

Congress has Imperial Power.

The Supreme Court of the United States Monday decided that Porto Rico is not foreign territory, and in the same breath declared it to be constitutional for Congress to pass laws discriminating against the island. This much is certain about the opinion of the tribunal. The rest of the decision is far from clear to even the trained legal mind, and it will require a study of the document paragraph by paragraph and line by line, before a clear understanding of the conclusions of the Court on the various points involved can be reached.

The court holds, certainly, that "the Constitution follows the flag," but on the heels of this admission comes the contention that tariff duties may be placed on goods brought into the United States proper from the island, provided that duty be levied by special act of Congress.

The opinion of the Court was summed up very tersely, if somewhat roughly, by a leading lawyer who, after listening to the ruling, observed dryly: "The verdict is that the Constitution follows the flag, but that it doesn't do any good."

One of the most interesting phases of our colonial policy which the decision settles is that of the extent of citizenship of the inhabitants of Porto Rico. They now occupy exactly the same status as those citizens of Territories which lie wholly within the continental boundaries of this country, and by moving into a State and residing there the legal time fixed by the laws of that State may vote at any election held therein, and participate in the choice of all officers, Federal, State and municipal, without having once taken out naturalization papers.

Pittsburg Ripper Sustained.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court Monday announced a decision sustaining the constitutionality of the Pittsburg "ripper" bill, which overturns the municipal governments of Pittsburg, Allegheny and Scranton. The Court was divided on the question, four Justices affirming the validity of the act, while the remaining three joined in a vigorous dissenting opinion.

Justice Mitchell prepared the sustaining decision, in which Justices Fell, Brown and Potter concurred. Justice Dean wrote the dissenting opinion, in which he was joined by Chief Justice McCollum and Justice Mestrezat.

In substance, the majority of the Court holds that municipalities are agents of the State, and their functions of self-government are derived from the Legislature, which has power to change, abridge or even abolish them. Therefore, that although the act may deprive the people of Pittsburg, Allegheny and Scranton of rights of self-government commonly supposed to be guaranteed by the Constitution, and may impose hardship and unfortunate conditions upon the public, the Court has no power to interfere. The subject is held to be entirely a legislative, and not a constitutional, question.

To this view the dissenting Justices record a flatly contradictory opinion. Without taking up technical points, the minority declare that the act is clearly in violation of the Constitution which prohibits special legislation regulating the government of cities. It is designated as a usurpation of power by the Legislature, and a breach of the fundamental law of the Commonwealth. The dissenting opinion expresses grave fear of the outcome of such factional or partisan legislation.

THE "LAST LEGISLATURE" our experience has been in Pennsylvania was always the "worst one." The present session promises to cap the climax by a large majority, and make a record in general worthlessness, partisan meanness and neglect of public duty. It appears to be poorly officered in both branches, and there have been frequent complaints of doctored the roll calls on important questions with a close vote. This sounds the depths of legislative knavery. If the records are mutilated, what reliance can be placed on anything attempted? The trouble with the legislature has been to find pretexts to remain in session until the supreme court decides the ripper law, when, if the law is sustained, there will be curative legislation that may take time and in its turn be appealed to the courts. It is not expected the Legislature will reach a final adjournment before July, making it the longest session with the least work accomplished in the State's history. This is a bad record for the Quayites controlling both branches. Two years ago, with that faction in a minority and under control, the Legislature adjourned on April 20.

UNDER THE PRESENT PRACTICE of the House of Representatives, if not under its rules, the Speaker and the Chief Clerk are the whole House. They determine its action. However questionable the record they make, it is not to be questioned. By the ruling of the Speaker, it is final.

There is no doubt that the motion to lay on the table the resolution fixing the date of adjournment was defeated in the House. All those who kept tally on the roll call agree as to this. Then the Speaker and the Clerk started in to "compute" the vote and by intimidation and persuasion induced dependent members to change to the side they intended to prevail. After a lapse of considerable time, in which it was apparent what they were doing, they announced that the motion had been carried by a majority of one.

It is possible that a sufficient number of changes were made by members present to give this majority, but there is no evidence of it, and some evidence to the contrary. There was no attempt to verify the roll call, and the correspondents, who had kept their own tally, were denied access to the official record. It was simply a fraudulent return, that would not bear examination.

This is not the first instance of the kind. Repeatedly members who were absent from Harrisburg have been recorded as voting for ring measures, and the Speaker has denied the right to have the false record corrected. Those whom he serves are utterly reckless in the measures they press for passage, and if they cannot pass them by parliamentary means they do not hesitate at fraud.

SENATOR RICE EVOLVED a happy thought when he moved that the Legislature adjourn till October. If they had to wait around, he suggested, they might as well take plenty of time.

Though the Senate did not accept the idea, no counter proposal was made to avoid the dilatory policy that has brought the Legislature into contempt. Senator Rice simply expressed what all his associates know, that they are held at Harrisburg to serve the purposes of the machine managers. Their business might have been dispatched long ago; it might now be dispatched in a very short time if the majority were willing. It is not the interests of the Commonwealth but the interest of the party organization that keep them in profitless session. The Commonwealth would be safer and they could themselves retain more self-respect if they would go home.

The majority leaders will not admit that they are waiting for the decision of the Supreme Court on the ripper act. If it is not that, what are they waiting for? Are there any more city governments or courts to be stolen, any more property to be given away, any more convicts to be released from jail?

There is much important business for the Legislature to do, but it is not doing it. That is not the reason for the long session. If the majority cannot resume their manhood and the control of their own duties, they could do the State no better service than by taking a long recess. That might give them an opportunity to learn what their constituents think of them.

CONSIGNMENT OF SAMPLE CLOTHING AT ONE-HALF PRICE.

This is what we read on a telegram from one of the best N. Y. clothing manufacturers. This firm, being through with their Spring and Summer samples, were very anxious to dispose of them. They sent out many similar telegrams, but as we were first to respond we were given first chance, but our offer was not accepted until a special trip to New York was made.

These suits are far better than any regular productions, as samples, one's best specimens, always are. There are a trifle over 300 Men's and Youths' Suits--better than most, equaled by few and inferior to none.

Every man can have an exclusive pattern. He will see no one wear a suit like his.

As this clothing was bought at one-half wholesale price we will sell it at one-half regular retail price. When we get a bargain we always give you the benefit of it.

If you want an \$18 suit we can save you \$9; on a \$15 Suit \$7.50; on a \$12 Suit \$6; on a \$10 Suit \$5; on a \$7.50 Suit \$3.75.

These are prices you can never hope to equal, prices less than regular wholesale price.

Don't buy at other stores until you look over my suits. We will not insist on you buying. No need of that after you see the goods.

Sim, the Clothier,
Reynold's Bank B'ld'g,
Allegheny St., Bellefonte, Pa.

Swartz's Weekly Reminder.

CANNED GOODS.

Fairly good sugar corn, 7c.
A very good corn at 8c, 2 for 15.
An extra good corn at 10c.
A GOOD PIE PEACH at 5c.
Tomatoes 2, 3 and the highest grade at 10c.

DRIED FRUIT.

Largest black Prunes that grow, per lb., 19c.
Pine Peaches, per lb., 10c.
NICE RAISINS, NOT THE BLUE KIND, 8c lb.
FINE LIMA BEANS, 9c lb., 3 lbs., 25c.
Soup Beans, 6c lb.
Green peas, 4c lb.
Rice, 7c lb., 3 lbs. 20c.
Pickles, ready for the table, 6c per doz.
Good corn starch, not the cheapest grade, 5c.
1 lb. pack Arm & Hammer soda, 5c.
Swartz's Baking Powder, lb. can, 10c.
Royal Baking powder, 1/2 lb. can, 25c.
Banner lye, 10c, 6 boxes for 55c.
10 ounce-cake good laundry soap, 2 for 5c; 25c per dozen.

S. M. Swartz, TUSSEYVILLE.

Beware of a Cough.

A cough is not a disease but a symptom. Consumption and bronchitis, which are the most dangerous and fatal diseases, have for their first indication a persistent cough, and if properly treated as soon as this cough appears are easily cured. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has proven wonderfully successful, and gained its wide reputation and extensive sale by its success in curing the diseases which cause coughing. If it is not beneficial it will not cost you a cent. For sale by Mrs. J. W. Keller, Linden Hall; J. F. Smith, Centre Hall.

Charles Thomas Delcher, the fattest boy on earth, celebrated his fifteenth birthday anniversary at Catsaqua last Thursday. One of the incidents of the day was the formal "weighing-in" ceremony, at which the young giant tipped the scales at 215 pounds.

Miss Florence Newman, who has been a sufferer from muscular rheumatism, says Chamberlain's Pain Balm is the only remedy that affords her relief. Miss Newman is a much respected resident of the village of Gray, N. Y., and makes this statement for the benefit of others similarly afflicted. This liniment is for sale by Mrs. J. W. Keller, Linden Hall; J. F. Smith, Centre Hall.

LEWISBURG AND TYRONA RAILROAD.

Westward.		Eastward.	
P.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1:38	5:40	Montandon	9:10
1:45	6:30	Lewisburg	9:18
1:50	6:58	Bellefonte	9:28
1:57	6:42	York	9:35
2:04	6:50	Millsboro	9:42
2:10	7:02	Millmont	9:50
2:23	7:09	Glenn Iron	9:56
2:31	7:40	Paddy Mountain	10:03
3:02	7:50	Coburn	10:10
3:08	7:57	Zerby	10:17
3:15	8:05	Basing Spring	10:25
3:23	8:11	Penn Cave	10:32
3:30	8:18	Centre Hall	10:40
3:35	8:24	Gregg	10:47
3:42	8:31	Linden Hall	10:55
3:46	8:35	Oak Hall	11:02
3:50	8:39	Leont	11:09
3:54	8:43	Dale Summit	11:17
4:00	8:47	Pleasant Gap	11:24
4:06	8:51	Axmann	11:32
4:10	8:55	Bellefonte	11:40

Additional trains leave Lewisburg for Montandon at 5:20 a. m., 7:25 a. m., 9:45 a. m., 1:15 a. m., 3:20 p. m., returning from Montandon for Lewisburg at 7:40, 9:30 a. m., 10:05 a. m., 5:05, 6:08 p. m., and 8:15 p. m.

On Sundays trains leave Montandon 9:28 and 10:01 a. m. and 5:02 p. m., returning leave Lewisburg 9:20 a. m., 10:05 a. m. and 5:44 p. m.

J. S. HUTCHINSON, General Manager. Gen'l Pass'ng Agt.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Read Down.		Read Up.	
No. 1	No. 2	No. 6	No. 4
8:20 p. m.	8:40 p. m.	8:20 p. m.	8:40 p. m.
8:25 p. m.	8:45 p. m.	8:25 p. m.	8:45 p. m.
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