

**The Pensacola Journal**

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The United States or either house of congress, or the president with intent to defame them or to bring them into contempt or disrepute," which caused such an indignant uprising that the Hamilton, or federal party was driven from power and the democrats got control of the government. Of course this Sedition Act was one of the first objects of their attack.

So, as "it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good," it may be that, after all, the good men and true who stand for constitutional government may have reason to rejoice because of this latest exhibition of Rooseveltian spleen and egotism. It may lead to a popular reaction which will completely change the current of thought down which the ship of state has been drifting toward dark and threatening crags to one that will bear the blessed ark of the fathers to a safe and steadfast anchorage.

**Will They Not Prove Undesirable Citizens?**

The Journal has been looking for an outburst of protest from South Florida on account of the proposed settlement of five thousand South of Italy families—some twenty thousand persons—in Manatee county as proposed by the Duke of Litta who owns much property in the land of the Sea Cow. But, so far, all has been serene, and Manatee seems to look upon this doubling of its population with an alien people with extreme composure. The following, however, from the Manufacturers' Record may prove of interest, not only to South Floridians but to the people of the state generally:

It is hoped that the report that the earthquake in Sicily will be made the occasion for an attempt to colonize Sicilians in Florida by wholesale is incorrect. If such a thing is seriously contemplated, it is hoped that there may be a successful effort to prevent its consummation. There is no doubt that enormous pressure, diplomatic, political and other will be brought to bear upon the United States government to further the scheme. For five or six years there has been a persistent work in this country by representatives of Italy, supplemented by the material interests of immigrant-carrying transatlantic steamship companies, to flood the South with "Italian" immigrants, under the pretext of helping the South to lighten its labor problem and to speed its development.

More than one "Southern" convention has been floated by the aggregation of interested congressmen about the South only as a means to their end. But there are Italians and Sicilians. Those of Northern Italy would make most desirable additions to the population of the South. Their qualities were especially emphasized by Mr. Hugh McRae of Wilmington in his recent address on immigration to the South, made before the North Carolina Society of New York. Mr. McRae spoke from experience with Italians in colonies which he has inaugurated in North Carolina, and he quoted Senator Tillman of North Carolina to the effect that, while the people of Southern Italy whom he had seen are not of the type the South would like to have, he felt sure that "if we could get any of the Northern Italians into the Southern States they would make good citizens." But Sicilians, and not Northern Italians, constitute the great bulk of Italian immigration to this country. It is only necessary to recall efforts of the Italian Government to promote their immigration to the United States for men of judgment to question the advisability of welcoming them here. This, of course, applies only to the great mass of such immigrants and not to individual Sicilians, who are just as desirable as Northern Italians and who have come to this country because they were ambitious to avail themselves of its opportunities and not because their own government desired to be relieved of them. Philanthropy in behalf of the Sicilian earthquake sufferers would take its best form in supporting the sufferers on their native soil. It would make a grave mistake in encouraging their migration in droves to this country.

Anyone who has studied the history of immigration into the United States and has taken note of the effect of large aggregations of different nationalities in sections which they have helped to settle, will admit that there is much truth in what the Record has to say. The question is, will Manatee county or South Florida be able to assimilate such a large number of a people known to possess characteristics antagonistic to American sentiment and American manners and convert them into good citizens? Many of these Italians may be worthy souls, sensible withal and quickly amenable to a new environment; but it is to be feared that the majority of them will be found decidedly "undesirable citizens" who will cause more or less trouble, hard feeling and contention.

**An Old But Just Cause For Complaint.**

The Gainesville Sun brings once more to the front an old vexed subject in the following:

There should be no more new counties formed in Florida until the larger counties are given the representation in the Florida legislature that their population justly entitles them to. It is not just that a county having a population of ten thousand should have a senator and two representatives, when a county of fifty thousand has only that number. Make the apportionment equal before forming new counties of already sparsely populated territory.

But there is no possible way of making a fair apportionment under the strictures now imposed by the state constitution. This is one of many reasons why a convention

should be held to pass a new one—one which will be simply a basic law, not framed to become a hindrance to the development of the state's government.

So long as the number of senators and representatives is limited, as at present, there will always be the same complaint. The constitution should provide a certain representation based on numbers of inhabitants within a county or a district and the legislature should be left the power to control the apportionment—to increase, when necessary, the number of senators and representatives. The present unjust apportionment is working injury and must continue to do so until the constitution shall be amended in the manner named.

**"With All Thy Faults We Love Thee Still."**

The Journal dislikes to accuse Editor Harris, of the Ocala Banner, of ever having written an ambiguous sentence, and will not do so directly. At the same time a past utterance of his shot away from the mark he, it now seems, intended to hit and was misconstrued by two or more of the Florida papers, The Journal being one of them. In a recent number of the Banner, however, appears this statement:

We notice that the Bronson Times-Democrat continues to print extracts from The Pensacola Journal about the Ocala Banner's inconsistencies about the tariff viewed from a democratic standpoint. This paper said that it was opposed to the theory and policy of protection from "kiver to kiver" and it would like to know how long has that position grown to be un-democratic.

From the above it seems that the Banner is not in any sense of the expression a high tariff advocate. No other conclusion can be drawn from its declaration that it "was opposed to the theory and policy of protection from 'kiver to kiver,'" unless accent is placed on the word "was" as though used to indicate that it has now changed a former opinion—which we do not believe was intended when the sentence was written.

So far as The Journal goes it is happy to understand definitely Editor Harris's position. The tariff question is becoming too acute these days for any uncertainty to exist in the minds of those who must to a great degree mold public opinion and guide the government in paths of righteousness. So we make our best curtsy with a smile of genuine good feeling and a hope that our "amende honorable" will be received in the same spirit of brotherly affection that has dictated its advance.

Some of the papers seem to think it is "funny" the Roosevelt-Hobson Japanese war talk should again crop out when new governmental extravagance is proposed for naval expenditures in the matter of building big ships. What is there "funny" about it? It is, to the thoughtful mind, an occasion fraught with profound seriousness when the United States is so wed to the doctrine of imperialism that its internal affairs in the matter of waterways improvements and its own ports and forts are neglected in order to construct naval monsters to protect unrighteously acquired territory thousands of miles away and to construct great naval stations on foreign shores.

Pensacola has awarded the contract to a Birmingham firm for ten miles of concrete sidewalk, at the low rate of 10 cents per square foot. It will be a hard war to travel to say the least.—Bonifay Advertiser.

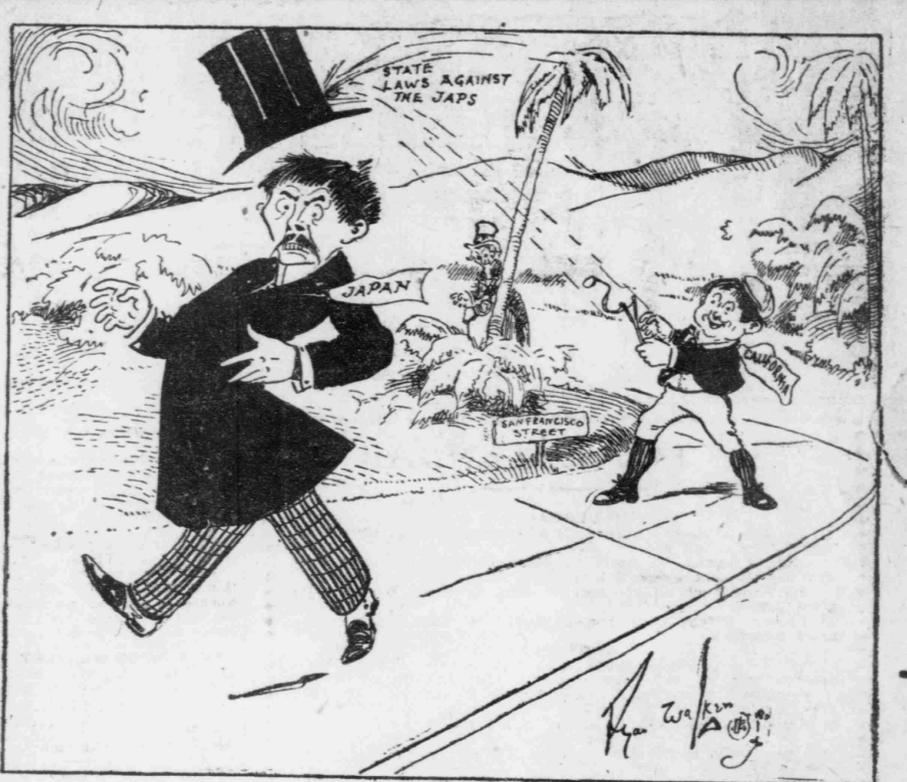
Only in the abstract; this is concrete.

◆ A TOUCHING TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL B. RUSS, Tampa Morning Tribune.

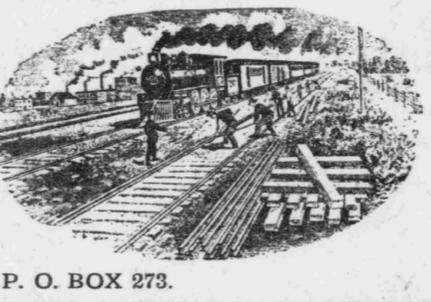
An inconspicuous news-story in the Jacksonville Times-Union conveys the intelligence of the death of Samuel B. Russ, for years a figure in the newspaper circles of Florida. Mr. Russ was found dead in bed in a Jacksonville lodging house Sunday morning. Unattended in his last illness, he was unmarked in death for a considerable period. Those who first found his body did not know his name and it was not until a Times-Union reporter gazed upon the corpse that the identity of the deceased became known. The body had been moved to an undertaking establishment as "unknown." By the peculiar irony of fate, a man who knew personally, perhaps, more public men in Florida than any other man in this state, met death alone in the silence of the night and his body, unidentified, lay for hours before it was recognized.

Samuel B. Russ was a native of Boston. He received a thorough collegiate education and did his first newspaper work as dramatic critic on the Boston dailies. In that field, he had few equals. A brilliant future opened its alluring vista before him. But the curse of drink, which followed him relentlessly from his young manhood to his squallid, unattended death, led him to forsake the bright pathway which his genius might have blazed and he came to Florida, in the hope that, in a new climate and among new people, he might begin life under better auspices and rescue his intellect from the dangers that beset it.

In Florida, Mr. Russ did much brilliant newspaper work, but he lacked the inclination to sustained effort. He worked on the Tribune a dozen years ago and those who were familiar with newspaper work in Tam-



Japan—I don't mind the lid; it's my feelings. The Japanese are very much irritated over the anti-Japanese laws proposed by California.—News Item.



**Rails—All Sections**

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The only thing needed to reform the world is sincerity.

They are hammering away again at division in Dade county.

The Savannah News resents the suggestion that Taft was playing "possum" during his southern visit.

The board of pardons will hear the celebrated Cooper case today and it will be a public blessing if it is permanently disposed of.

People have always thought Tampa a queer place, but it seems to want to be queerer from the way they are "pushing the queer" down there.

Teddy's barber, carried on the public payrolls as an accountant at \$1,000 a year, must be a keen blade; or is Teddy the sharp "un"?

A contemporary asks, "Should congressmen practice law?" We answer without hesitation, it would be better for them to practice what they preach.

The Maine has again been remembered, this time with the view of recovering the dangerous wreck from Havana harbor.

Will the schools receive \$250,000 or \$125,000 as their 25 per cent. share of the money to be secured by the state from the sale of Everglades lands to R. J. Bolles?

There have been "earthquakes in divers places;" now look out for the "abomination of desolation" and if you see him, her or it, something is going to happen and it's time to run and hide.

Taft is not really a president-elect as yet; isn't even a secretary or any sort of officer, yet he is mighty frisky sailing the ocean blue in the battle-ships of the people, without paying his way.

Engineer Stearns of Boston, is said to be the greatest authority in the world on "dams," so he is decidedly in favor with an administration deeply concerned about the Panama Canal and anti-race suicide.

Like the city council of jangling Jacksonburg that of the merry Milameters has decided that a real city's first function is to make a noise. Long live the chug-chug, the ching-a-ling and the chortling chanticleer!

It cost some "Miss Gould" \$50,000 to "come out" the other night in New York, but it will cost old Jay's descendants a good deal more when she's "took in" by some foreign duke.

That story about the county poor farm is disgusting; and the sooner such disgraceful and inhuman evils are abolished the better for the reputation of the community and the salvation of our souls.

Mrs. Ballington Booth of the prison reform league, who wants to purify the press, must first purify the people who give such bountiful support to "yellow" journalism.

Some curious Satellites are visible in Teddy's Washington star chamber where much gas and money are being wasted in libel proceedings against the New York World and Indianapolis News.

Taft says he doesn't believe in hereditary government. Hum! What does the "distinguished man" up in Washington who rides a hundred miles a day while his prototype plays golf think of that?

Says the Jasper Banner of Liberty: "That Toledo man with two hearts declares he will never marry. Probably he finds it impossible to fix both hearts' affections on the same lady." It isn't that. He already has "two hearts that beat as one" and very likely "two souls with but a single thought." What can the fellow want more?

**No Star-Chamber For Free America.**

Sitting in the federal court in New York, Judge Ward very sensibly turned down the effort to subpoena free and independent American citizens to appear before a grand jury to testify about anything in particular and everything in general which they might have stored away in their brain cells that would be interesting to King Teddy, and "Bootlick" Bonaparte in the mysterious suit for libel against the New York World and Indianapolis News. In other words, this judge knows enough about the United States, its constitution and the will of its people to be aware that star chamber proceedings are neither legal nor popular. So he "sat down upon" the ambitious designs of the discredited partners in Washington.

The judge, moreover, was very emphatic in his language—planted a swift and powerful "sockdologer" between the eyes of the district attorney who contended that a successful inquiry into the heinous offense, lese majeste or whatever one may choose to call it, might necessitate this kind of illegal proceedings. For in answer to this proposition he declared: "It would also contribute greatly to the success and celerity of some investigations if the authorities had an unlimited right to search and seize persons, houses and papers; but the right of the citizen against such proceedings is not left to presumption. He is guaranteed against unreasonable searches and seizures by the fourth amendment to the constitution."

No doubt Roosevelt will put down Ward as a "weak" judge, for thus holding the constitution as superior to his will. But the people will undoubtedly sustain the opinion and proceed to thank the Lord for a level-headed judiciary. In the meantime the jury in Washington is hard at work to obtain all evidence possible to incriminate the two editors, and seems to have been imbued with the illusion, doubtless by the absurd Bonaparte, that a suit against them can be instituted at the capital city.

This was attempted in 1873 when Chas. A. Dana, of the New York Sun, by his violent attacks on the Grant administration aroused the wrath of the president and his subordinates. They tried to haul Dana over to Washington, where, no doubt, they would have put him through the third degree and thrown his carcass to the dogs, but Judge Blatchford, of the district court, refused to grant a warrant for his removal, holding (the gods and the democratic party be praised) that the proposed action was unconstitutional.

So the Washington proceedings in the present case may be looked upon as an opera bouffe performance. It is true that the jury guided by the little fellow of Corsican ancestry, is examining newsmen, newspaper agents, mail carriers and the like, to prove that the libel of the World and News was circulated in Washington and that therefore the editors are amenable to prosecution in that city. But the plan will never work. The editors published their papers, respectively in New York and Indianapolis, and suits against them can be legally brought only in the courts of New York and Indiana.

The only chance we can see for a suit in Washington is one against a branch of the government—the post-office department—for spreading the libel, thus becoming accessory to the crime. And that would be funny, wouldn't it—the government, as personified in Teddy or brother-in-law Robinson or attorney Cromwell, suing the government? It would take Gilbert and Sullivan to do full justice to such a situation.

It may be mentioned incidentally that it was the passage of what is known as the Sedition Act of 1798 that provided for the fining and imprisonment of any person publishing "false, scandalous and malicious writings against the government of

**WESTVILLE.**

Special to The Journal. Westville, Jan. 25.—Times continue dull in our city since the holidays are over.

Such a long, dry spell of weather! The cattle, hogs, etc., in the woods are suffering for lack of water. The streams and ponds are all as dry as a bone.

"Hog killing" has been the order of the day on the late "cold wave" advent, and as a consequence, your correspondent has been faring sumptuously on spare ribs, back bone souse and sausages.

We note the tendency of many to desert the farm for public work, because of high wages. But they are making a sad mistake. The judicious farmer is the most independent, successful, and should be the happiest man of all.

Simon Callahan, a successful farmer near town, has killed to date fifteen big, fat porkers, and is not through yet. He sells pork, bacon and lard every year and has more than enough for his own use besides. Mr. Callahan does not plant cotton fields and corn patches, but reverses the proposition. His cotton is a surplus crop, and he is a successful farmer.

Robt. Reeder, our popular section foreman, has done a splendid job of work in the railroad yard, by cleaning up the ground, moving the debris, etc., and now if our citizens and merchants would follow suit, moved back from Pensacola.

W. F. Harrison made a business trip to Pensacola Thursday.

S. J. Harvey, the popular cashier in the First National Bank, was in Pensacola last week.

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