



**WHETHER THE SPOONER BILL**, which proposes to give the President absolute power to establish any kind of a civil government he fancies in the Philippines—a clear grant of imperial and autocratic power—shall be attached as a rider to one of the appropriation bills, or held back for an extra session of Congress—presumably made necessary by the Cuban question and as a great convenience if the ship subsidy bill is to be made a law—are points of very great importance that are bothering the wise heads at Washington.

An attempt is made to justify the Spooner bill by the assertion that it is the same in language and intent as the law made under the Jefferson administration for the government of the Louisiana purchase. We have exposed the falsity of this in response to the claim of the "Gazette" that the Spooner bill had Jeffersonian authority. While there is a verbal resemblance, in vital particulars there is a great difference, and the difference goes to the question of imperialism that is directly involved.

The Louisiana purchase, as well as the Florida acquisition, were acquired and accepted under a distinct pledge in the treaties that—

The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States.

This pledge has been scrupulously kept. Is there any such purpose, promise or possibility in respect to the 10,000,000 inhabitants of the Asiatic islands on the other side of the globe? There are distinct avowals from the administration and Republican leaders that they have no such purpose as to incorporate the Philippines as States of the American Union. No one of any party dreams of that.

Again, and most conclusively, the grant of authority under the Louisiana act was only "until the expiration of the present session of Congress (the Eighth), unless provision for the temporary government of the said territories be sooner made by Congress." As a matter of fact the Louisiana purchase was completed on December 17, 1803, and it was organized as a territory on March 26 following.

The Spooner bill places no limitation on the President's individual and sovereign power in the Philippines. He is made as the czar in the Caucasus or Siberia. The Louisiana bill limited the powers of Jefferson and carefully defined them as being such as were "exercised by the officers of the existing Government of the same" territory, besides pledging our faith to admit Louisiana and other parts of the territory as States.

Should the supreme court uphold the administration theory that the constitution does not follow the flag to the Philippines, the President will have, under the Spooner bill, a full grant of imperial power and will be an imperial autocrat with such unlimited powers as the czar or the sultan has. Talk of imperialism being impossible, it is here now and to stay unless the supreme court shatters Republican purposes.

**IT IS GRATIFYING** that the Indian bureau is making remarkable headway in the civilization of the Sioux of South Dakota. The Sioux used to be among the fiercest Indians of the West. The Minnesota massacres and Indian war of 1862-63 was due to them, as well as the killing of General George A. Custer and his command of about 300 men on Little Big Horn river, in Montana, in 1876. Their last determined stand against the white men was at the battle of Wounded Knee creek, 1890 when 35 officers and men and over 200 Indians were killed. Up to that time they had, for fifty years, retarded the advance of civilization west of the Mississippi, killing and scalping right and left, and murderously harassing the Government troops sent out to protect the building of the Union Pacific. But a different condition of affairs exists to-day. A South Dakota correspondent of the New York "Evening Post" writes that there are now over 20,000 members of the Sioux nation in that State, and they are increasing rapidly. The tepee of the plains has given way to the log, adobe, and farm house; the war dance is a relic of the past, except for an occasional celebration on the reservation when a feast dance is indulged in; the war songs are now supplanted by religious songs taught the children and the grandchildren at the day and the Sunday school; the great hunting expeditions are a thing of memory. The Indians paint their faces still, but so, they argue, does the pale-face squaw. Their decoration to-day is that of personal adornment, not a preliminary step to a massacre. The beech-clout, fantastic head gear, and streams of feathers have made way in the majority of cases for civilian clothes. There are on the various South Dakota reservations some 15,000 Indians, making progress in the arts of peace and discarding the usages of war and barbarism. To sum up the results, the Indian is more successful as a stock raiser than as a farmer. Members of the rising generation of full bloods take to education, attend school more regularly than their white brothers in the city schools, and apparently never forget what they once learn.

**Mr. HALE, OF MAINE**, and Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, sounded notes of warning against the enormous appropriations being made by the present Congress. Mr. Hale declared the people of the country would become alarmed soon and then those responsible for the immense expenditures would seek the rocks and mountains to hide from the wrath of the people.

Mr. Lodge declared that the expenditures of the government, as shown by the appropriations, were rapidly approaching the billion dollar mark and he believed it was time now to draw the line. Every necessary expenditure ought to be made, but he asserted that some bills, notably the river and harbor bill, were loaded down with needless and useless appropriations.

### BILL TO FORBID PARTY FUSION.

**Focht's Pretended Ballot Reform Measure Denounced as a "Gold Brick."**

What might be properly termed "a bill to discourage independent voting and fusion political movements" was introduced in the Senate as the administration ballot reform measure. It is a highly polished gold brick given to redeem the Quay pledges of reform made broadcast over the state last fall. Senator B. K. Focht, of Union county, who offered it, says it is to fulfill the reform plank in the Republican platform. In comparison with it, the present law is a wonder of equity.

If possible this "reform" measure makes more radical the features of the present law particularly objected to by the real ballot reformers. It emphasizes the wrongs the Democratic and insurgent organizations have pledged themselves to correct. Yet it is the bill the State administration promised the Democratic members and Senators would be introduced in response to their demand for a fulfillment for a reformation of reform pledges. This bill will have the same effect that a red rag has when flouted in the face of a mad bull. And the people generally will likely be heard from.

It does not abolish the circle. It requires the party watchers to be sworn and designates them as the only aid to a voter desiring help in making out his ticket. It reduces the size of the present blanket ballot one-third and in several noticeable instances places the ballot machinery more firmly in the hands of the party managers. According to its provisions all the Republican candidates would not be in one column, all the Democrats in another, and all the Prohibitionists in another (instead the candidates of the several parties are grouped under the title of the office).

Independent parties are not given a circle. In grouping the candidates those nominated by political parties are to be arranged in accordance with the vote cast at the last election and are to have printed their party appellation. In the same group, but following the party nominees, are to be placed the names of the independent candidates alphabetically arranged and indicated by the term "independent nominee." Names of candidates can only appear once in each group, and fusion is prevented by requiring a candidate to accept one of two or more nominations he may receive, as no more than one political appellation can appear after any one name.

Presidential electors may be voted for as a group by marking a cross in the square alongside the party National candidate or by voting for each elector separately by marking a cross in the square alongside of his name.

Any voter desiring any assistance in the marking of his ballot is not required to allege any disability. He merely states to the judge of election that he desires assistance, and then he is permitted to select anyone of the duly appointed watchers of the election district to aid him in the preparation of his ballot. Every watcher is required to take an oath that he will not divulge how any elector whom he may be called upon to assist has voted or marked his ballot. The violation of this oath subjects him to "all the penalties imposed by this act on election officers."

Nominations of candidates for public office by certificates of nomination can only be made by political parties having a National or State organization with a system of rules for their government, providing therein for notices of not less than two weeks of any convention, conference or primary election. All other nominations shall be made on nomination papers and shall be known as independent nominees and the nomination papers shall be designated as independent certificates of nomination.

### Potters Mills.

The sick in and about town are Mrs. McClaskey, Mrs. John Miller, Davis Evans, James Palmer wife and son Frank, Mr. Sweeney and son Ralph, Perry McKinney, Frank Carson, Mrs. Wm. Smith, Hettie Landis, Mrs. John Slack, Mrs. Wm. McCormick, John McClenahan, Mrs. James Armstrong, and Mrs. Daniel Royer.

Jesse McClenahan, of Milroy, was over to see his brother John Saturday. Charles Wolf and wife and son Fred, of Aaronsburg, visited Emanuel Smith over Sunday.

The sale of Clark Bible was not so well attended; everything went cheap. Jesse McClenahan has gone to Pittsburgh, where he will work on the telephone line.

There was quite a jolly crowd from Colyer in town on election day; they were Mrs. Henry Moyer, Peggy Boal, Katie Boal, Katie Reiber and Cora Houtz.

Mrs. Mary Smith and daughter Ella have gone to Spring Mills, where they will make their future home with her son William.

### MRS. WM. AUMAN DEAD.

**The Mother of Seventeen Children, Thirteen of Whom Survive the Mother.**

Mrs. Auman, wife of Wm. Auman, of Spring Mills, died at her home on Tuesday of this week. Although the lady was advanced in years, being seventy-four years of age, she was in good health up to within a few days of her death, which was primarily due to apoplexy, superinduced by grip. Interment at Georges Valley, the services prior to the burial will be held in the old Evangelical church, Spring Mills, Saturday morning at ten o'clock.

The deceased's maiden name was Amanda Oman, daughter of John Oman, formerly a resident of near Egg Hill. Her marriage to Mr. Auman took place in 1843. Seventeen children composed the family at one time; thirteen of the children as well as the husband survive the mother. The parents were active and industrious, following the occupation of farming most of the time. The deceased was a good, kind mother and her children inherited many of her good qualities. These thirteen children are engaged in various pursuits of life and their kindly feelings towards their aged parents was a source of great pleasure to the mother.

The children and their present locations are as follows: John, Centre Hall; Mrs. Mary Lingle, Milroy; Philip K., Johnstown; Peter R., Spring Mills; Mrs. Rebecca Blausser, Spring Mills; Elias, Fort Wayne, Ill.; Jerry, Green Springs, Ohio; Hiram, Illinois; Frank, Coburn; Uriah, Sober; Mrs. Ella Klinefelter, Potters Mills; Mrs. Chestie Baker, Beech; William, Millheim.

### CHARLES B. MILLER.

Charles B. Miller, aged seventy-eight years, died at his home at Bellefonte Saturday afternoon. He was a member of Company H, Second Regiment, Pennsylvania Heavy artillery, and afterward joined the Pioneer corps. He was seriously wounded in one of the many battles in which he engaged. He was also in Libby prison.

### MRS. POLLY KETNER.

Mrs. Polly Ketner, wife of Jacob Ketner, living in the neighborhood of Pine Creek Mills, near Coburn, died on Tuesday morning. Her maiden name was Meyer, and was an aunt of Edward Meyer, who was accidentally killed last week.

### BRIEF LOCALS.

Thomas Kerstetter, who for the past few weeks had been at Cresson, returned home Saturday.

Miss Emma Wolf spent Sunday with her father, J. Witmer Wolf, grocer and provisioner, at Ardmore.

Last Saturday evening Mrs. W. E. McWilliams, of Pine Grove Mills, made a misstep and fell on the ice, breaking her left arm and dislocating her wrist.

Squire Houseman, David F. Young and E. T. Jordan, all of Puseyville, were in Bellefonte Tuesday on legal business, and stopped at the Reporter office on the way home.

Forest Bible, who holds a position in the railroad office of the Pennsylvania company at Lewisburg, spent Saturday and Sunday with friends and relatives in and about Centre Hall.

John Bishell, of near Farmers Mills, who for the past few years has been engaged in gathering cream for the Spring Mills creamery company, in the spring will move on the Alexander farm near Linden Hall, recently purchased by Rev. J. M. Rearick.

### REDUCED RATES TO WASHINGTON.

**Via Pennsylvania Railroad, Account Inauguration of President McKinley.**

On account of the inauguration of President McKinley on March 4, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets from all points on its lines to Washington at rate of one fare for the round trip (minimum rate 50 cents.) Tickets will be sold on 1, 2, and 3, good to return until March 8, inclusive. Tickets will also be sold from Harrisburg and intermediate stations, and from Philadelphia and intermediate stations on March 4. These tickets will be good to stop off at Baltimore and Philadelphia within limit of March 8.

### SIDE TRIPS.

Special side-trip tickets, limited to March 8, will be sold from Washington in connection with above-mentioned tickets, as follows:—

Old Point Comfort and return, via all-rail line, \$3.00; Richmond and return, \$4.00.

Via Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company: Old Point Comfort or Norfolk and return, \$3.50; Virginia Beach and return, including transfer through Norfolk, \$4.50.

From Baltimore, via Bay Line or Chesapeake Steamship Company: Norfolk or Old Point Comfort and return, \$3.50; Virginia Beach and return, including transfer through Norfolk, \$4.50.

### NEW YORK MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION.

**Opposed to the Ship Subsidy Bill.**

In the current number of The Review of Reviews Mr. William F. King, president of the New York Merchants' association, severely criticises the pending ship subsidy bill, especially the proposition to admit certain foreign built ships to the privilege of subsidy. He says:

"Naturally enough, the amount of tonnage to be constructed in American yards would be curtailed to the extent to which foreign tonnage would become entitled to American registry. This, it seems to us, will not serve to develop the American shipbuilding industry in the manner in which it ought to be developed and will not tend toward the investment of capital in the building up of new shipyards to take advantage of the impetus which ought to be given toward that particular line of industry. Therefore it is that we say, as a reason for opposing this particular provision of the bill, that an unduly large proportion of the subsidy would go to a few men.

"Then, again, we feel that it is dangerous to place in the hands of a few, no matter how well intentioned they may be, the power which the concentration of such a large tonnage would give them, especially when that tonnage is subsidized. It might enable them to create a combination which would serve to drive away competition. The natural tendency of that would be to advance rates for the temporary benefit of owners of the tonnage, and this in turn would serve not to expand the exporting of American products, but rather to curtail it.

"We have tried frequently to obtain an explanation of the reason for grafting this provision on the bill. It has been said by its promoters that it was the best bill that could be prepared under the circumstances and that the foreign tonnage section was a matter of expediency. What these circumstances were has not been officially disclosed. It would seem, however, that the principle of admitting foreign tonnage to American registry and half subsidy was incorporated in the bill for the purpose of allowing those Americans who owned that tonnage to reap some benefit from the subsidy to be paid."

Senator Hanna seems to be having more than his hands full in his attempt to round up the Republican papers of the country in favor of his ship subsidy bill. The following quotations from important Republican papers indicate the way his overtures are received:

### Pine Grove Mills.

G. W. McWilliams, of Fairbrook, is recovering from an attack of grip.

N. O. Driblets who has been very ill for the past ten days with quincy and erysipelas is recovering.

Mrs. H. M. Snyder whose life was spared for several days last week is now able to sit up. She had an attack of pneumonia.

The sock social held at the home of Mrs. A. P. Mitchell, under the auspices of the ladies of the Presbyterian church, was a success socially and financially. Refreshments were served full and plenty. Revs. Aikens and Hingsworth made appropriate addresses. In the little socks were found sixty-seven dollars, for the purchase of a new carpet for the church.

The G. A. R. banquet held at J. W. Sunday's hospitable home, near Rock Springs, was a nice, social affair. The feast prepared beat Uncle Sam's ration. Miss C. Sunday furnished the music, George Heberling made the wind. Rev. W. C. Dunlap was master of ceremonies, and in his introductory speech said he always was in close touch with the old soldiers and had words of cheer for the G. A. R. and as an organization every old soldier should be within the breastworks. He was followed by the grizzled old veterans who exchanged greeting that were that day revived, never to be forgotten.

The Sunday school convention composed of the dozen Sunday schools in the western part of the county, met in convention in the Presbyterian church at Baileyville Tuesday. Rev. Aikens was chosen president, J. H. Neidigh, vice president, Miss Irvin secretary. Rev. Love made an address of welcome and bade every one a hearty welcome. Rev. Rearick made the response. Mrs. Thomas Tate presided at the organ, assisted by a well trained choir. The ministers present were Rev's Sebuyler and Rearick, Centre Hall; Black, of Boalsburg; Hepler, of Lemont; Aikens, of Pine Grove Mills, and Love, of Baileyville. All took an active part and tried to point out to the parents, teachers and pupils the advantage of the Sunday schools. Three sessions were held, morning, afternoon and evening.

W. T. Meyer and family, of Philadelphia, arrived at Aaronsburg Tuesday afternoon and expect to visit with Mrs. John Muser, Mrs. Meyer's mother. Mr. Meyer is engaged in teaching music and tuning pianos, and is also organist in one of the prominent Methodist churches.

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### TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

**HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.**

Is your name in the jury list? Harrisburg has several cases of small pox.

Clayton Wyles, of Aaronsburg, says: "New boy at our house."

Forest Ocker, of this place, has secured a clerkship in the general store of John Meese, Bellefonte.

Rev. J. M. Rearick was one of the speakers at the Sunday school convention held at Baileyville this week.

Miss Winifred Wolf, of Rebersburg, accompanied superintendent of schools C. L. Gramley to this place Tuesday.

David F. Young and Margaret C. Young advertise letters testamentary on the estate of David Young, deceased, of Potter township.

The entertainment billed for Spring Mills Saturday evening will be first-class. The best young people in the town will be on the stage.

F. E. Wieland, the stirring merchant of Linden Hall, was in town Wednesday, and reports business up to the standard at his place.

Miss Virginia Gile, daughter of the late General George W. Gile, of Philadelphia, and Dr. Thomas Orbison, of Bellefonte, were married recently, in Philadelphia.

J. W. Garbrick, who lives on the Wm. Keller farm, near Linden Hall, after April 1st, will become tenant on the large farm of Wm. Dale, near Pleasant Gap.

Joseph J. Rhoads, formerly of Bellefonte, supervisor of the Camden and Amboy division of the Pennsylvania railroad, has been promoted to supervisor of the Philadelphia and New York division.

Rev. George Bright resigned his pastorate at Phillipsburg and accepted a call to Ohio. Before going to his new field of labor, together with his family, visited his aged grandmother at Aaronsburg.

Misses Mary and Maude Evans, of Williamsport, and Edward and Rye Evans, of Pittsburg, were called home owing to the illness of their father, Davis Evans, who is seriously ill at his home in Potters Mills.

Rev. W. C. Dunlap, formerly of Pine Grove Mills, preached in the Lutheran church at that place last Sunday morning. For some years he has been pastor of a charge at Oswego, N. Y., where he resigned to accept the charge at Montoursville.

Mrs. George W. Keckline, of Pine Grove Mills, was taken to the University hospital in Philadelphia, on the 26th, to be treated for a cancerous growth. It is but a few years since she had an operation performed for appendicitis; she was accompanied by her daughter Sadie.

Samuel Kaup, of Boalsburg, and Miss Mary Leisher, of Renovo, were married at the home of the bride Wednesday. Frank Kaup, brother of the groom, and Miss Esther, a sister, accompanied the groom and acted as groomsmen and bridesmaid, respectively.

The high school athletic association of Boalsburg will give an entertainment Saturday evening, March 9th, in the hall. Three acts: "The Darkey 'hencologist';" "The Virginia Mummy;" "The Trouble Begins at Nine." Besides the play there will be music and recitations. All are invited.

Mrs. Catharine Shoemaker, of Hometown, Fulton county, and her daughter Miss Mary Shoemaker, who is a student at Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, attended the funeral of Mrs. Mary Stiver Saturday. Mrs. Shoemaker is a sister of Mrs. Stiver; she will remain a short time the guest of her niece Miss Maggie Stiver.

Al. B. Homan, son of Henry Homan, of near this place, who several months ago went to Cresson, is at present acting as fireman on a railroad line between Cresson and Hastings. Frank Homan, a brother, who for some time has been in the employment of the Bell telephone company as a line-man, was given an advanced position and is now permanently located at Williamsport.

At the election last week W. S. Krise was elected one of the justices of the peace in the borough of Roxbury, a suburb of Johnstown. The town, which is a little larger than Centre Hall, is strongly Republican, but has been divided at the two last spring elections on the question of annexation to the city. Mr. Krise, a single tax Democrat, headed the annexation column on the ballot sheet, while his father-in-law led the Republican column. Last spring he was elected Burgess, defeating his father-in-law that time also. He teaches one of the grammar schools at Roxbury, and has also been acting as secretary to the Board of Health for several years.

### Magazine Subscriptions.

Give William McC. Wolf the regular subscription price of any magazine or Periodical you desire and thus save the risk and expense of ordering it from the publishers. You can have it mailed to you direct from them; or, at a slight advance, payable weekly or monthly, he will be glad to deliver it to your door and you are at liberty to discontinue at your pleasure. Any book or publication of any kind he will procure for you, and at the right price. See Grant Hoover, Bellefonte, before you insure.

### Summer Normal.

A Summer Normal and Academic term will open Monday, April 15th, at Boalsburg and continue for eight weeks. Teachers, preparatory students for college, and others, will find the course adapted to their respective needs.

JAS. C. BRYSON,

april 15 Principal.

S. C. Maize, Winneisheik, Ill., son of William Maize, of Millheim, is east to see his father, who is ill. Mr. Maize went west about five years ago and is engaged in farming.

The Reporter \$1.00 per year.