

## DECLARATION OF KINGDEPENDENCE.

When, in the course of national decadence, it becomes convenient to publish to the world our flunkeyism, an humble regard for the approbation of the titled beneficiaries of the imperialistic system of spoliation requires that we attest our infamy by appointing representatives to assist in the spectacular glorification of a man whose political office stands for everything that our own history and traditions denounce as intolerable.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that men are not created equal; that some are born to rule, and some, to serve; that submission to these divine axioms will insure happiness; that, to secure these conditions, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from divine right, or, from judicial construction of the constitution.

We affirm that, whensoever the common people become restive under these systems, a foreign war is advisable. This will afford the turbulent a means of congenial occupation, and at the same time it removes a dangerous obstruction from the path of imperialism; it also supplies to a large class of able, though unscrupulous persons, a means of personal distinction and aggrandizement, thus insuring their loyalty to the source of the favors that they enjoy. The increase of the army and navy (always the despot's best friends) tends to the enrichment of the ruler and his favorites, while it impoverishes the common people—circumstances of primary importance, as, by augmenting the strength of the executive the government becomes more and more concentered in him, and, as the people become weaker, the menace of their possible resistance wanes.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that republican governments long established be not imperialized too rapidly—it might, by discovering the object, prevent its attainment. Experience hath shown, however, that the majority of men can be fooled a long time; long enough, indeed, for the overthrow of any republic that has ever arisen, provided it be done under the name of republicanism. Therefore, whatsoever abuses and usurpations you practice, let your operations be confined to the subjects of foreign conquest until the army and navy shall have become strong enough to insure the enforce-

ment of your will at home. This will be found an easy matter, as your ardent patriot is ever ready to demonstrate his love of his own country by destroying somebody else's.

Have no fear of consequences, should any of the home people take it into their heads to submit the facts of injury and usurpations to a candid world; the candid world never fights anybody's battles but its own.

Erect a multitude of new public offices and appoint swarms of officers to eat up the substance of the people. The people will stand it all right, because the common people are always patriotic, and each will live in hope to get a fat office for himself some day, and this most virtuous hope will act as an incentive to ostentatious loyalty, and to the display of unbounded patriotism. Be sure that you make the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power; not too suddenly, but none the less surely. To this end, suspend trial by jury whenever it suits your ends; none but Rising Peoples are jealous of their rights. Protect by mock trial any agent whose zeal or indiscretion threatens to compromise you before the public.

Impose taxes without asking the consent of the subject—in remote provinces first. This will please the home people, as they will regard such plunder as so much clear gain to themselves, by obviating, as they suppose, the necessity for increased taxation at home—a circumstance invariably gratifying to patriots.

Transport beyond seas for offenses under the head of lese majesty.

Abolish the free system of English laws in neighboring provinces, and establish therein an arbitrary government, enlarging its boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into the home country. Subvert the laws most cherished by the people in order the more effectually to alter fundamentally the form of government.

Suspend the effect of legislative enactments by substituting injunction.

If the people of the home provinces prove persistently recalcitrant, your works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy a civilized nation, will suggest your remedy.

In every stage of these oppressions

you will be annoyed by most humble petitions for justice. Answer them by sterner injuries—even to the establishment of reconcentrado camps, and thus demonstrate to an applauding world that where Weyler leads you dare to follow.

A prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant is the only fit ruler of a strenuous age.

Be not wanting in attentions to your British brethren; they, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice. Besides, the ties of consanguinity should not be entirely ignored. Furthermore, though not dangerous enemies in war, they are quite profitable friends in peace.

Having concluded these preliminary details, solemnly invoke the blessing of the Supreme Judge upon your empire de facto; and, for the support thereof, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, pledge the lives, fortunes and sacred honor of your subjects.

JOHN HANCOCK.

per

EDWARD HOWELL PUTNAM

Moline, Ill., Feb. 22, 1902.

## SOME UP-TO-DATE DEMOCRACY ON JACKSON DAY COUNTERS.

While our friend the enemy is in a disturbed frame of mind over the display of Democratic goods and doctrines on the Jackson day counters all over the country, it might be entertained by glancing at one prize exhibit on the Cleveland counter.

It consists of a few vigorous words delivered by Mayor Tom Johnson, and is so loaded with Ohio democracy of an up-to-date pattern that the enemy may see some points of vital interest in it—especially as the grand old party in this state seems to be anxious to secure the goods for itself and place them on its own political counter.

"The Republican party," said Mayor Tom, "has been accused of stealing our thunder, but I want to assure you that in this thunder factory there are a few more powerful thunderbolts left. Our esteemed chief executive has advocated the things we are for, and the leaders of his party have espoused our cause. We should have no cause to regret it, and I wish to congratulate them upon their effort. It is a great thing for any party to adopt the cause of the people, but when both parties espouse that cause, we cannot doubt that the result will bring us to a higher plane of human existence.

"If they have stolen our thunder, more power to their elbow, I say, but I want to tell you that when they have reached the highest point of the pinnacle of their ambition in this direction, they will find us entrenched upon higher ground beyond, and still ready to lead them to dizzier heights than they can yet conceive.

"The problem of equitable taxation is in its infancy and the present move is but the preliminary step of greater and better things to come. We will advocate this cause until the privileges and the power of monopoly have been laid in the dust. Equal taxation is the only thing that will eventually destroy their power, and we will espouse its cause until that end has been attained."

It is encouraging to see the Cleveland gladiator in such a placid mental attitude over the theft of his thunder, but the Press thinks he has courteously overestimated the size of the robbery. When a new device is patented at the big office in Washington it must be on the strength of some entirely new principle involved, or some entirely novel application of an old principle or force, as in the application of electricity to the telephone, etc.

Now, while it is true that our estimable governor and his party have stolen the broad Johnsonian principle that corporations should be made to bear the burdens of the state, they can plead not guilty of having burglarized the Johnsonian application of that principle. While he would grade the tax burdens according to the benefits conferred by incorporation under Ohio laws, or, in other words, to the strength of the backs that have to bear them, Gov. Nash has gone no further than a blanket tax on all corporations, public and private.

He makes no equitable distinction between the benefits reaped; between the power of the corporate backs. And he ignores the monstrous injustice that permits railroads to pay tax on a 20 per cent. valuation, while other property is nailed to the tax cross at a valuation of 60 per cent.

Until the Johnsonian principles of equality in taxation are applied by the governor's party, it is nothing more than petit larceny it has committed.

But the day is coming fast when it will have to steal the whole Johnson establishment or be pushed from power in Ohio. It is an Alpine aval-

anche that has started.—Editorial in Columbus Press of Jan. 11.

#### WHAT A MESSAGE IT WOULD BE!

No nation has a right to arrogate to itself superiority. No nation has a right to say that it is the proper guardian for what it calls a dependent and uncivilized people.

The worst government the Filipinos could give themselves would be better than the best government America could give them, and if you, the voters, will but realize your responsibility in this direction, the day will come when at the ballot box you will say to the Philippine people: "We have rescued you from the government under which you labored and against which you rebelled. It was our mistake to try and do what they were not able to do. And, having realized our mistake, and realizing that it is the right of man to pursue liberty and happiness, and to govern himself in his own way, which is the doctrine upon which our own country is founded, that all government rests upon the just consent of the governed, we say to you: 'Go in peace; govern yourselves; and God be with you.'"—The Rev. Peter C. Yorke, in San Francisco, January 24.

The methods of public school instruction, as applied in New York city, do not always meet the approbation of the parents of the pupils, as was evidenced the other day when a German woman of commanding figure strode into the school and, approaching the principal, demanded:

"What it is, a lobster?"

The principal politely explained that a lobster was a species of shell fish.

"Vell, how many legs has it—dis lobster?"

The number of legs was stated.

"Vell, I work me for a hurry, and if your teacher cannot find better dings than to ask my boy Jakey how many legs has it, a lobster, und make him come home to bodder his fadder mit questions, 'What it is, a lobster?' it is pad peesness."—Youth's Companion.

The boy had shown such a degree of ignorance and mental obtuseness that the teacher was disheartened, and she finally asked sarcastically: "Do you know whether George Washington was a soldier or a sailor?"

"He was a soldier," replied the urchin, promptly.

"How do you know that?" she persisted.

"'Cause I saw a picture of him crossing the Delaware, an' any sail-or'd know enough not to stand up in the boat."—Chicago Evening Post.

#### DELAREY'S VICTORY.

For The Public.

Hurrah for the mules, American mules!  
Their timely stampede against British rules

From an impulse swift and wary,  
Has served as well as the wildest raid  
That was ever in stress of warfare made,  
And won the day for DeLarey.

Now surely these mules by their change of base

Canceled forever the slur on the race;  
Well earned their meed of the glory  
That follows fast in wake of the Boers,  
The humblest pray-ers, the proudest do-ers  
That ever were praised in story.

Their heroes spring up like weeds on the waste,

Deep-rooted, full-flowered, aglow with hot haste,

The spirit of triumph exhaling;  
Their homesick love for the soil they have tilled

Is nourished by life brave kinsmen have spilled,

And sound of their women's wailing.

They dreamed of liberty, never of fame,  
Yet a household word is each foreign name,

Immortal the wide world over.  
Dead or in exile, they live for us yet  
No less than DeLarey and flying DeWet  
Whose place no foe may discover.

To leaders like these what are tinsel tools

Who have learned their science in boasted schools,

And holding their serfs in tether,  
By the inborn right of a land-locked line?  
Their titles, convictions, and rare old wine  
All came to their hand together.

Yet surely, in time, so the wise ones hold,  
The British must win, and a tale be told  
To set London bells a ringing  
More madly than ever they rang before;  
Though crape be streaming from every door

And shame to her triumph clinging.

But if come it must, with that fateful day  
From veldt and from kopje will pass away  
In turn, each gallant defender.

Only the slain who have fallen in fight  
Hold silent tenure of valley and height;  
Only their dead will surrender.

But now at least is their season of pride,  
That conscript mules have been turning the tide

Should pass for a happy omen  
That the British lion of vaunted strength  
Must yield to long suffering right at length,  
Fine lords to their sturdy foemen.

D. H. INGHAM.

Curly-haired little Thomas had just spelled ibex. "Define it," said the teacher. "An ibex," answered Thomas, after a prolonged struggle, "is where you look in the back part of the book when you want to find anything that's printed in the front of the book."—Friends' Intelligencer.

Mrs. Smythe—Yes, indeed, I appeared against the burglar who stole our valuable Chinese rug and prose-