pro wrestling or swaggering about filching or wresting territory from them.

### Will Take No Risks.

From the Washington Star—Ind. Rep.

The failure of the Gold Democrats to nominate a ticket may be regarded by Mr. Bryan as an assurance that he has the Republicans so scared that they do not desire to have any votes wasted on outside candidates.

### Spawls from the Keystone.

—Parts of the clothing of Mrs. Frank Keller, of Frugality, who disappeared three weeks ago, have been found in the mountains, and she is believed to be dead.

—The Pennsylvania Fish commission has decided that hereafter no applications for brook trout will be received after April 15th. D. P. Corwin, of Pittsburg, was elected secretary.

—James Mannock's son John, 7 years old, fell from a hay stack near his home in Bedford Tuesday afternoon, dislocating the elbow of his right arm and breaking the arm above the elbow.

The house and nearly all its contents, of Mrs. Mary Amick, near Point, Bedford county, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday. Cause of fire unknown. Loss about \$1,000. Insurance \$700.

—The residence of D. D. Wagerman, near Speelman, Bedford county, was destroyed by fire Tuesday morning of last week. The cause of the fire is unknown. The house was unoccupied. Loss about \$2,000. Insurance \$800.

—Charles Schnars, the oldest citizen of Karthaus, died on Friday night last aged 83 years. He was the first school teacher who ever taught in that section of the county. For a number of years he was postmaster at Karthaus.

—Seymour Ross, of Clearfield, while going home Friday night last, stepped in a hole just above the Second street bridge, and falling heavily to the ground dislocated his ankle and broke both bones in his leg above the ankle joint.

—By the returns of the assessors for 1900 it is shown that there are in Cambria county 27,692 persons between the ages of 6 and 20 years who are entitled to attend the public schools. Of this number 8,655 belong to the city of Johnstown.

—Tuesday evening of last week, while the lightning was playing pranks in that neighborhood, it struck a locust tree on the farm of George W. Davis, in Cambria township, Cambria county, and killed fourteen half-grown turkeys which had sought its friendly shelter under the storm.

—Lloyd C. Washburn, of Bluestone, Lycoming county, returned home from a dance early Sunday morning, but afterwards went out of the house and sat on the Fall Brook tracks to wait for a companion, who had gone home with a lady friend. Washburn fell asleep and was run over by a freight train. The top of his head was cut off and his left arm was fractured. He was 21 years old.

—While playing with a young dog recently at Yellow Creek, Bedford county, George S. Steele was accidentally bitten in the hand. The wound was so slight that nothing was thought of at the time, but the following day the hand began to swell and blood poisoning set in. The hand and arm became very much swollen and very painful, and it is feared that amputation may yet be necessary to save the man's life.

—John E. Bell, one of Bellwood's most prominent citizens, who was widely known throughout the county and State, died at his home in that town Thursday evening. He was afflicted with Bright's disease and was ill a number of years. Thursday evening Mr. Bell was sitting on a porch at his residence. He was conversing with two friends of his family and without any warning, he fell off his chair and in a few moments he had breathed his last.

—Edward From, aged about 12 years, was instantly killed near Bixler, Friday morning, by being hit by seashore express east. He was assisting his father in tearing down the Italian shanties vacated by C. A. Swain's laborers, and had started across the tracks to procure some water, and on account of a passing westbound freight train stopped on the eastbound track until it was by. He did not see the passenger train approaching until too late to get out of its way.

—Dr. H. R. Brightbill, of Saxton, Bedford county, met with what might have been a very serious accident on last Thursday afternoon. On his way, in a buggy, from Broad Top City to Saxton, lightning struck a tree a few yards from him. It completely paralyzed him and his horse for the time being. It is not known how long he remained in a dazed condition, but when he recovered, his horse was seemingly yet in an unconscious condition. After much effort he got the horse to move.

—While O. W. Good, W. A. Benton and John C. Good, of Williamsport, were walking over a timber tract in Gamble township, Lycoming county, Monday, they were charged upon by an angry bull. The men started to run, but Messrs. Benton and O. W. Good were struck by the animal. They flew into the air and landed in a clump of bushes several feet away. The bull started for the men again, but had his attention diverted from them by J. C. Good, who having taken refuge behind a tree, yelled at the animal. Mr. Good succeeded in driving the bull away. O. W. Good's hip was badly sprained by the bull butting him and Mr. Benton's nose was broken.

—Herbert Tubbs, of Ocooca, a traveling salesman for a Philadelphia publishing agency, while in Williamsport Saturday, attempted suicide, by lowering himself through the ties on the Market street bridge. He was insane and was yelling at the time, which caused several men to run to him. They caught him before he dropped into the river and took him to the lockup. He imagined that God and the world was against him. He was given something to quiet his nerves. During the night, however, he made a second attempt to kill himself by butting his head against the iron door of his cell. With his head bleeding and torn, he was conveyed to jail. A close watch is kept on the man.

—A gang of pickpockets has reaped a rich harvest from the passengers on the Pennsylvania railroad between Harrisburg and Williamsport during the past week. It is estimated that the thieves have pocketed at least \$1,500. The robberies have been committed on board the excursion trains from the south to Niagara Falls. John Wood, of Williamsport, was robbed on Friday of a ticket to Buffalo and a well-filled purse. A prominent Wilkesbarre physician was relieved at Sunday of four tickets and \$300 in money. A well-known railroad official, of Nanticoke, was also robbed of a dozen passes and a roll of money. About a week ago a Mrs. Reeder, of Baltimore, was robbed of \$400 while the train stood in the station at Harrisburg.