

# CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

## Littlefield Larrups the Supreme Court.

## THE NEW MAN FROM MAINE.

## Dares to Think For Himself and Speak the Truth.

## ORITIOISES INSULAR DECISION.

### Declares That the Opinion of the Supreme Court Was Influenced by Political Considerations—Failure of the Corn and Potato Crops Discussed by a Republican Organ, Republican Thieves Go Unpunished—Peace as It is Practiced in the Philippines—The Extraordinary Conduct of Congressman Hull, Iowa Democrats Alive.

[Special Washington Letter.]

The attention of the New York Sun, Mark Hanna and General Charles H. Grosvenor is particularly called hereby and herein to the case of Hon. Charles E. Littlefield of Maine. He is at the very least guilty of leze majesty and should be summarily dealt with. Otherwise discipline in the Republican party is a minus quantity, and without discipline it is nothing. Whenever a Republican becomes sufficiently independent to think and speak for himself he is a heretic and dangerous to the organization. What's more, Littlefield dares to tell the truth—another sin against the Republican organization. Worst of all, he larrups what Republicans regard as a sacred part of our institutions, the supreme court of the United States, which Republicans have regarded as sacred ever since they enlarged and packed it in order to secure a legal tender decision to their liking. Ever after it has ground out just such decisions as the exigencies of Republican party politics demand.

Before the Republicans reduced that court of last resort to that pitiable plight it regarded the court as a reprehensible object. Since that court does its bidding any one who dares to criticize it is written down as an idiot or traitor or both. It will be preposterous to write Littlefield down as a fool, so the whole pack, led on by the renegade New York Sun, will tell all sorts of lies about him and heap all sorts of abuse on him in order to prevent his promotion or even continuance in public life, for he has committed the sin unpardonable in declaring that the

great and good supreme court was influenced by political considerations in rendering its opinions in the insular cases. Indeed, Littlefield scornfully declared that there was really no opinion at all. When this new "man from Maine," who is easily the intellectual peer of any other "man from Maine," had concluded, there was great applause. Wherefore? Because he was speaking to the American Bar association—men with brains in their heads, who knew that he was telling the truth, a truth which brings a blush of shame to the cheek of every American citizen who loves his country and its constitution. But, as usual, the lick-spittle was present, this time in the person of one Adolph Moses of Chicago, who evidently does not resemble the great lawgiver half as much in brains as name. He desired to utter his vigorous dissent to the applause for Littlefield's pronouncement. Wherefore? Because Littlefield had attacked the supreme court! There you have it! No man must dare to use the brains which God has given him—unless he coincides with the Republican supreme court! Bully for Littlefield.

**An Absurd Deduction.**  
One of the favorite copies set for urchins by the Old Field schoolmasters was, "Many men of many minds," a truth which cannot be denied and which is frequently illustrated by the doings and sayings of people now on earth. For example, not long since The Globe-Democrat was blowing over the fact, as a sign of McKinley prosperity, that even if the corn crop is short what there is of it will bring more money than was received for the large crop of last year. Certainly that is a curious position for the great religious weekly to take. Pray, who is to pay the extraordinary price? The people who live within the region where The G.-D. circulates, for not one farmer out of a thousand in that vast corn producing area in which The G.-D. is read raised enough corn to winter his stock. What satisfaction will it be to those farmers, to say nothing of the thousands of nonagriculturists who possess horses or cows or other live stock, to go down into their pockets and bring forth 70 cents to \$1 for every bushel of corn fed to stock? If The G.-D. will carry its theory to its legitimate conclusion, it will discover that if only one bushel of corn had been grown on the surface of the globe this year and there was no old corn the one bushel would probably sell for \$1,000 a grain for seed purposes, which is of course reductio ad absurdum. Not content with exploiting the failure of the corn crop, The G.-D. turns its luminosity upon the almost total failure of the potato crop, with this brilliant result: "This year's crop of potatoes is unusually small. The price, however, will make it feel big." That utterance will hardly rank with King Solomon's proverbs or the wisdom of the ancients, but as an illustration of whistling to keep up one's courage it

deserves a wider circulation than it had in The G.-D., which wider circulation it will receive in these letters.

### Caught Red Handed.

Alas and alack, one official thief has been caught red handed! It is Mr. Edward V. Shepard, chief clerk in the patent office at Washington. He has been dismissed for appropriating to his own uses other people's money to the extent of the pitiful sum of \$89.05. That's the amount proved. When Robert Lord Clive, the conqueror of India, was impeached for taking large sums of money from certain East Indians, he exclaimed in a fine burst of indignation, "By God, when I think of my opportunities, I stand aghast at my own moderation!" It is not known whether Mr. Shepard has read the life of that great soldier, but he must feel much as did Clive. A Washington paper says: "Commissioner Allen, when asked whether criminal proceedings would be instituted against Shepard, said that was a matter with which he had nothing to do. It was for other officials to consider." Perhaps they will consider it as leisurely as "other officials" have considered the case of Mr. Neely, the distinguished Republican thief who stole thousands and thousands of dollars in Cuba and whose trial will, from all appearances, be postponed until after Gabriel sounds his golden trumpet calling both quick and dead to the judgment bar of God. The Washington Post says, "Mrs. Shepard added that her husband's plans for the future had not finally been determined on." If Mr. Shepard were some obscure citizen out of employment who had stolen \$89.05 to keep his wife and children from starving until he could secure work, his "plans for the future" would have "been finally determined upon" ere this by a vigilant and industrious prosecuting attorney, and those plans would mean several years at hard labor in the penitentiary. But "Shepard was the best chief clerk the patent office ever had," remarked several clerks, and it is dollars to doughnuts that Mr. Shepard, by reason of his high social relations, will go scot free and that Uncle Samuel will pocket the loss. People who pay the taxes, love honesty and believe in economy will more and more regret that the Democrats did not carry the last congressional elections, so that inter alia there might have been investigations which investigate into the numerous malodorous scandals now vexing the offactories of the American republic.

The Augean stables need a thorough cleansing, which they are not likely to receive so long as the Republicans rule the roost.

### Philippine Matters.

Things appear to be going to what the late lamented Mr. Mantalini would have denominated "the demitition bow-wow" in the Philippines. The following dispatch not only explains itself, but shows in what unity our officials are dwelling together in the orient and with what dignity they are deporting themselves in our Asiatic possessions:

MANILA, Aug. 15.—Civil Governor H. Phelps of

Benquet province has tendered his resignation. No action will be taken in the matter until the return of the commission from northern Luzon.

From the meager information obtainable it appears that Governor Whitmarsh is disgusted with the situation, as the strong influence of his former secretary, Scherer, is seriously affecting the governor's prestige. Scherer is a German, who has lived in Benquet province for a long time. About a month ago he declined to act as secretary of a public meeting of the Igorrote tribesmen on account of alleged interference in the meeting by the American authorities. Thereupon Scherer was thrashed by Governor Whitmarsh. Charges were then made against the personal use of his position to further his private ends.

The Philippines commission investigated the matter and exonerated Governor Whitmarsh, so far as the charges of using his office were concerned, but censured him for thrashing Scherer. The resignation of Scherer was then accepted.

The attention of the officers, agents and members of the Universal Peace society is hereby called to the pugilistic and ungentlemanly antics of Governor Phelps. Clearly he is setting a bad example to governors everywhere and particularly to the heathen supposed to be learning from us how to govern himself. If Governor Phelps is to be taken as a pattern, there is no telling what may happen. For instance, Governor Alexander Monroe Dockery is not only a "most pulchritudinous Missourian," according to The Globe-Democrat, but he is also a big, burly, muscular man, while his secretary of state, Hon. Samuel Paker Cook, is a tall, slender man, if not a "lean and hungry Cassius." Now, if Governor Phelps' method of managing refractory secretaries is to become the vogue, Dockery might take Cook through a course of sprouts—with his fists—and there would be weeping, wailing and lamentation from Iowa to Arkansas.

### Congressman Hull Snubbed.

But the unpleasant news about Governor Phelps and his secretary is not a marker to another bit of belated news which has at last found its way to these shores, and that is that Congressman Hull of Iowa, chairman of the committee on military affairs in the Fifty-fourth, Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth congresses and its predestined chairman in the Fifty-seventh, was snubbed—actually and vilely snubbed—at Manila on July 4, and this unseemly snubbing was, according to Hull himself, who ought to know, in keeping with the manner in which he had been treated ever since he landed in the Philippines. This is awful and calculated to harrow up the soul of every loyal American citizen and to cause his multitudinous hairs to stand on end, like quills upon the fretful porcupine. No such indignity to a statesman can be tolerated, and something is likely to pop loud and hard now that Brother Hull has returned to his native heath. As Republican editors have carefully censored this astounding item out of their papers and as many Republicans read these letters, the dispatch from Manila detailing this direful catastrophe is given here substantially as it appeared in the St. Louis Republic:

OSAKA, Aug. 17.—Congressman Hull's criticisms of the army and officials in Manila are con-

grued in some quarters as partially explained by the Manila Times of July 12 in its report of an incident during which the Iowa statesman lost his temper.

It was last July 4 when Mr. Hull, chairman of the military affairs committee, had his pride offended, and, according to the paper just received, he walked throughout the holiday. No report of this unfortunate affair was allowed to filter through the regular news channels to the outside world, so this is the first news of the "Hull incident" in its entirety. The Manila Times reports it as follows:

"Since the inaugural exercises on July 4 there have been considerable comment and a great amount of surprise expressed in army, navy and civil circles at the eccentric behavior and strange remarks of Congressman Hull on that occasion. It all arose over Mr. Hull's wounded sensibilities because he did not think he was accorded the distinction he considered he was entitled to. The congressman lost his temper and expressed himself in a most unbecoming manner, laying stress on his power as chairman of the house committee on military affairs and reflecting on the highest and best people in the community.

"Mr. Hull had been invited to a seat in the official section of the grand stand, which had been reserved for the Onzas party, military and civil government heads, naval and military commanding officers, the consular corps and other distinguished and representative personages. Needless to say, the seating capacity was limited, and each individual received one ticket. No ladies, not even the governor's wife, were in the official section, and all other prominent people sat in the other parts of the grand stand.

"It appears that the congressman tried to take his family into the tribuna official, but was courteously told that the official arrangement did not permit it. He expostulated, proclaimed his rank and declared that he would not sit there unless his family could. The usher politely explained that the other section was reserved for this purpose and assured him that it applied to all.

"Mr. Hull then went over, and another gentleman who had volunteered to enter placed chairs for his party close to the tribuna official, where the ladies of the commission and military officers and prominent business men sat. Here, after sitting a brief time, the congressman complained in loud tones to a naval officer, who was also ushering, that he was not being treated properly.

"They put me down here among a lot of clerks, as if I were nobody," said he rudely.

"The officer explained quite courteously that this was not the case and that he was accorded just as much consideration as other officers."

"But do you know who I am?" said Mr. Hull. "I am Congressman Hull and chairman of the committee on military affairs."

"The naval officer again explained that nobody had been given preference before him; but, not satisfied (evidently thinking the officer was of the army), he said, loud enough for all to hear:

"I have made lots of officers and can unmake them. I find the army very different here from what I thought it was. This is only in line with the way I've been treated ever since I came to the Philippines."

"Shortly after (this was before the ceremony had commenced) Mr. Hull left the stand and went down in front with the crowd. Here he got beyond the line which was kept for passage, and a policeman asked him to step back.

"You don't know who I am. I am Congressman Hull," said he. But the policeman said, "You're no different from any one else so far as my orders go."

"Mr. Hull remained there during the governor's address. Twice he was asked to come up into the tribuna official and refused—once when he was observed by Commissioner Wright, who sent an army officer to invite him to come up, and another time General Barry, unknown of the incident, went down personally to ask him up.

"Mr. Hull's remarks have been indignantly discussed, as they seriously reflect upon many estimable people. Everybody deprecates the matter, especially his statement that this was in line with the way he had been treated ever since he came here. Mr. Hull has been entertained by many prominent people. A banquet was given to him at the Army and Navy club soon after he arrived, and he has been dined by members of the commission and others. Mr. Hull has received every recognition that could have been given him, although he came to the Philippines for private ends, to look into some investments, and not upon any official mission."

In its editorial columns The Times says: "The extraordinary conduct of Congressman

Hull has won him much criticism and a sudden notoriety of a new sort. His conduct can hardly be called gentlemanly, and if he attacks the salary scale of the higher insular offices, as he has promised to do, the act will not be lacking a savor of petty vindictiveness.

"It is strange to regard a man of so much reputed ability, by which it is to be presumed he has risen to his place in the state, posing in such a ridiculous and childish light. The nature of his conduct calls for lenient thoughts and causes the friction of his rudeness."

### A Way to Get Even.

Now, the idea of a congressman—not only a congressman, but the chairman of the great committee on military affairs—being "put down here among a lot of clerks as if he were a nobody" is one of the greatest indignities placed upon a distinguished public functionary since the fall of Adam. Those American statesmen who were setting the stage in Manila on the glorious Fourth must have been blinder than a lot of bats. To prevent any further slights by reason of mistaken identity Governor Hull should have a placard printed in circus poster type which should run in this wise, "I am chairman of the house committee on military affairs" and should wear it posted conspicuously on his person in front and rear. That would keep or tend to keep him out of imbroglios while there, and when he resumes his functions in the house he should promptly have all the addle pated officers who caused his vexation and vexations reduced permanently to the rank of "clerk," to which rank they reduced him temporarily. There is nothing like living up to one's privileges in high life. He might look up an ancient precedent in his favor, one created by a most distinguished personage of the early days of the republic—to wit, the brilliant and bizarre sage of Roanoke, John Handolph.

### Iowa Democrats.

The attention of divers and sundry persons, particularly the self styled and self appointed reorganizers of the Democratic party, is hereby called to the action of the Iowa Democratic state convention. The reorganizers by some sort of process not stated in the press dispatches got possession of the platform committee and reported a platform to suit the reorganizers, whereupon a minority of the committee reported another platform reaffirming the Kansas City platform, and, mirabile dictu, the convention adopted the minority report with a whoop—which teaches the important truth that there are still left some people who will not bow the knee to Baal.

True, the Hawkeye Democrats added several planks dealing with the local political situation, which of course is eminently proper and to which nobody can reasonably object, for if there is any spot on this mundane sphere which needs shaking up it is Republican Iowa.

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# SIM, THE CLOTHIER,

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