

The Messenger.

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DEPEW'S ADDRESS AT CHARLESTON.

Senator Depew, a distinguished and gifted alumnus of Harvard University, has been known for many years as an exceedingly accomplished and felicitous after-dinner speaker at the "big spreads" in "Gotham." As Senator, he is not of special weight. His accomplishments do not lean towards high or experienced statesmanship. Hence, his views are not specially sought or weighty. Charleston wanted an orator at the opening of the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian Exposition, so it sent to New York for the ready, gifted, eloquent after-dinner speaker and he rose equal to the occasion. Our able contemporary, the News and Courier, pays a very high compliment to his mastery of oratory. It is so lifted it indulges in the following high strain of praise:

"To speak of the superb eloquence, the thrilling voice, the charming manner, the splendid diction, of this world-renowned orator is but to repeat what has been said a thousand times before. Those who heard him yesterday for the first time realized not only how true was all they had read about him before, but how inadequate any description is to do full justice to his powers."

The honored guests can not object to that pleasant laudation, and it may be every word deserved. We are not concerned with Depew's oratory, but marvel at his taste. An invited guest he selects a topic that if handled most delicately and cautiously could not fail to provoke hostile comment and to irritate the more confirmed and sensitive hearers. Whatever his purpose it seems to us his theme was ill-chosen. It was on "Revolution and Evolution"—in which he showed he did not fully comprehend the meaning of the war of the overwhelming north upon the southern Boers, if you please, struggling, fighting most bravely for second independence and their liberties. He traced the history of the United States from the beginning, showed something of the influence of the Puritan, the Cavalier and the Huguenot—how the constitution as formed by the wise men of the eighteenth century and adopted finally by the several thirteen states, had been gradually changed by the Supreme Court decisions—John Marshall we add setting the early example—and by the direct acts of the congress and that finally it was completed in its vast changes by the force, that direful enemy, we may call it, of the people and their sacred liberties. It has become "a great nation," and is now a menace to the world and to other peoples who are not strong enough to defy it.

Mr. Depew fails altogether to present the real significance of the great war between the south and north. It was not a conflict growing out of mere political party antagonisms. The causes were deeper and broader, and as old as Washington's first term, and thence running through all subsequent administrations. A careful study of the past will fully justify that statement. He failed to place the cause of war at the precise point. There were accumulating grievances, serious and most annoying, but the final cause was the denial that the south had the right to withdraw from the Union—from the compact—as New England had threatened to do for a quarter of a century. The News and Courier points out the defect, the fallacy in the Depew presentation. We will quote at some length:

"The story of the conflict between federalism and states rights is told with fairness; Mr. Depew even admitting that according to the views of a large majority of the framers of the constitution the states rights view was the correct view; that the constitution was believed by a majority of those who made it to be a compact between the several states; but, that our general government, thus intended by its founders to be a government of limited powers, has been changed by judicial construction and congressional action, (he does not say usurpation,) to a government with all the powers that any national government has. This is true, but the defect in Senator Depew's argument is that he implies that all the issues between the states rights party and the federal party were issues upon which the war was fought. The only real issue of the war was the right of a state to secede. That was the only issue submitted by the south to the arbitration of the sword. All the rest, the abolition of slavery, the work of reconstruction, the constitutional amendment adopted by states, some of whose governments were unconstitutional, was the mere use of the power of the victors over the vanquished. The war was not avowedly a war of the republican party against the democratic party and its doctrines. The avowed purpose of the war was to sustain the union of the states in its integrity, and it was only the slogan of 'The Union forever!' that rallied the men of the north to make war on the men of the south."

The Messenger twice within some two months has shown how the constitution had been violated by presidents, and how the congress sworn to support it, had dug under its very foundations. We venture to predict that the present congress will violate organic law in one or more of its acts. We do not undertake here to go into the real underlying causes of the war. A careful reading of Bledsoe, Davis, Curry and Grady will furnish all that is necessary to a correct understanding of both cause and result.

It really looks as if it were impossible for northern lawyers, authors and editors to understand why the war started and continued. Several books on the constitution in the last few years by jurists of that section betray the same ignorance, the same unwillingness to see the truth. They are afraid that the south will have "a case in court,"

if the truth is told. It will be remembered that the greatest New York lawyer of his time, the celebrated Charles O'Connor, when consulted as to trying President Jefferson Davis for treason by the United States government, gave it as his opinion that the government would not have "any case in court." Correctly understood and fairly stated secession was indeed a constitutional right prior to the war of 1861, and it being a "compact" between the states, the south for cause had a right to withdraw.

This constant tinkering, changing, violating and modernizing of the great fundamental law of our land—the constitution of the United States—do a great deal of harm in more than one way. It weakens the confidence of the people and shakes their faith in the wisdom, fidelity and real patriotism of living politicians. The statesmen have well nigh disappeared from the stage of public action.

We do not now see the Philadelphia Times under its changed management, but we find copied in an exchange an editorial from it concerning the change wrought by the supreme court which it declares has "amended" it again and again. It says pertinently and truly:

"The most precious feature of our whole national heritage is our sense of permanence and security. It was much better for us to suffer some inconvenience at different points under a rigid system than to open the way to hasty and inconsiderate change. The American tradition in regard to the amendment of the federal constitution is conservative. There is deep-grounded feeling in favor of the old as against the new in all strata of our population. The man who would lay a hand irreverently on any part of this great instrument, respect for which and those master minds who drafted it is inculcated in every schoolboy, is suspiciously regarded."

There are always on hand vicious and unfaithful political demagogues who wish to doctor the constitution and bring it up to date. Such fellows, like anarchists, deserve to be watched.

HOME FOLKS.

It will gratify many to know that General Toon, the faithful superintendent of public instruction, is recovering from his illness.

The Raleigh News and Observer says that nearly \$50,000 have been secured for the Methodist Orphanage located at Raleigh, and of this sum \$20,000 are in cash.

Ex-Senator M. W. Ransom is now in his 76th year and is in fine health. He reports the cotton crop inferior to that of last year.

Dr. Winston, president of the A. and M. College, Raleigh, asks for a dormitory and a dining hall, as both are much needed. He ought to have them if the funds are forthcoming. The recent loss by fire was serious for the interests of the school.

The Baptists are in session at Winston. They raised over \$100,000 for various objects, but they have some 160,000 members to do it with. At an average of \$5 each they could have raised \$800,000. Rev. L. Johnson, of Raleigh, corresponding secretary, tells the News and Observer that their "greatest progress has been along educational lines, especially in the west. Two years ago we had one school in the mountains, with property worth \$5,000 and an enrollment of 150 students. Today we have ten excellent schools in the west with property worth \$40,000 and a total enrollment of 1,600. This number will be largely increased now, as the public schools are closing."

A negro is being actively hunted near Greensboro for attempting that damning deed upon the person of the wife of a respectable farmer, Mrs. H. E. Simmons, esq. The Charlotte Observer says that when Mrs. S. was attacked by the negro she was alone at home, with the exception of two small children, who were playing in the yard near the house. The affair has caused good deal of excitement and intense feeling in the neighborhood. The negro is 60 years old and has several grown children. One of his sons has just completed a sentence on the county roads.

GLEANNING AND COMMENT.

The very rich Scotsman, Andrew Carnegie, makes still more money than he has been able to give away. He holds it to be a sin to die rich. He is getting long in years and should hurry up or he will "get left." His fortune is placed at \$25,000,000 after giving away such great sums. The level-headed governor of Georgia, Candler, a man without frills, says wisely and humorously:

"I am thoroughly impressed with the idea that in order to do most good for humanity and the human race it would be better for our philanthropists who are able to do so to spend more of their money in hospitals and infirmaries and orphan's homes for destitute orphans than they have in the past."

"The numbers of the poor and of orphan's in almost every section of our country, and especially in the older states, are constantly growing larger and many are today suffering for the want of institutions such as I have named, which could with more benefit have been founded with a part of the money which has been applied to the endowment of schools for higher education."

The new German tariff bill is not a drastic measure we apprehend. The Chancellor, Count Von Buelow, led off in a speech in the Reichstag on the 2nd instant, in support of the bill. It gives protection to agriculture it seems. He said the measure was really framed in the interest of the farming class, but that does not imply a departure from the present policy in regard to treaties of commerce. The Chancellor said:

"The federal governments were fully prepared to heated conflicts; but he, the imperial chancellor, was convinced that the new tariff offered a basis affording good protection to agriculture, industry, and trade. He hoped that in the ensuing discussions a sense of confidence in the government would prevail. The chancellor's remarks were greeted with cheers."

"The emperor, said the chancellor, has approved the bill, which is the result of several years' comprehensive, careful labor, which is the outcome of the requirements of German economic life, and which is intended, while giving, so far as possible, equal consideration to all interests, to meet, above all, the wishes for increased protection manifested by the agriculturists."

Talk about outrages against common sense, common fairness, and the rights of men, how will the awards of the prize money coming out of the Spanish war fill the bill, Admiral Sampson is awarded by Justice Bradley in a United States district court \$25,417.47 prize money, while modest, meritorious, brave, victorious Admiral Schley receives but \$18.12 of prize money. Can injustice and meanness go farther than that?

Great Britain is a great power and its people are among the first on the globe. But all is not well beyond seas. There is trouble brewing more and more, and the people are beginning to groan under a weary load the fighting administration is daily forcing upon them. Mr. Vanderlip has been touring in Europe on business. He is president of the National City Bank of New York. He gives this to The Evening Post:

"Each day that the Boer war drags on at a weekly cost of £1,500,000 the people grow more disheartened. Capitalists have no heart for new enterprises. A new war loan in 1902 is seemingly inevitable."

In France, while funds are in very ample supply, depression on the Bourse is most marked. In Germany improvement is noticeable."

Republican newspapers are pleased to dwell upon the number of southern (alleged) democrats who are ready "to jine de 'publicans." They are hungry and dissatisfied and are really ready to jump at the first opportunity. The opposition in the federal house, it is said, will not amount to anything as they are not united and sincere. The Baltimore Herald is happy to say: "Many Southern congressmen are really opposed to free trade, or even reciprocity, when it touches cotton, pine lumber, rice, sugar or tobacco. It will be seen, then, that much of the south is actually protectionist at heart."

The report of the United States government that the cotton crop would not exceed 9,674,000 bales, a lower estimate than was anticipated by speculators and gamblers, caused the price to jump at once to \$2 a bale in advance. This puts big money in the pockets of planters who hold their cotton. The average weight of bales is 468.2 pounds, according to the government report. The advance will give \$2,000,000 more to the south. It is said that if consumption shall increase as is expected, that the prices for cotton will be equal to those of two years ago.

It looks as if the enemies of Admiral Schley might have to answer for their foul conspiracy and misdeeds Representative Williams, of Mississippi, is after the gang. He offered a resolution in the house providing inquiry and including S. S. MacLay, Capt. A. S. Crowninshield and Admiral W. T. Sampson in the scope of inquiry.

They will be asked, if the resolution is adopted, why these two conspicuous foes of the hero of Santiago passed proofs containing the infamous, most vicious attack of the liar MacLay upon the gallant Schley. That is right. Turn on the light.

"DEMORALIZED" DEMOCRATS.

The New York Evening Post has a very contemptuous opinion of the democratic party and its representatives. It says they "are utterly demoralized." There is some basis of truth, for in the south the signs are not particularly hopeful, as there are division and contention. The Post says:

"Bryanism has reduced the numerical strength of the party until it no longer has a Senator in the whole north east of the Rocky mountain region, and only a scattering body of representatives from this great section outside of New York City. The party is as weak in intellectual strength and political sense as in numbers."

It undervalues the ability of the members in the congress. A debate between the best half dozen senators and the best half dozen representatives with an equal number from the boastful north might even astonish the Evening Post. But the republicans are so strong they carry out successfully most of their dangerous and oppressive plans aimed against the people and their pockets. It kindly reminds the jubilant leaders that a defeat in the future is not an impossibility. We quote: "The veterans in politics recall more than one occasion within the past thirty years when a party has appeared to be invincible, and yet within a short time has gone to overwhelming defeat. The 'tidal waves' of 1874, 1882, and 1890 in favor of the democracy all followed republican victories in a presidential election."

If the democrats are really as much 'demoralized' as their enemies would believe they should take warning and see to it that the country is not finally ruined by their infidelity and indifference and incapacity.

If you would have an appetite like a bear and a relish for your meals take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They correct disorders of the stomach and regulate the liver and bowels. Price 25 cents. Samples free, at R. R. Bellamy's drug store.

Accepted a Position With Mr. Vanderbilt.

Mr. H. H. Weston, at present in charge of the move power department drawing room of the Atlantic Coast Line, has accepted a position in New York with Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt. Mr. and Mrs. Weston leave here for New York on Saturday.

IN THE CONGRESS.

According to the forecast given to the New York World by 100 members of the congress there are several measures that will not be passed. The opinions are that no reciprocity treatise will go through, and no tariff revision measures whatever can possibly pass. And that is what the Messenger ventured to foretell more than once. Frye's ship subsidy scheme of robbery and injustice will not pull through. The same opinion prevails as to the passage of any anti-trust legislation. The congress is run by the republicans and they are run by the great manufacturers and the great trusts. It is also thought the Danish West Indies treaty will die aborning. This is not pleasant reading all through. If nothing can be done as to trusts then it shows the slavery of the people and the all-powerful grip the monsters have upon the legislation of the country. It is thought that possibly Cuba may be helped as to the tariff upon it.

It is believed that the Nicaragua canal bill will go through easily. It is also thought that present high war taxes will be repealed. The Pacific cable bill will be adopted, and strong measures against the anarchists will go through, as well as the re-enactment of the Chinese exclusion act. The expending of great sums of money will not be forgotten and a big navy will be attended to.

As to the annexation of Cuba, it is too soon for newspapers to speak definitely. If Roosevelt shall throw all of his influence for it, enough votes may be obtained to carry it out. It is plain that there are republicans as well as democrats who oppose the subsidy scheme of our American merchant marine, corruptionist Hanna leading the advocacy. Certain changes, it is thought, will be made to try to placate certain opponents of the villainous, thieving measure.

There will be discussion over the sugar and tobacco interests if an attempt to favor Cuba is made with the advantage of a reciprocity treaty. Mr. H. S. West in a paper in the New York Forum on the congress, says that the "republican leaders will, during the present session, attempt the task of formulating general legislation for the Philippines, regarding such action as an absolute necessity. The undertaking will be necessarily extensive; and in the house, as well as in the senate, we may look for an exhaustive discussion of the Philippine question. The recent disturbances in the islands will afford the democrats a much-desired text for condemning the acquisition of oriental territory; the congressional campaign of 1902 being a natural inspiration for their oratory."

It is not expected by newspapers or politicians in the dominating north, that anything of importance will be effected as to trusts and its mother and father, the huge republican tariff tax. But efforts will be made and many speeches will be delivered. Mr. West, the political editor of the Washington Post, says in his paper in the Forum:

"Non-action will not remove the threatened evil of a lack of foreign markets for surplus production, or banish the growing opinion that trusts are fostered by tariffs which prohibit competition. These problems must be met and solved sooner or later; and failure in the present congress merely leaves the task to be undertaken at some later day."

It is impossible to shut out the consideration of taxation. It is, in fact, the great question. It will not down at the bidding of the congress. The people should be deeply concerned as to this vast question in which is involved such immense burdens for the people, the rights of freedom to be taxed justly, equally, constitutionally. There are no populists now in the congress as the six in both houses have gone to one or the other of the old parties.

"OUR POSSESSIONS."

It is announced that the full agreement is reached by which the United States can get the Danish Isles for \$4,500,000. The congress is expected to grant free trade and full citizenship to all the inhabitants, a part of which is composed of negroes probably. The following shows that the United States as an "expansion Nation" now have possessions outside of the great continent of North America as follows, with the square miles stated, as given by the Baltimore Sun:

	Sq. Miles.
Total at present.....	154,015
Danish West Indies would add:	
St. Thomas.....	21
St. John.....	23
Total with additions.....	154,059
Philippines.....	143,000
Porto Rico.....	3,600
Faial Islands.....	6,740
Tutula.....	500
Guam.....	175
Cuba, now under military control of the United States, has an area of 41,655 square miles. If this is added to the United States possessions and the Danish islands of St. Thomas and St. John, the grand total of the United States possessions on the continent of North America is 2,501,000 square miles, which includes Alaska.	

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An Innocent Man Shot.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., December 5.—Ben. Knox was shot and instantly killed today by Russell King, who had been authorized to arrest Knox for the alleged killing of Deputy Sheriff Dismakes at Artesia, Miss. Later it developed that Knox was innocent.

Government Exhibit at Charleston.

Washington, December 4.—Senator Tillman today secured the passage of a resolution directing the secretary of the treasury to report as to the expense of transferring the government exhibit at Buffalo to the Charleston exposition.

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Responsibility for Railway Wreck

Adrian, Mich., December 4.—The coroner's jury today found that the disastrous collision on the Wabash railroad near Seneca last Wednesday night between trains No. 13 and No. 4 was caused by the negligence of the Wabash railroad company and the trainmen of No. 4.

The verdict says the railroad company was negligent in failing to provide train No. 4 with a head-end brakeman and in failing to provide proper signals at the place of meeting of trains Nos. 4 and 13. Engineer Aaron T. Strong was found negligent in failing to properly understand and obey order No. 82 under which the train was running. Conductor George J. Martin, fireman Bastien and brakeman A. W. Dittman were also found guilty.

Two Nicaragua Canal Bills

Washington, December 4.—Two bills looking to the construction of an isthmian canal via the Nicaragua route were today introduced in the senate. The first of these was presented by Senator Morgan.

Raleigh's First Snow

(Special to The Messenger.)
Raleigh, N. C., December 4.—The first snow-fall of the season began here at 9:20 o'clock tonight.

The wholesale and jobbing druggists of Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana are holding a conference at Birmingham. Warfare will be made against price cutters in the states named.