

the indictment of the United States army.

Chicago Evening Post (Rep.), July 28.—The material fact is this: A committee of honorable, competent, even distinguished, men claims to have proof of crime and wrongdoing on the part of American officers and privates, and it asks for an opportunity to submit these proofs.

Chicago Tribune (Rep.), July 29.—The signers of the open letter say they are ready to direct the attention of the president to "concrete cases." . . . Let them submit their "concrete cases" and the evidence they believe they have collected. The President will see that whatever of a tangible nature they submit receives due consideration.

BRYAN'S EASTERN TOUR.

New Haven Union (Dem.), July 28.—Mr. Bryan's triumphal progress through New England, beginning with his appearance at Nantasket Beach on Thursday, extending clear to Maine, and ending with his speech at Seaside park, in Bridgeport, late on Saturday, calls attention once more to the great and continuing hold he has upon his party and the masses of the people. It serves notice upon the politicians that while they may control the conventions and possibly dictate the platforms, they cannot sway the people in opposition to their own opinions and interests.

DEMOCRATIC "REORGANIZATION."

Nashville Daily News (Dem.), July 26.—The Republicans are happy when Democratic conventions ignore the Chicago and Kansas City platforms. So are the Cleveland faction. Why? Is it because this tends to help the Democratic party? Is a yearning for its success the inspiration of their glee?

Johnstown Democrat (D.), July 28.—Mr. Bryan may not have said the last word upon the noted harmony question. His latest utterances, however, have done more to dignify the discussion than all the previous "harmony meetings" put together. The eminent ex-Democrats of the Cleveland-Hill school have made harmony synonymous with expediency of a partisan nature. . . . Mr. Bryan counts that fight lost in which principles suffer in order that parties may win.

IN CONGRESS.

This report is an abstract of the Congressional Record, the official report of congressional proceedings. It includes all matters of general interest and closes with the last issue of the Record at hand upon going to press. Page references are to the pages of Vol. 36 of that publication.

Record Notes.—A supplementary issue of the Congressional Record, dated July 24, contains the following speeches: On civil government in the Philippines, Representative Crumpacker (p. 8535), and Galnes (p. 8547); on trusts, Representative Small (p. 8541); and on money contraction, Representative Newlands (p. 8544).

"I see that Harvard professor says the Monroe law is a dead letter."

"Oh, that's the smoke nuisance law, isn't it?"

"No, it isn't."

"Oh, it's the law regulating the speed of automobiles?"

"What's the matter with you?"

"Oh, now I remember. It's the law closing the saloons on Sunday?"

"Well, I guess he's right."

"Who's right?"

"The Harvard professor."

—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

MISCELLANY

A JOURNEY.

For The Public.

"Come!" cried I to my soul,
"Some journey let us make
Far from these boundaries—
Beyond the edges of the sun,
Where the light of love expires
And oceans lap on soundless shores,
Where all ends—hope, dreams, ambition."
And girdled like a pilgrim
I started, guided by my soul,
Bethinking of those rank abodes
Infested by the grimy shades
That wallow in the pits of hell.
And shuddering o'er the gap
Between me and the unseen,
I raised my staff and journeyed,
Going onward, onward slowly
To a city, huge, tumultuous,
Where the brawl and clang
Turned men to things, and people
Worshiped monsters.
And impatient for the quest
Of scenes unvisited, I cried:
"Let's hasten to our journey's end!"
"We are here!" moaned my guide.

JOSEPH LEISER.

OHIO TAX REFORM IN WASHINGTON'S TIME.

The tax reformer of to-day cannot claim much originality for his ideas after all. In the Ohio state library is a copy of the first newspaper published in Ohio, the Sentinel of Cincinnati. Under a date when George Washington was still president and Gen. St. Clair was governor of what is now Ohio, the editor of this paper gravely discusses the problem of taxation.

At this time the legislature consisted of two judges and Gov. St. Clair. This body had, after grave deliberation, passed a law levying a tax on tavernkeepers and traders. Evidently it was the first tax to be levied in the new country.

The editor pauses between his labors at the composing case to discuss this tax in no favorable vein. He maintains that the large landholders should be taxed rather than the publican and trader. If the landholder is taxed he will have to parcel out his great holdings and dispose of them to small settlers. And a host of the latter, comments this fellow craftsman of Benjamin Franklin, would be of more service in protecting the territory from the Indians than whole regiments of "three dollar soldiers." There is a delicious savor of the "unearned increment" of Henry George about that land proposition, while the shot at the soldiers would go well with modern attacks against militia and the army.

He is even better when he discusses

the theory of the thing. "The land has value," he says, "while the publican and the trader are wrongfully taxed on a business venture and their earning capacity." They are punished, he avers, for benefiting the community.

Doubtless that spirited attack on the first legislature yielded many a flagon and beaver skin to the struggling editor of those days, who dared to take the side of the common folk against the gentry, from the men he championed.—W. S. Couch, in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

JOHN BULL TO UNCLE SAM.

Printed from the original Manuscript.

London, Aug. 1.

Dear Sam: Though I avert until the present time took pen in and to hanser the letters you ave been for some time sendink me in the columns of The Public, this is not because I avert read the same, for I make no bones about lettin you know that I get that jernel regular, and read every word of it each blessed week. And I will say what is more, though it does not touch me on the rawr now and again, I ave a great respect for The Public, as on the ole one of the best and ablest papers you ave over there in America. But the fact is I ave been kept so bloomin busy for the last while back, with the war in S. Africa, the coronation, the ousin question, colonial conferences, taxes on bread, and eaven knows ow much else, that I really avert ad a hopportunity to look after correspondence even with near relations. So I ope youll excuse me not writin sooner. I dont know as I would be able to set down with pen and paper now if it want for the fact that my war with the Boers is hover. Will you be so obligin, Sam, as to make a note of this fact. Most of the fun you ave been pokin at me in the letters I mention was got out of your Yankee notion that the said war was goin to last till the crack of doom. But you see Kitchener as finished hup the job a little before that date. And I ope you wont fail to observe, as a fair minded chap, that peace as been declared with the most arty and friendly spirit on both sides, and every prospect of a lastin good fellowship twixt Briton and Boer in South Africa from this time. This ought to give what you would call the knock hout to all that dirty slander as to the conduct of my troops in the war, and I ope it will with you at any rate. The Boers bein as you ave all along said, brave