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Probe the scandals. Local officials must act. What is the Grand Jury doing? Public investigation is demanded.

Home rule demands vigilance on the part of home-rulers. The trials of Liliuokalani will be as nothing to the trial of Mrs. Dominis.

Under American law wherever there is a crime there is a way to punish it. With all our getting we must get the next National Republican Convention.

Grover has the satisfaction of knowing that no one calls him a boss any more. Currency bills go, but the ills remain; the bee is driven off, but the sting is left.

Hopkins Hall is a noble mansion, but it seems to be a poor place for showing pictures. Let us get the scandal racket out of the way and start in on municipal improvements.

The official who undertakes to go to sleep in his office in these days will have a nightmare. If the Grand Jury does not make a sounding report very soon it will be a clear case of fizzling.

With the coming of spring Congress and the snow will vanish from the country with all their slush. If there is no corruption in the city our officials should at least expose the slanders of those who say there is.

It may take the force of popular will to set the machinery of our local law into operation, but it can do it. The demand for an investigation into the alleged abuses in this city points to the city officials for an answer.

The official who does not reply to the East charges against him cannot be said to answer the popular demand. The best signs of legislative retrenchment would be the footprints of useless attaches pointing toward home.

The next Republican National Convention will come to San Francisco, and it won't come to a corrupt city either. If the reformers will give us evidence of a single instance of official corruption in this city we will guarantee its exposure.

Judged by any standard of reasonable men, Dick McDonald is either crazy or has been a long time hypnotized by a villain. Congress has done enough in the way of saving off currency reform and should now get to work digging on the Nicaragua canal.

The City of Mexico proposes to hold an international exposition and California must prepare to attend it with all her industries. Couldn't this thing be compromised by having a legislative committee to investigate nuisances, clean the streets and purify the sewers?

Men who aspire to the fame of a Parkhurst should follow the methods of Parkhurst, and discover crime before they denounce it. San Francisco is indebted to Edward F. Searles for another addition to her art treasures and another example to her local millionaires.

It matters not what route may be decided on for the competing road, every county that builds a branch line will have all the benefits of competition. Bakersfield with her creamery, and Fresno with her competing railroad, feel in such new states of development that both are half persuaded to set up as capital cities.

The seawall should be extended southward for business uses at once, and the extension northward for ornamental purposes can be attended to when times are better. The rush of legislation at Sacramento will not lead the public to overlook the fact that there are a great many clerks and secretaries there who are not doing any rushing except on payday.

There have been many national conventions of various orders and associations held in San Francisco, and the delegates have always regarded the transcontinental journey as one of the advantages of having the meeting here. The racket over the alleged corruption of the city hasn't raised too much dust for the intelligent observer to see there are a good many capitalists who are dodging their civic duty and the subscription list to the competing road.

When we have once made a definite bid for the next national convention of the Republican party we will not have to do all the work of urging its adoption. There are many newspapers and many influential men in the East that will help us and help us well. It is satisfactory to note there has been a liberal support given to the Pure Food exhibit, for an exposition of that kind is of the greatest importance to the people and ought to do much not only to advance our food industries but to add to health and the enjoyment of life.

Every Californian will appreciate the compliment paid by General Clarkson in saying: "I believe it would be good for the Republican party to recognize the far Republican West and hold its next convention among all people so broad and National in spirit, and all such splendid and devoted Americans."

Attention, Grand Jurymen! Investigate every department of the city government; probe into every alleged evil; bring out all the evidence; convict every criminal; drive every rascal out of office; do everything necessary to clean the city, clear the atmosphere, put an end to scandals and leave us free to talk business, act business and go on with municipal improvements and competing railroads.

START THE INVESTIGATION.

The officials of the city owe it to themselves and to the people to take some action in the direction of investigating the corruption alleged to exist here. This is particularly true of the Mayor, the Sheriff, the District Attorney, the Chief of Police and the members of the Grand Jury. It is an old saying that the law is condemned when the wicked are acquitted, and if it be true that crime and fraud go unpunished in this city, then are the officers whom we have elected to arrest, prosecute and punish criminals condemned in the mind of every good citizen.

It does not matter whether all the allegations of fraud are true or not. A widespread public opinion which makes itself manifest with all the force of a moral conviction, cannot be ignored by a public official or carelessly put aside with indifference. The moral convictions of the masses of intelligent men have all the force of facts and they must be dealt with on that basis. If there is no corruption in the city, the officials must make that truth known and draw the irritation from the public mind. If corruption exists and there is no law to punish it, let that be known so that the remedy can be provided.

There is no use mincing words on the subject. The people believe that there is something wrong and they demand official action. They will not be turned away by any contemptuous asking, "What are you going to do about it?" They propose to do something about it, and they propose to do it soon. What is more they propose that the city officials shall do something about it. The taxpayers wish to know what these officers are drawing salaries for, and why they do not perform the work they are paid to perform.

We call the attention, therefore, of the Mayor, the Sheriff, the District Attorney, the Chief of Police and the Grand Jury to the fact that every day they remain silent and inactive they fall further in public esteem. They must act. The District Attorney and the Grand Jury should summon before them the men who are making these charges of corruption and get their evidence. They must start the investigation, they must begin to dig for the truth. Let us have all the facts of the city inquired into, all the scandals probed, all the evidence of wrong made public, and all the criminals arrested, convicted and punished, so that the people can be freed from all fear of corruption and wrong, and go forward confidently with private business, public enterprises and municipal improvements.

ENCOURAGING WORDS. We publish this morning additional evidences of the favor with which the proposal to hold the next Republican National Convention in this city has been everywhere received. Those coming from the East are especially gratifying, as they assure us the support of strong champions, where such champions are scarce, and no Californian can read them without feeling encouraged to enter upon the contest for the convention with the ardor of men who are sanguine of success.

The tenor of opinion among the members of the National Committee is well expressed by Senator Hansbrough, who says: "I congratulate you upon the enterprising spirit displayed in the endeavor to secure the next Republican National Convention for San Francisco. (The convention could not be held in a more delightful place." The Hon. J. C. Burrows, Senator-elect from Michigan, says: "The Republicans of California are deserving of anything they may desire, even the National Republican Convention for 1896, and the hospitality of Californians would make the delegates forget the inconveniences of time and distance."

These telegrams, taken in connection with that of General Clarkson, published yesterday, show the quality and the nature of the support we may expect from influential men in the East. They are sufficient to arouse our energies to immediate action. No time should be lost. Let us have the committee appointed at once to organize the work and begin the campaign of education.

FIGHTING AN INFAMY. The more familiar the people become with the intent, the scope and the processes of the income tax, the warmer grows their indignation against it. The intent of the law is to make distinctions of classes among the people with respect to taxation. The scope includes not only the rich but the poorest widow and orphan whose fragments of a fortune may be invested in a stock company or corporation earning \$4000 a year, and its processes are inquisitorial to an extent that destroys all privacy of business, and makes the affairs of every well-to-do man subject to the prying and spying of government officials.

The law is so doubtful and non-finality. It is certainly un-American. It is not a fit law for a just Government nor a free people. It is odious to every instinct of American manhood. Its very inception was a political monstrosity inasmuch as it was the outcome of a bargain between free-trade Democrats and socialist Populists. Stalwart Democrats like Senator Hill denounced it. Intelligent Populists are opposed to it. The universal voice of the people condemns it, save where a few cranks, in despair of defending it, are heard to apologize for it as a necessary measure to raise a revenue during the temporary depression and hard times.

We will not content ourselves with denouncing such a measure as this. We propose to fight it. The proprietor of THE CALL will not make any statement of his income nor will he pay any tax imposed by the iniquitous tax which may be assessed by the Internal Revenue officers until he has been compelled to do so by the decision of the highest tribunal in the land. Only the Supreme Court of the United States can force us to submit to this infamy, and not even that court can compel us to accept it as a just law worthy of a place on an American statute-book.

Constitutional or unconstitutional, the law is an offense to liberty and justice and must be repealed. The Congress that enacted it has already been repudiated by the people. Hardly a man who voted for it was re-elected when his constituents had a word to say in regard to his conduct in office. In the light of that indignant protest of the American people and encouraged by it, we shall respectfully urge the officers appointed to enforce the infamy. We have already engaged our lawyers and will fight the inquisition to the end in the courts as well as through a free press before the greater tribunal of the people.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S DEFEAT. Thursday's vote on the President's gold-bond proposition was non-partisan; the majority which voted no was composed almost in equal proportions of Democrats and Republicans. Members of Congress at the secret bargain lately concluded between the Treasury Department and the London bankers, and still more indignant at the slap in the face administered to the friends of silver by the unnecessary insertion of the word "gold" in the description of the new 3 per cents. No serious

fault can be found with the defeated resolution; it is right and proper that the Government should retain the privilege of reducing the interest on the new bonds, if the original holders raise no objection; but the whole proceedings of the Treasury Department have exhibited so contemptuous disregard for the opinions of Congress that the latter felt naturally indignant and rebuked the administration accordingly.

Some men are so constituted that they cannot see a stone wall without wanting to run their heads against it. Such a man is Grover Cleveland. There was no call for the insertion of the word "gold" in the resolutions. United States bonds have always been paid in gold, and always will be, unless, what is quite possible, silver should come to be the more valuable metal, relatively, when the treasury might pay in silver. Nothing could possibly be gained by describing the new threes as gold bonds. But the use of the word was one to irritate that large body of Western and Southern members who are in favor of the free coinage of silver, or of its coinage at the arbitrary ratio of 16 to 1, and, therefore, Mr. Cleveland insisted on its being employed.

Again, the private bargain concluded by Mr. Carlisle with the London banking-houses of Rothschild and J. S. Morgan & Co. was probably as good a bargain as the Government could have made. But any one who is familiar with the temper of the American people could have told Mr. Cleveland that such a bargain was certain to bring down upon him American indignation. The relations between American banking-houses and English banking-houses are so close that it is hard to say what proportion of the capital and means is American, and what use is to be made of it, and how it is to be employed, when American stock stood ready to supply the Government with all the money it needed was putting a slight on our home institutions which was certain to be resented.

Mr. Cleveland saw his wall and ran his head against it. It is to be hoped that the country will not suffer from the results of the collision.

THE RAILROAD. The San Joaquin Railroad enterprise proceeds in a deliberate business-like way. The articles of incorporation are before the public, for approval or criticism, and will be voted on at a meeting of the subscribers on Wednesday next at 2 p. m. at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce.

When Dr. Hawes said of San Francisco, "I have been astonished at the reckless speech, frequently libelous, which is practiced and tolerated at your public assemblies," he did not give us a complete knockout blow, but he certainly landed a hard one on the jaw.

What is the use of American law and a free press if the people of any community have to appeal to outsiders to expose wrongs and redress abuses?

AROUND THE CORRIDORS. John H. Norris, a gentleman who was a pioneer in Kansas and took part in the bloody struggles there which were the outgrowth of the slavery question, was at the Occidental yesterday. In a desultory manner Mr. Norris ran through a series of early-day life in Kansas last night, referring to the people and their habits, etc., in an interesting way.

There is one characteristic of pioneer life which the western and central portions of the State still retain, said he, "and that is the hard house. They are the warmest dwellings in winter and the coldest in summer, and the farmer can construct with his own hands, and are made from slabs of sod cut, just as they would be for transplanting grass. They are laid in courses like building stone and pressed closely together and the rooms made of timbers and frequently thatched. The sod house contains usually but one room, but some have two and even three rooms. They will last about five years on an average, but soon crumble to pieces when they begin to fall. The dugouts and the sod houses are the same, and consist of an excavation, the walls of which the farmer can construct with his own hands, and are made from slabs of sod cut, just as they would be for transplanting grass. 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