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**DEATH OF A STATESMAN.**

Sketch of the Life of Ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed.

Ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed is dead. Acute Bright's disease ended his career after a few days' illness, at Washington Sunday morning, Dec. 7th. For twenty-two years Thomas B. Reed was a central figure in American politics, and as a parliamentarian, he was probably without an equal in the world. It is doubtful if any other man during a ten year's speakership of the House, could have instituted and carried through to a successful completion, those measures and reforms which are attributed to Thomas B. Reed. The act which marked him as a great political celebrity was known as "counting a quorum." Previous to his rule in the House, the custom was to ascertain a member's presence by calling his name. If the member answered, he was present, and if he did not answer, he was not present, though he might be at the time sitting on the floor of the House. Speaker Reed believed that this custom was averse to honest parliamentary principles, and despite all opposition, enforced his ruling on the point by counting a man present when he was on the floor. For one in his position, this act was without a precedent in the history of politics.

Thomas B. Reed was born in Portland, Maine, in 1839, within a few rods of the birthplace of Longfellow. His early education was begun in the schools of his native town and supplemented by a course at Bowdoin. After completing his college course, he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar of Maine when he was twenty-eight. He was elected to the Lower House of the state legislature, and ten years later, in fulfillment of his ambitions, he was elected by the republicans to the national House of representatives. Thomas B. Reed had long ago displayed his wonderful talent as a lawyer, yet it was not until he made his maiden speech, four months after taking his seat in Congress, that his fellow statesmen got a glimpse of his true brilliance and realized his great power and ability as a law maker. The great culminating point of his career came when, in December, 1889, he was made speaker of the House over such formidable rivals as Wm. McKinley and Cannon, of Illinois. Thomas B. Reed closed his public career as statesman in 1899 when he refused to again become his party's candidate for speaker. Of late years he has been practicing law in New York City, where he was one of the leaders in the profession. He leaves a wife and a grown daughter.

**ANTLERS FOR HILO LODGE.**

A. B. Loebenstein Presents B. P. O. E. With a Rare Trophy.

Hilo Lodge, B. P. O. E., No. 759, has been presented with a pair of mounted elk's antlers, the gift of A. B. Loebenstein. The antlers are elegantly mounted on a shield of koa. This work was done by George Mumby. They have been placed on the wall above the station of the Exalted Ruler and are an object of pride to every member.

These antlers have an interesting history. They were brought to Honolulu in the year 1830 by traders in the Hudson Bay Company, which at that time had a trading post at Honolulu for the transshipment of furs, gathered in the Northwest, to Europe and China. These antlers went into the possession of Kamehameha II, then monarch of these Islands. Subsequently they have passed down through various representatives of the Hawaiian royal family. Coming into Mr. Loebenstein's hands, he fulfilled a promise made at the founding of the Hilo lodge last spring.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 11. The forest sections of New York State are being denuded and many picturesque places ruined in the effort to provide wood fuel for large towns and cities. Thousands of cords of wood are shipped from here to New York daily.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.**

Radical Changes Recommended Upon Many Matters.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 6.—Senators Mitchell, Foster and Burton, the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, who visited Hawaii last summer, rendered their report today. The document goes thoroughly into the situation in the Islands and is accompanied by a mass of detailed testimony and memorials presented to the Commission by the people of the Islands. The general sentiment of the report is towards doing away with the present centralized authority in the Territorial Government.

In dealing with the much-discussed land question of the Islands the committee favors Federal control of all public lands with two general land offices; one at Honolulu and one at Hilo. The immediate suspension of the present system of leasing public lands is recommended; also a thorough investigation of land and forestry questions, The Kohala Ditch Bill, which was before the Senate at the last session, is approved.

The report favors Federal control of lighthouse and extensive harbor improvements throughout the Territory. The construction of a breakwater for Hilo harbor is approved.

The petition of Portuguese residents on the Punchbowl lands of the Kapiolani Estate is favored with a recommendation that the lands be sold to the sub-lessees at the expiration of the Kapiolani lease.

Somewhat critical comment is made on the condition of Territorial laws and a new codification recommended.

Control of lepers at Molokai and throughout the Mainland by the Marine Hospital Service of the Treasury Department is approved.

The Commission urges a four-cent bounty for Hawaiian-grown coffee and is strongly in favor of immediate organization of county and municipal governments. Payment of the fire claims as embodied in the bill recently passed by the Senate is urged.

**JUNIOR LEAGUE SERVICE.**

Interesting Exercises Sunday evening at Haili Church.

The program given at the Haili Church Sunday night by the members of the Junior League of Christian Endeavor was one of unusual merit. The exercises by the children were given under the direction of Mrs. F. L. Nash and consisted of the ordinary work done in the League Class room, with variations in the way of songs and recitations. Miss Sarah Lyman presided at the organ.

The program entire was as follows:

- Invocation.....Rev. F. L. Nash
- Hymn.....Congregation
- Prayer.....Rev. F. L. Nash
- Hymn—"I Love to Tell the Story"
- Bible Drill.....Juniors
- Recitation—"Whosoever".....Elida Gertz
- Recitation—"The Book".....Amy Williams
- Recitation—"The Book My Mother Loved".....Irma Shoemaker
- Song—"My Mother's Bible".....Juniors
- Recitation—"Grand Mother's Bible".....Crystal Smith
- Recitation—"Bishop Haven's Tribute".....Wallace Patterson
- Song.....Congregation
- Address—"The Bible".....Rev. Mr. Hill
- Hymn.....Congregation
- Benediction.

**About Pearls.**

I was talking a few days ago with one of the largest dealers in pearls, says a writer in London Truth. He showed me a necklace which cost £28,000, and the pearls did not seem to me to be large, and another which cost £3,000, the pearls of which were small. He contended that it was a good speculation to buy pearls and keep them, because they were sure to go up in price. I questioned this. The higher the price the smaller the number of people who can afford to buy. Those who can afford to buy a necklace of small pearls will not do so long, for they will feel that they are cut out by their friends with big pearls. As it is, nine-tenths of the pearls that these ladies displayed on their persons in necklaces and ropes are sham. No one without touching them can tell the difference between real and false, and even then it requires somewhat of an expert to decide.

**MAKE STRICTER LAWS.**

Knox Asks Congress to Fight the Trusts.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 6.—Attorney-General Knox has made his first move for legislation to control the trusts. He has dispatched identical letters to Senator Hoar and Representative Littlefield, chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary respectively, suggesting legislation against corporations giving or receiving advantages which enable discriminatory prices to be made. He especially urges such action against the common carriers. He thinks present laws insufficient but urges caution in the development of legislation that will correct the trust abuses.

Mr. Knox holds strong views on the trust question. He believes that trusts should be regulated by law and that those which furnish products consisting of the necessities of life should be forced to regularly and reasonably supply the public needs.

In a speech recently he stated that he considered that the chief evils of the trust were: "Over-capitalization, lack of publicity of operation, discrimination in prices to destroy competition' insufficient personal responsibility of officers, for corporate management, tendency to monopoly, and lack of appreciation in their management of their relations to the people, for whose benefit they are permitted to exist."

Senator Cullom introduced a bill on Dec. 2nd to amend the Sherman anti-trust law, the amendment providing that interstate commerce in articles produced by trusts be prohibited, the penalty for violations being a fine of from \$500 to \$5,000.

**Language of the Umbrella.**

There is a language of umbrellas, as of flowers. For instance, place your umbrella in a rack, says the New York Dial, and it will indicate that it will change owners. To open it quickly in the street means that somebody's eye is going to be put out, to shut it, that a hat or two is to be knocked off. An umbrella carried over a woman, the man getting nothing but the drippings of the rain, signifies courting. When a man has the umbrella, and the woman the drippings it indicates marriage. To punch your umbrella into a person and then open it means "I dislike you." To swing your umbrella over your head signifies "I am making a nuisance of myself." To trail your umbrella along the foot-path means that the man behind you is thirsting for your blood. To carry it at right angles under your arm signifies that an eye is to be lost by the man that follows you. To open an umbrella quickly, it is said, will frighten a mad bull. To put a cotton umbrella by the side of a silk one signifies "Exchange is no robbery." To purchase an umbrella means, "I am not smart but honest." To lend an umbrella indicates "I am a fool." To return an umbrella means well, nobody ever does that. To turn an umbrella in a gust of wind presages profanity. To give a friend half of your umbrella means that both of you will get wet. To carry it from home in the morning means that "it will clear off."

**Dog That Husks Corn.**

A corn husking dog is the latest novelty on the banks of the Wabash, says the Chicago Tribune. This industrious and intelligent canine is the property of Jacob Duffenbaugh, who lives on the Stephens farm, near Andrews. It is a nine-months-old pup, and watched Mr. Duffenbaugh husk corn one day last week, and then went in on his own hook, tearing the husk from the ears with more celerity than the average farmhand. He wasn't careful in piling the corn and the husks, but he stripped the husks clean. The next day he followed Duffenbaugh and his man to the field and did several hours of efficient work. The dog apparently was delighted with its work.

London, Jan. 11.—Severe cold now prevails throughout Great Britain and serious floods are reported from Ireland.

**SCOTCH INVENTOR.**

Marconi Acknowledges That James Lindsay Preceded Him.

New York, December 27.—When Mr. Marconi lectured at Dundee, says the London correspondent of the Tribune, he gave full credit to the Scotch inventor, James Bowman Lindsay, for being the first man who thoroughly believed in the possibility and utility of long distance wireless telegraphy, fifty years ago. He contended that Lindsay's system was not considered practicable on account of the enormous electric energy required, even for the most moderate distances, and the necessity of placing immersed plates at a considerable distance apart, but he admitted that the inventor would have done much more if had lived in the present time.

Lindsay's biographer has delivered lectures on these early experiments in wireless telegraphy and has exhibited the original apparatus and diagrams. The biography, which will be published shortly, will contain many of Lindsay's letters on the subject, which prove the originality and feasibility of his experimental work. It is not generally known that Lindsay took out a patent for his method of wireless telegraphy. He began experimenting in the ponds around Dundee in 1844 and resumed in 1853 at Portsmouth and across the bay.

**Decrease in State Debts.**

Remarkably healthy and creditable is the showing made by the states in their general reduction of the debts incurred for public purposes.

The forty-five states have collectively a bonded debt of \$200,000,000, and although other debts, municipal and county, have been increasing largely of late years, state debts have in most cases fallen off.

The state which has the largest debt—contracted through obligations entailed by the Civil War—is Virginia, which owes \$24,363,000 in bonded debt. Twelve years ago its debt was \$31,000,000, and it has reduced the amount by \$7,000,000.

The financial credit of Massachusetts is so high that it has, since 1890, been pledged to sundry towns for local liabilities, the payment of the bonds issued for which is provided for by direct taxation. The actual state debt, which was \$28,000,000 in 1890, is now \$12,400,000, a reduction of \$15,600,000. The debt Tennessee, which, next to Virginia, suffered most from the Civil war, is now \$16,200,000. Twelve years ago it was \$16,600,000, \$400,000 more. During this period the population of the State has increased a quarter of a million. Louisiana has a State debt of \$10,800,000. Twelve years ago it was \$11,800,000, a reduction of \$1,000,000.

New York's present debt, insignificant when compared with its manifold assets, is \$10,000,000, an increase of \$3,500,000 compared with what it was twelve years ago. This increase is due almost exclusively to the canal debt, now \$8,500,000, authorized in 1895, and of what remains of the increase \$675,000 is for the acquisition of Adirondack park lands.

The debt of Alabama is \$9,500,000; of Pennsylvania, \$7,800,000 a decrease of \$1,000,000 in twelve years; of South Carolina, \$6,800,000; of Georgia, \$7,600,000, a reduction since 1890 of \$2,400,000, and of Mississippi, \$2,800,000.

Texas has reduced its State debt in the same period from \$4,200,000 to \$715,000; Arkansas from \$2,000,000 to \$1,200,000; North Carolina from \$7,700,000 to \$6,200,000, and Maryland from \$10,000,000 to \$2,600,000, partly by disposing of its railroad investment.

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Ventura.....	Dec. 3
Zealandia.....	Dec. 12
Sierra.....	Dec. 24
Zealandia.....	Jan. 2
Sonoma.....	Jan. 14
Alameda.....	Jan. 23
Ventura.....	Feb. 4
Alameda.....	Feb. 13
Sierra.....	Feb. 25
Alameda.....	March 6

**FOR SAN FRANCISCO.**

Zealandia.....	Dec. 17
Sonoma.....	Dec. 23
Zealandia.....	Jan. 7
Ventura.....	Jan. 13
Alameda.....	Jan. 28
Sierra.....	Feb. 3
Alameda.....	Feb. 18
Sonoma.....	Feb. 24
Alameda.....	March 11

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