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THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION

DEVOTED TO SOCIAL, FINANCIAL, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.

VOL. 6.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 6, 1892.

NO. 21.

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EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION.

The current discussion in regard to the election of the President and Senators by a direct vote of the people is beneficial, and is calculated to develop a better understanding of the fundamental principles of the government. President Harrison gave an impetus to the discussion in his annual message to Congress, in which he forcibly condemned the course pursued in Michigan, by which presidential electors will hereafter be chosen in congressional districts instead of being chosen by the popular vote in the State at large, as is done in all the other States. Following the general comment of the press upon the subject comes the February Forum with an exhaustive article from ex-Minister E. J. Phelps, entitled "The Choice of Presidential Electors," in which he attempts to prove that "the districts properly belong the district electors, and they should be chosen accordingly."

It is to be regretted that Mr. Phelps did not consider the question upon the broad basic principles involved rather than as a method of work under the Constitution. The fact is that one of the chief reasons why the government of the United States is the best government on earth, is because of its methods for preserving "checks and balances." There is a check upon a majority and a balance given a minority. According to the genius of the government and the spirit of the Constitution, the rights of a minority are maintained and respected and they always have an equitable representation; on the other hand, only such rights are given a majority as do not infringe upon the rights of the minority. How is this provided for, and what is the machinery for guaranteeing this result? are pertinent questions, and will be answered. The national legislative branch of the government is composed of two houses, co-equal in authority and power. The members of one are elected from districts in the various States, apportioned according to population, and therefore a reapportionment generally becomes necessary every ten years when the census report is made showing the changes in population in the different States. The apportionment is made by the State legislatures, and whichever po-

litical party happens to be in power at that time may so divide the States into districts as to guarantee that a majority, if not all, of the Congressmen from that State shall belong to that party for the next following ten years, even though the popular vote in the State may frequently show that party to be in the minority. This is popularly called the gerrymander. If both houses were elected in such districts, and the gerrymander gave the minority control, then a minority would control the legislation of the land, which would not be just. But by a wise usage the other house is chosen by the legislatures of the States, which are elected in smaller districts, which give less chance for a gerrymander, and this would be much better were they chosen by popular vote of the people, because their choice would absolutely represent the voice of a majority, and no gerrymander would be possible. If this system prevailed a minority could never secure both houses, and it would always be secure in a fair representation in the House of Representatives. These reasons show the absurdity of making the executive branch of the government subject to the domination of a minority placed in power by the gerrymander. And a further reason is that the President should be elected on the same basis as the Senate, because in case of a tie, then under existing laws, the other house in which the minority can assert itself has the balance of power and elects the President. This system carries out the Jeffersonian idea and provides a perfect system of checks and balances that the minority has a full and fair representation, but can never control either the legislative or the executive branches of the government, provided the President and Senators be elected by popular vote. With the Senators elected by the various legislatures there is now a bare possibility that a minority party could obtain control of both houses.

SILVER LEGISLATION.

Congressman Harter, a new Democratic member from Ohio, undertook early in the session the job of running the financial legislation of that end of Congress. After calling every one dishonest or idiotic who favored free coinage, and predicting the most dire calamities to the Demo-

catic party in case free coinage should become a law, he worked himself up to believe that he had really bulldozed and put to flight the friends of free silver. Acting under this hallucination, he assumed the responsibility of calling a caucus upon that question, even going so far in his self-asserted authority as to dictate who should and who should not attend. This was about the limit to which his young and swelling greatness was permitted to expand. The bubble of self importance which this verdant law-maker had made for himself was pricked by some of the old and tried friends of silver, and it collapsed. Mr. Harter may not feel quite so well, but he knows more and will no doubt, in his coming obscurity, have ample time to think over the matter, and will decide, perhaps correctly, the real cause of his disaster. The reasons for not holding the caucus, as given by Messrs. Harter and Bland, are printed below. There seems to be a wide difference of opinion about that matter. Mr. Harter briefly stated in an interview his reasons for not urging a caucus at this time. He said:

Influences are at work all over the country and in the House which point to the probable settlement of the entire question for this session by letting the discussion of it go over until the second session. That the most rapid kind of a change is going on upon this question, is most apparent to those who have watched the matter. The press of the party is exerting its conservative and restraining influence now in a way which must deter even the most enthusiastic of the free silver advocates. It is now pretty fully realized that the passage of a free and unlimited coinage bill will split the Democratic party hopelessly. The Germans and the Eastern and Middle States having large cities in them, will be lost to us, and within six weeks after the Presidential campaign is opened the Democratic party would be but a skeleton of itself. The split in it on the slavery question, would not be a circumstance compared to the rent which a free silver plank in the national platform would make. It is doubtful if any man would walk across the street to get its nomination, and the party would go back into the wilderness again for another generation of wandering.

Mr. Bland, when told of the decision to abandon the proposed caucus, and Mr. Harter's reasons therefor, said:

Mr. Harter was the chief promoter of this caucus. He has ascertained to his satisfaction that the Democratic party can not be bulldozed by the national bankers nor the money power of this country, and that if a caucus were called he would be in a woeful minority. Democrats understand that we are not proposing to build a national platform here, but simply to carry out the pledges to

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THE ECONOMIST FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 1892 FOR FIFTY-CENTS.

From February 15 to March 31 all 50 cent subscribers received will get the paper till November 1, provided as many as ten are in one club.

Secretaries are requested to bring this notice before the Alliance and make a special plea for as much as one club in each body. All friends are requested to get up a club.

Now is the time to renew. Now is the time to subscribe.

Eight months for fifty cents, in clubs of ten or more.

THE Alliance Aid Insurance Decree is meeting with marked success.

THERE will be a public discussion in the town of Stephens, State of Arkansas, February 27, 1892, upon the merits of the sub-treasury and land loan.

THE sub-treasury plan is bound to be heard in Congress. All efforts to kill it have been futile, and it stands to day the most intelligent exponent of financial reform ever brought forward for adoption.

AN English syndicate has bought twenty-three, or all but six, of the flour mills in Utah. The transaction involves \$1,800,000 for the plants, and \$450,000 for stock now on hand. The company proposes to erect a number of elevators, and expects to control the entire wheat crop of the Territory.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

INTERVIEWS.

HON. JERRY SIMPSON, OF KANSAS, was evincing an affectionate tendency towards a glowing stove, when the reporter approached him for some remarks on his recent resolution calling for an investigation of the Department of Agriculture. "I've seen what Mr. Rusk had to say in the Post," he said blithely. "But it doesn't phase me a bit. It stands to reason I knew what I was doing when I made that move. I had grounds for it—good, warrantable grounds."

Letters are pouring in upon me commanding it, and they are from prominent sources as well as humble ones. You see, I did not charge that there was partiality or injustice done by the operation of the department. I said such was the general impression, and I would be glad to get the matter cleared up one way or the other for people's satisfaction."

"You think the investigation will be made, then?" "I certainly do. The Democrats have a prize card to play, and they will play it for all it is worth. If the investigation discloses nothing discreditable, they have not faltered in the measure. We Alliance men are responsible for that. If it does, they have material for their presidential campaign, which will be nats to them."

"And the Department of Agriculture?" "The Department of Agriculture should be above party or politics. It is for the service and good of the agriculturists of the land. If it can be made to stand the hazard of the die."

~~usual over~~ that it has been used as a States' crutch, and favoritism shown the money centers by furnishing them first information of crop reports; thus permitting them to purchase or unload to their private advantage, it is a disgrace to the administration. This is what my resolution wants to show to be either groundless or so."

Mr. Simpson further explained his bill introduced last week in Congress, to repeal section 14 of the act of February, 1872, by explaining that it is for the purpose of restoring the silver dollar of $37\frac{1}{4}$ grains to the position of the standard unit of value. This was the case before the act of 1873 became a law, practically demonetizing silver and making the gold dollar the unit of value.

HON. C. L. MOSES, OF GEORGIA, takes the brightest and most hopeful view of the situation. In reply to the question, "what is the feeling of the present Congress, Mr. Moses, towards our measures?" he said: "I am very much encouraged. As the days go by the signs grow more and more marked of the steady growth of sentiment in our favor. Congressmen are beginning to feel home pressure."

Their constituents are beginning to realize their power, and are wakening them up as they never were wakened before to the necessities of the hour, and the House has made a most commendable record thus far."

"Do you really think they will do anything outside of campaign thunder manufacture?" "Yes, I believe they will. I think a silver bill will get through next month, and I would not be surprised at all if we got a modified sub-treasury bill passed this session. Certain States are wailing loud and deep for help. They must have it, and their Representatives will be driven into seeing that they get it; or know the reason why. The men who vote against these measures will have to stand up to the music of

defeat when election day comes around. The whole thing has沉ered down to a fight between monopoly and the masses, with the enactors of legislation as guardians of the peace between."

"Have you any personal intimation that the members who are not Alliance are contemplating an early change of attitude?" Mr. Moses smiled knowingly. "I have it every day. They come to us and fraternize and chat, and drop remarks that show whether they are diplomatically tending. It is the spur of necessity. The solicitude of the average member for the support of his humble supporters at home who have become somewhat wrathy, is touching. Tell your people through THE ECONOMIST to keep writing letters. It has a wholesome effect."

"We will. But just now we want to find out from you something about that sub-treasury bill you mentioned a moment back." "I believe it will work something like this. Certain States are not in favor of the sub-treasury (for instance, New York, where money is congested) and they need not have it forced upon them. A bill can be framed making it possible for any State that has a preponderance of sentiment in favor of the presidential campaign, which will be nats to them."

"And the Department of Agriculture?" "The Department of Agriculture should be above party or politics. It is for the service and good of the agriculturists of the land. If it can be made to stand the hazard of the die."

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What of them?" "It does not forget them either. It provides a tax of \$2 per word, collectable by commissioner of internal revenue. For failure to file a copy of such message the punishment is assessed at a fine of one hundred dollars or six months."

"Does the bill appear to trouble the majority in the House any?" "Not yet. It is before the committee on agriculture now, but the opposition to it is losing no time. Notice of delegations from cities are pouring in. They will be present to speak against it, and kill it if they can."

"There have been other bills of a similar nature introduced into the Senate and House, have there not?" "Oh, yes; several. But this measure has its underlying strength in the enactment into law of its contempor-

ary. The whole machinery of the government is seeking to cripple and wipe out the lotteries, but where they bled a willing dollar from the individual's pocket, our system of trade is grinding the faces of the poor, and spreading vice and mercantile juggling broadcast."

"Do you think, taking into consideration the strong leverage of influence which will be exerted against it, not to mention other things of a pecuniary nature, that your bill has a chance?" "I am prepared to see the city men vote against it. The country constituencies will, however, make it exceedingly interesting for their members if they do."

"The evil which it aims to correct is?" "One of vast magnitude. It has grown into a national commercial crime. It is honeycombed business, and is absolutely ruining the man who stands at the basis of all industry. I refer to the dealings and manipulations of market reports of agricultural products in our cities. The man or men who have the largest credit or the amplest bank account purchase every day thousands of dollars' worth of, say, wheat or corn, and one bushel changes hands. Yet,

upon the fictitious figures of these gambling speculators, their accredited agents, acting in direct concert with them, buy or sell the actual crop throughout the country, raising or depressing price at pleasure. You will notice that they do not meddle to any extent with staples or the product of manufacture. They confine issues themselves to grain, cereals, cotton, wool, cattle and hogs, or their product. They fleece the farmer easily thus, first, last, and all the time."

"You, therefore, hold the whole present mode of trade transaction to be corrupt and crime-producing?" "It speaks for itself. The daily papers reek of financial wreckage, blasted reputations, and suicide, its direct reaction. The bank cashier and the trusted clerk are public victims of a public villainy. Allured by gambling glamour, they sink themselves in the effort to wrong others, and in the ceaseless struggle for wealth among their associates (founded on rascality and perpetuated in wrong) their misfortune is made the brief mention of a newspaper scandal or a private jeer. Men in this House tell me they do not intend to legislate morals into anybody. In my opinion it is high time to begin the experiment—with some people."

HON. O. M. KEM, OF NEBRASKA, was found toasting his toes before a bright fire in his apartments on Delaware avenue. He looked thoughtful when interrogated about his bill introduced in the House recently, entitled "to provide an adequate volume of full legal tender coin and paper money, for the classification of funds in the United States treasury, for the establishment of a general system of government banking, and for other purposes."

"Well," he said, "of course I don't expect its adoption. It is introduced to awaken interest and discussion in the situation and as a beginner in the agitation. It provides for the establishment of a bureau to be known as the government banking and loan bureau, the officers of which would be appointed by the President, subject to confirmation. The chief

of said bureau would establish, on application of not less than one hundred property holders of not under \$5,000 assessed value each, a branch of the treasury, or sub-treasury, to be known as government banks. No county should have more than one bank for every fifty thousand inhabitants or fraction thereof."

"The reporter thanked Mr. Kem for his remarks, and left him again to reflection."

SENATOR PEPPER, OF KANSAS,

sat behind his desk in his office, No.

17 B street n. e., looking the student

and scholar he is, surrounded by his

books and literary work when THE

ECONOMIST reporter dropped in. He

pleasantly inquired what news was re-

quired, and on being told it might

best concern his bill introduced in

the Senate the past week, resigned

his spirit and opened his lips.

"What about your bill, Senator,

for \$1,000,000, intended to secure a

loan to the people of Indiana on the

land loan system of the Alliance?

"Why did you specify Indiana?" "I

am not the father of that bill. I in-

roduced it by request. We Alliance

folks know the stumbling-blocks in

the way of such relief measures, but

we are determined to bring the true

status of affairs to government and

public notice if we have to do it

peacemeal."

"But there are three others you certainly claim credit for, and they are of primary importance to us. There is one entitled to establish a bureau of irrigation and to prescribe the duties thereto?" "Yes. That

can be summed up in two words—

systemize and economize. The field

work would be divided among dis-

tricts, each to be in charge of one

person detailed by the bureau, with

proper instructions from the Secre-

tary, and every reasonable facility

and encouragement would be accorded

inventors, engineers and other sci-

entific persons to assist in the work of

reporting, developing and adapting

to practical use the available sources

of permanent water supply throughout

the whole country. It would be a

developer of resources, and by pro-

ceeding methodically and upon com-

bined and sensible methods a pro-

moter of good results. The bureau

would be under control of the Secre-

tary of Agriculture, and its expenses

provided for in general appropriation

for that department. Next comes a

bill to increase the circulating me-

dium by issuing treasury notes based

on thin sarcasm—oftimes brutal as-

sault—are written against the Farmers

Alliance of Minnesota, which is, in

view of a certain advance in cereals

seeking to prevail upon the farmers to

retain their grain until later, in the

season when an advance comes and

get the benefit of it. The dearth of

breadstuffs in Europe will shortly

make a heavy demand upon the United

States, and wheat will not commence

to ascend the scale of price until the

speculators think they have the crop

out of the hands of the farmers, when

they will forthwith proceed to juggle

it. The farmer receives uniformly

the barest living profit on his grain.

The price at which the farmer sells

his grain at the beginning of the sea-

son, and the sum the consumerulti-

ately pays for it makes a striking ar-

gument against the iniquity of specu-

lation in food products. The old

party press, however, being opposed

to the Alliance movement, has its en-

emies constantly directed against any

action taken by the Alliance for the

farmer's benefit, and since their par-

ties play in the hands of capital they

also are interested in seeing capital

get all that is going.

critical, and commend themselves on their merits."

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SATURDAY,

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Incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia

Subscription Price - - \$1.00 Per Year.

Advertisements inserted only by special contract. Our rates are reasonable for circulation. Discounts for time and space furnished on application, stating character of advertisement required.

The publishers of this paper have given a bond to the State of Missouri, the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

"We, the Farmers and Laborers Union of America, our adopted official national organ, lay so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles, therefore,

Be it resolved, by this National body, That we heartily approve of the cause it has pursued and supported, and that every member of the Order should subscribe to its services, papers, and the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom."

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council renews its hearty endorsement of THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, and the action of Brother C. W. Macne and his associates in said organization in the good work of education. Urge them onward.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Published office, 239 North Capitol street.

ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,
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N. R. P. A.

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Mr. LEECH, director of the mint, has discovered a vast difference between the committees on coinage, weights and measures of this session and last. "New England" dominated then, now the "West and South" are having their innings. Chairman Bland is not run by Congressman Walker to any great extent.

The value of imports of merchandise for 1891 amounted to \$844,916,160, against \$789,310,409 in 1890. The exports for 1891 were \$884,560, against \$857,828,684 in 1890.

Of the amount exported in 1891, which Henry Clay so graphically describes:

This extract is sufficient evidence in itself of the almost total elimination of labor values. It is almost, if not quite, a parallel with the panic of 1837, which Henry Clay so graphically describes:

The revulsions of 1837 produced a far greater havoc than was experienced in the period above mentioned. The ruin

and Ireland took \$441,599,807; Germany, \$91,684,981, and France, \$59,826,739. Of imports, England sent \$104,723,262; Germany, \$97,316,383; West Indies, \$86,461,705; Brazil, \$83,230,595; France, \$76,688,995.

MR. RALPH BEAUMONT is about to make a trip to the Pacific coast on a lecturing tour. Mr. Beaumont is an old warrior, having stood at the front for many years. He is one of the most convincing and entertaining speakers in the reform movement, and never fails to hold and please his audience. The friends of reform in that section should not fail to secure his services. The trip will be made some time in March. His lectures will be under the direction of Mr. Marion Cannon, President of State Alliance of California, Ahira Manning, President of State Alliance of Washington, and W. W. Myers, State Secretary of Oregon.

THE following unfair and false statement is taken from the Farm and Fireside, a plutocratic agricultural paper printed in Philadelphia. That it was premeditated and printed to deceive, is proven by its date, January 15, nearly two months after the Alliance meeting at Indianapolis, and long after the infamous lying of the subsidized press in relation to that meeting had been thoroughly exposed. Such papers, under the guise of teaching agriculture, are

really the most pliant and effective tools of the money power, and should be forced to receive their remuneration from those they serve.

In marked contrast to the harmonious deliberations of the National Grange were the proceedings of the National Farmers Alliance, held in Indianapolis. Briefly, the Alliance has split on the sub-treasury scheme, and the regular has been captured by the politicians. With its national treasury bankrupt, its State organizations delinquent, its membership far below its claims, and the lack of confidence in the integrity of some of its officials, the Alliance appears to be rushing toward self-destruction.

This clipping was sent from Oregon, with a request that the infamous lies it contains might be contradicted. This paper, remember, is but one of a numerous species.

THE Chickasaw Messenger (Oklahoma, Miss.) contains the following:

A fine plantation in Hinds county, lying within four miles of the State-house, was sold on the 18th inst., in tracts of 80 and 160 acres, and the highest price paid for any quarter section was less than \$6 per acre. Some of it sold for \$1 per acre.

6. We demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes.

7. We demand the most rigid honesty and just State and national control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision does not remove the abuses now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

8. We demand that the Congress of the United States submit an amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people of each State; also the President and Vice-President by a popular vote.

9. Resolved, That this confederation of industrial organizations demand that in each State a system shall be provided and faithfully executed that will insure an

adequate registration of all voters, a free, fair, secret and official ballot, and an honest public count; and we demand that each State legislature shall make it a felony for any improper interference with the exercise of the registration, ballot, or count.

In order to prove the untruthfulness, if not the absurdity, of the statements of the eastern opponents to free silver that it would be a great hardship to the poor mechanics and hired girls of that section who have such vast amounts in the savings banks, the following table from the report of the Comptroller of Currency is given. It will require but a glance at the average of each depositor to disclose the hypocrisy and deceit that is behind such a statement:

STATES.	Number of depositors.	Amount of deposits.	Average of depositor.
Maine.....	140,521	\$4,781,166	\$34.92
New Hampshire.....	165,264	60,510,024	\$371.19
Vermont.....	72,702	21,610,302	\$297.38
Massachusetts.....	1,081,817	353,592,937	\$326.24
Rhode Island.....	131,652	63,719,491	\$483.99
Connecticut.....	305,863	116,405,075	\$382.65
Long Island.....	177,202	574,000,000	\$3,250.00
New Jersey.....	2,057,573	62,150,993	\$31.55
Pennsylvania.....	226,312	1,602,493	\$7,025.00
Delaware.....	16,752	1,602,493	\$101.93
Maryland.....	135,004	38,916,597	\$283.26
District of Columbia.....	10,241	793,265	\$79.73
West Virginia.....	9,308	375,449	\$37.04
North Carolina.....	12,514	120,000	\$9.45
South Carolina.....	17,404	280,755	\$16.14
Georgia.....	2,531	477,497	\$188.50
Florida.....	1,078	181,630	\$169.49
Alabama.....	1,770	65,816	\$37.18
Louisiana.....	4,106	142,079	\$35.42
Tennessee.....	4,309	384,183	\$89.16
Mississippi.....	11,169	1,445,833	\$129.24
Ohio.....	78,804	1,445,666	\$18.24
Indiana.....	14,884	5,332,099	\$365.65
Illinois.....	61,103	10,362,302	\$167.78
Michigan.....	159,270	29,887,761	\$198.82
Wisconsin.....	726	94,687	\$130.43
Iowa.....	57,149	26,839,495	\$464.35
Nebraska.....	30,191	7,689,677	\$255.99
California.....	136,497	11,184,523	\$81.39
Montana.....	1,062	165,425	\$155.75
Utah.....	7,994	1,692,043	\$210.41
Washington.....	6,850	834,815	\$121.87
Total.....	4,533,217	\$1,623,079,749	\$358.04

THE clipping printed below is taken from the New Nation, Boston, Mass. It has reference to one of the most fruitful sources of robbery to which the poor are subjected. Robbery on the street is punished, but robbery behind the sign of the three-balls is legalized throughout the United States. This condition should be changed.

We published last week some remarks upon our institutions, by Mr. Deschanel, the gentleman at present traveling in this country on a mission from the French government, to collect information on the industrial situation. One thing at which our visitor expressed amazement was that American governments permitted private persons to engage in the pawn-broking business, charging as they notoriously do, usurious interest, to a class of people least able to pay it.

2. We demand a free and unlimited coinage of silver.

3. We demand the passage of laws

prohibiting alien ownership of land, and

that Congress take prompt action to de-

serve some plan to obtain all lands now

owned by aliens and foreign syndicates,

and that all lands held by railroads and

other corporations in excess of such as is

actually used and needed by them be re-

claimed by the government and held for

actual settlers only.

4. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that taxation—national, State, or municipal—shall not be used to build up one interest or class at the expense of another.

5. We demand that all revenues—na-

tional, State or county—shall be limited

to the necessary expenses of the govern-

ment, economically and honestly adminis-

tered.

6. We demand a just and equitable

system of graduated tax on incomes.

7. We demand the most rigid honesty

and just State and national control and

supervision of the means of public com-

munication and transportation, and if this

control and supervision does not remove

the abuses now existing, we demand the

government ownership of such means of

communication and transportation.

8. We demand that the Congress of the

United States submit an amendment to the

Constitution providing for the election

of United States Senators by the direct

vote of the people of each State; also the

President and Vice-President by a popu-

lar vote.

9. Resolved, That this confederation

of industrial organizations demand that

in each State a system shall be provided

and faithfully executed that will insure an

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

proposed from an economic standpoint. These meetings are purely non-partisan, and are participated in by Democrats, Republicans, and People's party members. At the last meeting, the question of legislation to suppress the selling of options and futures was discussed in all its bearings, and it was decided that all would support such legislation. There are several bills for that purpose before the committee on agriculture of the House, and when that committee

reports one, it will get the united support of all these members, regardless of the party to which they belong.

For information regarding meeting of Press Association, address

W. S. MORGAN,

Sec'y-Treasurer, St. Louis, Mo.

EDITOR.—Please send names of delegates selected to attend the Industrial conference, and the number of persons you think will attend from your State. Don't delay this.

S. H. SNIDER,

Chairman Com. Arrangements, Hotel Richelieu, St. Louis, Mo.

The Reform Press Association will meet in St. Louis on the 19th of Feb. 1892. Editors of reform papers will please look after transportation on local lines that do not run into St. Louis. Under no circumstances can I secure transportation for more than two for one paper, and then only for wife or daughter.

On some lines we will be unable to secure transportation at all on advertising rates. Transportation will be sent as soon as secured. Headquarters for the Press Association will be at the hotel Richelieu.

For information regarding meeting of

Press Association, address

W. S. MORGAN,

Sec'y N. R. P. A., No. 22, N. 2d St., St. Louis, Mo.

Other announcements will be made later.

W. S. MORGAN,

Secretary N. R. P. A.

Points in Missouri not included in

above, also from Indian Territory, Arkansas, and Louisiana (Iron Mountain

House to become governor of Tennessee. He was elected, and served two years. The Whigs then had their day, and he was defeated in the Tennessee canvass for governor. At this time the annexation of Texas superseded every other question in American politics. Mr. Polk vigorously supported annexation. This fact secured his nomination for the presidency. On March 4, 1845, he was inaugurated. At the close of his first term he retired from office. He died of cholera, June 18, 1849. He lies buried upon the grounds of "Polk Place," in Nashville, Tenn., beneath a small, but beautiful temple of native marble.

Costly Laces, Illustrated American.

An expert asserts that now, for the first time, American women are turning their attention to the collection and use of rare handmade laces. Heretofore they have been entirely content to trim their gowns with any pretty, effective lace sold for modest sums, and scarcely worth the trouble of preserving after its first freshness was gone. It was a question of quantity rather than quality, and this superior knowledge recently acquired is something of a revelation. For the first time there is a steady demand for not only genuine handmade lace, but for artistic and highly wrought patterns. These new connoisseurs, many of them just home from courses of study and observation in Europe, reject other than the best varieties.

The Ecc can not be deceived concerning State châtel and worth of the goods they seek. As is usual with American women, money is a secondary consideration compared with the attainment of the object in view. They are ready to pay liberally to gratify this commendable, but costly taste, and do not shrink at prices. For instance, a lady of substantial wealth was the purchaser in New York, the other day, of five yards of Valenciennes lace, not over seven inches in width, for which she gladly gave \$165 per yard. The fabric was fabulously fine, rare and beautiful, with a delicate floral pattern running over it, in which were roses as subtly shaded as though done with a brush or embroiderer's needle. In the same collection a charming bit of Brussels was readily disposed of at \$270 for a couple of yards, while a yard and a third of old Venice point went for \$68. Jewels, bric-a-brac, etc., are generally doubtful speculations and seldom realize the original sums paid for them. But it is utterly impossible to duplicate the very piece of Valenciennes mentioned above. It has individual values, and when, as in this instance, a skilled work-woman put eight years of her life into the weaving, you have a thing single to itself, a bit of high art not to be bartered lightly or ruthlessly handled. Whenever tastes are cultivated and inclinations tend toward these true expressions of beauty achieved by devoted efforts and honest talent, they deserve every possible encouragement, and are hopeful signs of higher intellectual development.

The Signal (Gainesville, Texas) says: The question above all other questions before the American people is, shall Congress release the grip that Shylock has obtained by legislation upon the money, the homes, the transportation, the mines and the business of this country, or will it continue to strengthen this grip that the two of parties has given their masters, the Shylocks! The people's vote is well decided.

CONGRESS. SENATE.

MONDAY, January 25, 1892.
Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D.

The Journal of the proceedings of Thursday last was read and approved.

Mr. Hoar, from the committee on privileges and elections, made a report favorable to the seating of Senator Chilton of Texas.

The following bills were reported from committees, and placed on calendar:

House bill to define and punish black-mailing. To provide an additional mode of taking depositions of witnesses in cases pending in United States courts.

Senate bill to provide for a commission on the subject of alcoholic liquor traffic.

At 12:55, when the morning business was complete, the Vice-President presented the President's Chilean message, and it was read. On motion of Mr. Sherman it was referred to committee on foreign relations.

The Vice-President announced the death of Justice Bradley, and out of respect to his memory the Senate adjourned at 1 o'clock and 40 minutes.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, January 25, 1892.
The House met at 12 o'clock m., being called to order by Speaker Crisp, who resumed the Chair amid loud applause on the floor.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The Journal of the proceedings of Thursday was read and approved.

By unanimous consent, bills of the following titles were introduced, read a second time, ordered to be printed, and referred to the several committees named below:

Mr. McClellan, Ind. A bill providing that if any widow drawing a pension shall re-marry and her subsequent marriage be terminated by the death of her husband, she shall be entitled to a restoration of the pension, to commence at the date of such death—to the committee on invalid pensions; repealing section 3707 of the revised statutes, which provides that "all stocks, bonds, treasury notes, and other obligations of the United States shall be exempt from taxation by State or municipal authority"—to the committee on ways and means.

Mr. Catchings, Miss., argued in favor of their adoption. Mr. Reed, of Maine, contended for those of the Fifty-first House, and majority rule. Mr. Lanham, of Texas, spoke in favor of an amendment, that the committee on coinage, weights and measures have the right to report free coinage measures to the House at any time. He made a free speech, and was followed by Mr. Raynor, of Md., in an anti one.

Mr. Bland, Mo. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. Catchings] control the time on this side and the gentleman from Maine [Mr. Reed] on the other, and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Watson], representing the third party, the hour allotted to them.

The Speaker. If there objection to that request?

There was no objection, and it was so ordered.

Discussion of former rules and congressional action became general. At 4 o'clock and 26 minutes the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, January 27, 1892.
The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Hatch, Mo., introduced a resolution providing that all oleomargarine transported into a State or Territory, upon arrival shall be subject to laws thereon, in the same manner as though such oleomargarine had been produced in original package or otherwise. The speaker stated the bill should go to the judiciary committee. Mr. Hatch moved reference to committee on agriculture. Mr. Hatch's motion prevailed.

By unanimous consent, bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read a first and second time, ordered to be printed, and referred as follows:

By Mr. Curtis, N. Y. A bill for the transmission of agricultural experiment station reports and books through the mail free of postage—to the committee on post-office and post-roads.

By Mr. Martin, Ind. A resolution calling on the President of the United States for the transmission to the House of

of the bill. Mr. Morgan argued also for it, and commented on the absence of Senators from the chamber during a debate that involved the national honor. Additional evidence was introduced. The speeches were dry, and lasted hours.

At 4 o'clock p. m. the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, January 26, 1892.
The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Livingston, by unanimous consent, introduced a bill to establish a system of sub-treasuries, and for other purposes; which was read a first and second time, referred to the committee on ways and means, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Breckinridge, Ky. Mr. Speaker, I offer the resolution which I send to the desk, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The resolution was as follows:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be respectfully requested to inform the House whether any answer has been received, either from our minister to Chile, Patrick Egan, or from the government of Chile, to the despatch sent to the minister of Chile, on the 21st of January, 1891, and if so, from whom such answer was received and at what time, and that he will communicate to the House all the correspondence between the government of the United States' minister to Chile, and the Chilean government, not communicated to Congress with the message hereto sent in.

This launched the House into a prolonged debate. Mr. Breckinridge defending his resolutions and its spirit, and Mr. Blount and Mr. Herbert attacking. Mr. Breckinridge, thought it very strange that a mere desire for additional information should develop such opposition. It was due to the country. The opponents thought it reflected upon the executive, and was in bad taste at present. They had confidence in the committee's having the matter in charge. They would rest affairs with them. It was finally referred to the committee on foreign affairs.

By Mr. McClellan, Ind. A bill providing that if any widow drawing a pension shall re-marry and her subsequent marriage be terminated by the death of her husband, she shall be entitled to a restoration of the pension, to commence at the date of such death—to the committee on invalid pensions; repealing section 3707 of the revised statutes, which provides that "all stocks, bonds, treasury notes, and other obligations of the United States shall be exempt from taxation by State or municipal authority"—to the committee on ways and means.

The Speaker. The Chair will suspend the call to receive a message from the President.

A message in writing from the President of the United States on the Chilean affair was communicated to the House by Mr. Pruden, one of his secretaries, and is omitted for lack of space.

By Mr. Cowles, N. C. A bill to repeal the tax on tobacco in all forms—to the committee on ways and means.

By Mr. Williams, N. C. A bill to define trusts and prevent the same—to the committee on manufactures, to impose a graduated income tax—to the committee on ways and means.

By Mr. Harvey, Ok. A bill to enable the people of the Territory of Oklahoma to form a constitution and State government and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, and for other purposes—to the committee on the Territories.

The motion of Mr. McMillin was then agreed to, and accordingly (at 3 o'clock p. m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow at 12 o'clock m.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, January 25, 1892.
Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D.

The Journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

Mr. Pettigrew, from the committee on Indian affairs, to whom was referred the bill to prohibit the sale of firearms and ammunition to the Indians residing upon reservations, reported it without amendment. Mr. Hatch's motion prevailed.

The Presiding officer. The hour of 2 o'clock having arrived, the Chair lays before the Senate the unfinished business.

The Senate, as in committee of the whole, resumed the consideration of the bill to amend and enlarge the act approved June 18, 1878, entitled "An act to provide for the distribution of the awards made under the convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Mexico," concluded on the 4th day of July, 1868.

Mr. Dolph continued argument in favor

of the bill. Mr. Morgan argued also for it, and commented on the absence of Senators from the chamber during a debate that involved the national honor. Additional evidence was introduced. The speeches were dry, and lasted hours.

At 4 o'clock p. m. the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, January 26, 1892.
The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Otis, Kan. Mr. Speaker, it gives us great pleasure to know that the People's party to-day for the first time is recognized upon the floor of this House. [Laughter and applause.] We deem it, sir, a high honor to be permitted to open the debate in behalf of that young, growing political giant which, in our opinion, is destined to dominate and control this country from sea to sea and from the lakes to the gulf. [The People's party comes before this country with the olive branch of peace in one hand and the cornucopia of plenty in the other. Upon our banner, sir, is inscribed, "Union forever, one and indivisible." [Applause.] We believe in justice to all, equal rights to all, and special privileges to none. We say, Give us universal equality and fraternity world-wide. These are our mottoes. These are our principles. The great common people of America have been aroused, and we say let office-seeking politicians slumber, and let calamity-makers henceforth hold their peace.

Mr. Speaker, when the honorable gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Watson] yielded us twenty minute I promised that we would confine ourselves as nearly as possible to the substitute that we have offered, and which was read by the Clerk of this House of Monday, and will be found printed upon pages 563 and 564 of the Congressional Record of yesterday. In doing so, sir, we do not propose to consume the time by reading at length that substitute, but we do propose to state plainly and clearly the propositions involved in it, which are three:

1. The creation of a new committee upon the order of business in this House; 2. The election of the standing committee by the House itself; and 3. (What may be considered a corollary of the second:) The election by the committee themselves of their own chairmen and the naming of their own clerks.

This is what the substitute proposes, and this is what we believe is right. We do not propose to discuss this question in all its bearings, but simply as it relates to the principle of popular rights, or the principle of rule by the many as opposed to domination by the few.

The first proposition takes the place to a certain extent of the present committee on rules, or in other words, it delegates the committee on rules to its proper place and institutes a committee on order of business, to attend to its own business. We claim that it is not and ought not to be the province of any three, five, or even seven men in this body to dictate the course of legislation and to say what this House should deliberate upon. If you will refer to the substitute you will notice that this committee on order of business is to be composed of one member from each State and Territory of the Union, to be nominated by that State or Territory; so that under this provision this committee would embrace a representation of each of the States and thereby vests the direction of its business in hands approved by himself. The chairman is of course always selected from the party which commands the House and the committee is so composed to have as many as possible of the members of the party in the committee, and as much as possible of the committee administration as the House has been able to bring within its grasp, belong to these committees, their composition practically determines the action of the House on all questions of moment, and as the chairmanships of the more important committees are of course filled by the dispossessed of the party in a tremendous piece of corruption, by which speaker can attract support to himself and his own section of the party, reward his friends, give politicians the opportunity of rising to distinction or practically extinguish their congressional career.

The speaker is of course far from friendly to the dispossessed. He has been unable to secure his own selection to the chair by promises to leading members and their friends, and while redeeming such promises he must also regard the wishes of important groups of men or types of opinion; must compliment particular States by giving a place of good committee to their prominent statesmen, and in doing so, offend others which could alarm particular interests. These conditions surround the exercise of the power with trouble and anxiety. Yet, after all, it is power, power which in the hands of a capable and ambitious man becomes so far-reaching that it is no exaggeration to call him the second, if not the first, political figure in the country. The power with trouble and anxiety. Yet, after all, it is power, power which in the hands of a capable and ambitious man becomes so far-reaching that it is no exaggeration to call him the second, if not the first, political figure in the country. Gentlemen may say again that it is delegated to him by general parliamentary progress they saw an unconstitutional, illegitimate, usurpatory obstruction, which barred their progress and made the struggle hopeless; they would certainly never cease to fight to remove the obstruction. That is the situation with us.

Now, where is it? You take the United States Senate. We demand that its members shall be elected hereafter by a direct vote of the people. Why? Because the people have not the right to elect their members.

The speaker pro tem. The gentleman has occupied nineteen minutes.

Mr. Watson, Ga. Mr. Speaker, I always endeavor to listen with respect to the opinions of my colleagues on this floor whether I agree with those opinions or not. I shall continue to do so; and all I ask of my colleagues in return is that I shall have for my opinions the same respect.

Not only does he, at the beginning of each Congress, select all the members of each of these committees, he even chooses the chairman of each, and thereby vests the direction of its business in hands approved by himself. The chairman is of course always selected from the party which commands the House and the committee is so composed to have as many as possible of the members of the party in the committee, and as much as possible of the committee administration as the House has been able to bring within its grasp, belong to these committees, their composition practically determines the action of the House on all questions of moment, and as the chairmanships of the more important committees are of course filled by the dispossessed of the party in a tremendous piece of corruption, by which speaker can attract support to himself and his own section of the party, reward his friends, give politicians the opportunity of rising to distinction or practically extinguish their congressional career.

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Now, as to the House:

The person first named is usually permitted to act as chairman, but this is a matter of courtesy.

It has now become a matter of right.

Every committee having a right to elect their chairmen, may do so, and the chairman of each committee, and by one ballot, the members necessary to complete the same.

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Now, as to the House:

The person first named is

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Not only that. In the English House of Commons we find this to be the fact. In England committees are usually named in the first instance by the person who proposes the resolution for their appointment, subject, of course, to the control of the House. On great important questions they are chosen by ballot and the most important committees considered merely with reference to the state of parties naming them, as we have already seen, in such manner as leaves very little, if anything, in the power of the speaker.

Sir, it is a strange truth that under the forms of monarchy in Great Britain there is an eternal tendency toward democracy, while under the form of America's democracy there is an eternal drift toward the real spirit of monarchy. That is the literal truth, and any man who will study the record will be profoundly impressed upon which my assertion was founded.

The Speaker of the English House of Commons has no such power as ours. The Speaker of the French Chamber of Deputies has no such power as ours. The Speaker of the German Reichstag has no such power as ours. No where on the face of the earth has the presiding officer of the autocratic power over the deliberations of the body and the course of its legislation which he has here.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we say that in the future we express it as our opinion that the House should be organized according to the sense of the House. Decentralize this power which has crept into the hands of the Speaker. Take back to the body of the House this enormous control which year by year has grown into the hands of the Speaker without ever having been voted upon by the people. We have heard it here time and again with a slight approach to monotony of repetition that we are here as a protest against the czarism of Mr. Reed of the last Congress.

And I may remark, Mr. Speaker, that that was after the mules, the horses, the cotton, and the corn were brought in and given up.

He says further:

I had a sad experience that I wish every member of the Fifty-second Congress could have had.

Listen to this, gentlemen of the Fifty-second Congress:

A very poor but good man's child had died. He went 16 miles to the merchant who furnished him, and told him he wanted a coffin. Without reply the merchant turned over his account:

"Mr. I am sorry, but you are already over your limit, and we can not let you have it." "What am I to do?" he remonstrated. "Well," said the merchant, seemingly worried and impatient, "damn it, put it in a box."

Mr. Speaker, my correspondent says he does not blame the merchant for not letting the man have the credit, but—

I only blame the merchant for the unkind way of refusing.

I, too, gentlemen, do not blame him for not giving credit, but I do blame him for the harshness of the reply.

Touch with the sacred fire of inspiration, O Master, Divine, the lips of the best orator of this House, and let him speak to this Congress on the miseries of the people; but he will fail to touch the hearts of his hearers as they will be touched by the silent appeal which death has written upon the frozen lips of the unconfined child.

Sir, if I had the power to-day I would like to draw a picture of just what has been the result of this centralizing of power, in politics, in business, and in production. It has made the large manufacturer absorb the small one. The large railroad has swallowed the small one. The great oil company has swallowed the small one. Trusts and combines absorb or crush the individual enterprise. So everywhere centralizing tendencies and usurpatory processes are going on, until the power and the money is in the hands of the few, and the people, we expect to stir them up all along the line, until from Maine to Georgia, and from the lakes to the gulf, they will ask to ask for work in the cities, or stand at the doors of their huts down in dear old Georgia, are utterly deprived of a fair distribution of the very wealth which they create.

Mr. Speaker, out in Kansas the man who feeds the world warms himself by a fire built out of his corn, without having been able to get enough for it to make it cheaper for him to buy coal; down in Georgia the men who made eight million bales of cotton have not been able to save enough of the price to clothe in comfort their wives and their children, and in every city of this land, coming now to the workingmen, there are artisans of every sort standing with empty hands, with empty homes, with anxious hearts, asking for work, asking for bread, asking for a start in life somewhere. God knows the rest.

Mr. Funston, Kan. Will the gentleman permit me to correct him?

Mr. Watson. If it is a correction the gentleman had better make it in his own speech.

Mr. Funston. I will say to the gentleman that corn in Kansas is now worth 50 cents a bushel; that we have several million bushels of it for sale; we are not burning corn instead of coal, and there is no calamity party there now.

Mr. Watson. The gentleman, in his own time can make a statement of his views, and the facts upon which they are based; but if the gentleman means to say that the corn-raisers of Kansas are not in a destitute and deplorable condition, and have not been burning their own corn, and reading the rule not foreclosing his mortgage by the light of such a fire—then he certainly contradicts the very strong testimony upon which my assertion was founded.

Mr. Funston. It is not true.

Mr. Watson. By men who have seen these fires burning.

Mr. Funston. It is not true.

Mr. Watson. Now, let me beg of the gentleman to hold his potato. [Laughter.] Mr. Speaker, I got a letter from Georgia by mail this morning, and I beg this House to hear me read one paragraph. It is from Burke county, and is written to me by W. C. Sandford, as intelligent and honorable a man as lives, president of the Burke County Farmers' Alliance. Listen to what I find in that letter:

Our country is in a terrible, terrible condition. Our customers at one store sent us fourteen paid out; five hundred paid less than 50 cents on the dollar.

And I may remark, Mr. Speaker, that that was after the mules, the horses, the cotton, and the corn were brought in and given up.

He says further:

I had a sad experience that I wish every member of the Fifty-second Congress could have had.

Listen to this, gentlemen of the Fifty-second Congress:

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I, too, gentlemen, do not blame him for not giving credit, but I do blame him for the harshness of the reply.

Touch with the sacred fire of inspiration, O Master, Divine, the lips of the best orator of this House, and let him speak to this Congress on the miseries of the people; but he will fail to touch the hearts of his hearers as they will be touched by the silent appeal which death has written upon the frozen lips of the unconfined child.

Now, I have studied this question considerably and tried to understand it; and, Mr. Speaker, I can only understand it in the light of some good old orthodox authority. My first impression is that there is no difference between the two wings of the old parties on my right and left. In the first place, this minority is perfectly willing to entrust legislation in the hands of what they call an opposition Speaker, for they know that all great questions of finance, transportation, public lands, taxation, etc., are equally important in the mind of any Speaker, no matter what you may call his party. But, on the other hand, this majority, in regard to all these questions, are willing to trust almost autocratic authority in the hands of the other fellows.

I do not speak at random. I have before me a very orthodox authority on the Republican side, a book written by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. I think he is a Republican. He says he is a Republican of the high tariff protection kind. But he says:

Rather than have free coinage of silver, I would vote for the lowest tariff Democrat.

That looks as if he were almost there.

Mr. Carnegie further says:

A politician may safely be challenged to state wherein the Democratic and Republican parties of to-day differ. If one of them he will say that the "ins" have been in control too long, have not given the "outs" a chance, and so on, clean, a change is desirable. But ask him which, if any, of the national laws or forms he would change, and he is dumb.

Then, after arguing that question through three or four pages, this orthodox authority says further:

As before explained the "outs" must be in the "ins" of corruption, since the policy of the party is that of the other.

The Speaker pro tem. The time of the gentlemen has expired.

Mr. Davis, Kan. Mr. Speaker, I wish to say one word more. I desire to quote one more authority before I sit down. I quote from my predecessor [Mr. Anderson of Kansas] in a speech made on the floor of this House during his last term:

It does not appear that the control of this floor by either of the political parties makes it earthly bit of difference on the banking question. When you gentlemen on the Democratic side had control of the House, one of the first bills introduced was a bill to prohibit the banks from loaning money to the people, by the people and for the people, by the people and for the people. [Applause.]

Mr. Watson. If it is a correction the gentleman had better make it in his own speech.

Mr. Funston. I will say to the gentleman that corn in Kansas is now worth 50 cents a bushel; that we have several million bushels of it for sale; we are not burning corn instead of coal, and there is no calamity party there now.

Mr. Watson. The gentleman, in his own time can make a statement of his views, and the facts upon which they are based; but if the gentleman means to say that the corn-raisers of Kansas are not in a destitute and deplorable condition, and have not been burning their own corn, and reading the rule not foreclosing his mortgage by the light of such a fire—then he certainly contradicts the very strong testimony upon which my assertion was founded.

Mr. Funston. It is not true.

Mr. Watson. By men who have seen these fires burning.

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Mr. Watson. Now, let me beg of the gentleman to hold his potato. [Laughter.] Mr. Speaker, I got a letter from Georgia by mail this morning, and I beg this House to hear me read one paragraph. It is from Burke county, and is written to me by W. C. Sandford, as intelligent and honorable a man as lives, president of the Burke County Farmers' Alliance. Listen to what I find in that letter:

We have, Mr. Speaker, virtually three sets of rules before the House for its consideration. One of these sets grants to the Speaker of the House what one party says are inordinate, unusual, and unjust powers with the minority, while the other grants what the other side claims are also inordinate, and unjust powers. The third code, however, proposes that the business of this House shall be as far as possible, controlled by the entire sentiment of the House itself, by submitting it to the continual revision of a committee composed of one man from each State and Territory, who shall be elected and selected by the House itself. That committee on revision, so constituted, is to bring forward certain business that may be more important ahead of other business of less importance. That is the committee on revision, and they should meet at least once or twice a month.

Leaving that now for the present, and turning my attention in another direction, for my time is limited, I desire to say that I have before me, Mr. Speaker, a most unusual spectacle. I have on my right hand a minority arguing for rules that will put inordinate, unusual, and unjust powers in the hands of an opposition Speaker, while on my left I have a very large majority of the House arguing for rules that will put the same power in the hands of the minority.

Now, just how to reconcile these differences will take, I apprehend, some thought. [Laughter.] Each side wants to grant to the other greater powers, and each side, with unusual diffidence, pushes the powers that are presented to them aside and declares, "We won't undertake to exercise them."

Mr. Funston, Kan. I made no such statement whatever.

The Speaker pro tem. Does the gentleman yield?

Mr. Simpson. I do not yield. I have the floor now and the gentleman may have it later. This only goes to show how much the Republican members from Kansas know about Kansas. [Laughter.] I say, sir, that this gentleman has been posing as a farmer, the representative of the agricultural class, and he stands up here to day and tells us that corn is 55 cents a bushel in Kansas, when as a matter of fact he can buy millions of bushels at 30 cents.

He went 16 miles to the merchant who furnished him, and told him he wanted a coffin. Without reply the merchant turned over his account:

"Mr. I am sorry, but you are already over your limit, and we can not let you have it." "What am I to do?" he remonstrated. "Well," said the merchant, seemingly worried and impatient, "damn it, put it in a box."

Mr. Speaker, my correspondent says he does not blame the merchant for not letting the man have the credit, but—

I only blame the merchant for the unkind way of refusing.

I, too, gentlemen, do not blame him for not giving credit, but I do blame him for the harshness of the reply.

Touch with the sacred fire of inspiration, O Master, Divine, the lips of the best orator of this House, and let him speak to this Congress on the miseries of the people; but he will fail to touch the hearts of his hearers as they will be touched by the silent appeal which death has written upon the frozen lips of the unconfined child.

Now, I have studied this question considerably and tried to understand it; and, Mr. Speaker, I can only understand it in the light of some good old orthodox authority.

My first impression is that there is no difference between the two wings of the old parties on my right and left. In the first place, this minority is perfectly willing to entrust legislation in the hands of what they call an opposition Speaker, for they know that all great

questions of finance, transportation, public lands, taxation, etc., are equally important in the mind of any Speaker, no matter what you may call his party. But, on the other hand, this majority, in regard to all these questions, are willing to trust almost autocratic authority in the hands of the other fellows.

I do not speak at random. I have before me a very orthodox authority on the Republican side, a book written by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. I think he is a Republican.

He says he is a Republican of the high tariff protection kind. But he says:

Rather than have free coinage of silver, I would vote for the lowest tariff Democrat.

That looks as if he were almost there.

Mr. Carnegie further says:

A politician may safely be challenged to state wherein the Democratic and Republican parties of to-day differ. If one of them he will say that the "ins" have been in control too long, have not given the "outs" a chance, and so on, clean, a change is desirable. But ask him which, if any, of the national laws or forms he would change, and he is dumb.

Then, after arguing that question through three or four pages, this orthodox authority says further:

As before explained the "outs" must be in the "ins" of corruption, since the policy of the party is that of the other.

The Speaker pro tem. The time of the gentlemen has expired.

Mr. Davis, Kan. Mr. Speaker, I wish to say one word more. I desire to quote one more authority before I sit down. I quote from my predecessor [Mr. Anderson of Kansas] in a speech made on the floor of this House during his last term:

It does not appear that the control of this floor by either of the political parties makes it earthly bit of difference on the banking question. When you gentlemen on the Democratic side had control of the House, one of the first bills introduced was a bill to prohibit the banks from loaning money to the people, by the people and for the people, by the people and for the people. [Applause.]

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THE REFORM PRESS.
The Discussion of Current Topics from Organized States.

The Faulkner County Wheel (Conway, Ark.) says:

The tariff has been a bone of contention between the Democratic and Republican parties during the life-time of the present generation. The Alliance suggests that the bone be removed, an income tax be levied on millionaire fortunes, and a tax of 2 per cent be charged by the government on its issues of money to the people. These two resources would raise four hundred and fifty million dollars, abundantly sufficient to run the government. Thus the tariff bone would be removed and these two great parties would have nothing to contend over, hence they would die. Their leaders evidently see the point. On each side they are saying the Alliance was gotten up to destroy the party. Well, if the bone they both have gnawed and lived on for thirty years was taken away, they would likely die. They certainly see the point.

The Independent Press (Franklin, Nev.) says:

The greatest need of the times is more money in circulation. While the free coining of silver would increase the circulation to a limited extent, it would be totally inadequate to meet the pressing demands of business. The demands of the people's party for an issue of treasury notes of full legal tender should receive the consideration of Congress at an early day.

Senator Peffer's plan of granting a service pension to soldiers and paying them in an additional issue of full legal tender treasury notes would add materially to the circulation and cause its distribution among the people. The money question is one that the old parties desire to ignore, but, in spite of their efforts in that direction it will not down, but it is gaining in prominence every day. The attempt of the administration to magnify the amount in circulation now, and to deceive the people in regard to the amount in circulation at the close of the war in 1865, will not avail. Facts are too sacred to be distorted or denied for partisan purposes or party necessities, and the people will not forgive the party whose existence can be continued only by a resort to such base expedients.

The Commerce Journal (Commerce, Tex.) says:

The man who believes that the Alliance should have nothing to do with political questions was certainly "pulled green," and has not yet arrived at maturity. The axe must be laid at the root of the tree that has nurtured a swarm of trusts, combines and corporations that are consuming all the profits of labor and leaving to the producers a bare subsistence while actually at work, and want and misery when forced into idleness. The Alliance has gone into politics with a determination to right the wrongs of the protective system, which has built up one class at the expense of all other classes. The exploiters and speculators must go, and need not stand on the order of their going. If the servants can not

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put them out, the master will. The people of the United States can and will be the masters of the situation and they expect to fight it out on that line, if it takes another decade...

The Constitution (Atlanta, Ga.) says: The Alliance men, in their argument for financial reform, get the advocates of the national banking system in a very deep hole when they say that it would be more business-like and beneficial all-round for this country to loan money on its assets, instead of on its indebtedness. This proposition does not necessarily imply the duty of the government to loan any money at all, but it makes the absurdity of the present system plainly apparent. There are other genuine financial reformers, besides the Alliance men, who are pressing this point. They take the position that if the government can not supply a national currency without actually suffering a dead loss, it should allow the States to re-establish the old local banks of issue, which for more than three-quarters of a century satisfied the wants of the people.

The Interstate Alliance Echo (Kansas City, Mo.) says:

The Alliance is like the little leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till the whole was leavened. Its leavening educational influence will move on and on till it purges the whole earth as a temple.

The Union Banner (Rush Hill, Mo.) says:

Many a poor farmer boy who is in the sunshine of life and is thinking of making a start in life for himself, seeing the overworked and poorly paid neighbor farmers, becomes disgusted and hies himself away to the city, where business seems lively and where the shining and ever-present dude seems to be getting a living by seeing others' labor. Make farming pay by reducing the farmers tax and paying better for his labor, and the city will not be full of idle, starving people. They that are in the country would remain in the country and many from the city would find employment on a farm.

The Arkansas Economist (Searcy, Ark.) says:

You complain of hard times and yet oppose a measure to increase the currency just because your party did not originate it. Isn't that very foolish?

The Weekly Arbor State (Beatrice, Neb.) says:

We would like for some of our readers to give us a plausible reason why a system of finance should be continued that bankrupted over 12,000 business men in 1891, with an average indebtedness a little over \$1,500, while the great money kings grew richer day by day, thus adding to the long list of millionaires and paupers.

The Labor Wave (Omaha, Neb.) says:

The government ownership and control of railroads is one of the growing issues and ideas in our country. Centralization in the hands of all the people (the government) does not seem to be as bad as centralization in the hands of a few individuals, with a power greater almost than the government itself. In Australia the government owns the railroads. It only costs a person \$6.50 to ride 1,000 miles. Commutation rates for local service are still lower. A workman can ride to and from his work a distance of 6 miles for 2 cents a trip, 12 miles for 4 cents, 18 miles for 6 cents, 24 miles for 8 cents, 30 miles for 10 cents. Yearly tickets good for 30-mile trips are sold for \$17.40. This is the kind of centralization we need in this country. It centralizes bread and meat into the mouths of the workingman's children and clothes on their backs. And yet, low as the rates seem to be, we are fully assured that there is a fair profit in the business. Statistics prove this beyond dispute.

The Falmouth Guide (Falmouth, Ky.) says:

The Farmers Alliance has no quarrel to pick with our merchants and other business men who are striving to earn an honest penny. Indeed, they are in the same ditch along with the farmer. Let the farmer meet with reverses or become unnecessarily burdened, and the

We TELL THE TRUTH about Seeds. We will send you Free our Seed Annual for 1892, which tells THE WHOLE TRUTH. We illustrate and give prices in this Catalogue, which is handsomer than ever. It tells NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH. Dr. Latimer's Timely La Grippe Tablets never fail; they prevent and cure (Prescription of a regular physician.) By druggists or mail, 25 cents.

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merchant suffers too. Their interest are in common. This relationship is mentioned to disabuse the minds of those who hedge the Farmers Alliance wrongly.

The Grand Island Journal (Grand Island, Neb.) says:

Hungary has developed the fact that

government ownership and control pays.

That government under what is known

as the "zone" system reduced the rates

from 10 to 80 per cent, and the results

have been most gratifying. The receipts

of railroads under this system have been

increased 80 per cent and the passengers

carried have increased from 2,000,000 to

7,000,000. It follows that such an in-

crease of traffic calls for an increased

number of employees, so the howl set up

by railroads that reduced rates mean less

employment of men is not true. Take

our American roads from the grasp of

corrupt corporations and place the man-

agement in the hands of the people and

you will see exactly the same results in

this country. Rates will be reduced and

increased traffic will call for an increase

in the working force and the country will

be more prosperous. These facts are no

idle tales. Now, if the people would

only wake up to these facts, not much

time would elapse until the farmer and

laboring man would be prosperous.

Keep these facts in view and deposit

your ballots for the men who will carry

out your principles.

The Atkinson Enterprise (Atkinson, Neb.) says:

If all men were imbued with the idea

of honesty and interest for the general

good we could turn all our attention to

the tariff, and laws that effect our rela-

tions with other nations, but as the ma-

jority of men look to their own indi-

vidual welfare only, we must turn our

attention to those laws that effect the

evolutions of our internal affairs, so that

the weak may be protected against the

strong.

The Enterprise also says:

Individuals who are willing to admit

that our money rules the business of our

nation object to the statement that our

people are under certain bonds of slavery,

and in the same breath voice the threats

of eastern capitalists who keep their

money out of our country on account of

the Alliance movement. The people are

only slaves as they accede to the wishes

of the monopolists, but if they do accede

what liberty can they claim?

The Plow and Hammer (Tiffin, Ohio) says:

The farmers of Ohio have had good

crops and where he has been reasonably

prudent he is safely housed for the winter.

His farm land is not worth as much as

it was ten years ago. It takes more of

the products of his farm to get a dollar.

He has no sale for his horses, his cattle

and hogs have brought a low price, and

where he has not been investigating

he is apt to say, "yes, I know we

are working longer hours to get dollars,

but it has always been so and will always

be." Let us quit discussing diseases.

We have diagnosed the disease so long

that the patient is crying out for a remedy,

and we are able to prescribe intelligently.

Our remedies would be a lubricant

that would grease the wheels of commerce that would place in the hands of

the people enough of the money of the

country to exchange their products at

a fair profit.

The Polk County Farmer (Bolivar, Mo.) says:

The Alliance has no use for the Peo-

ple's party further than to bring about

the reforms they have long demanded.

If either of the old parties would take

up and advocate these reforms and place

their strongest advocates upon its ticket

every true Alliance man would vote with

that party. But they have no hope that

either of them will do so. And they

may be expected to vote with that party

which does, be it old or new.

The Clarksburg Crescent (Clarksburg, W. Va.) says:

The fight in political arena is one be-

tween the blood suckers of Wall street

and the bread producers of this govern-

This is not a local affair; it is na-

tional; and there is no neutral ground.

Every one must take sides. It is humanity

contending for its rights against the soul-

less Shylocks, who are fighting solely to

continue the people in slavery.

The Oregon Alliance Herald (Pendle-

ton, Oregon) says:

The government encourages every in-

dustry except that of agriculture, and then

tells the farmer he ought to be proud

of the prosperity in general, because

when people have lots of money they

want lots of potatoes and turnips, and the

farmer ought to feel grateful that he

can come in at the tail end of the pro-

cession and be allowed to swallow the

rest of those who are ahead of him. He

must sell where he can

SMOKE Blackwell's DURHAM EVERYMAN'S TOBACCO.

None genuine without the Trade-mark of the Bull on each package.
Situates in the immediate Section of Country that produces a grade of Tobacco, that in texture, flavor and quality is not grown elsewhere in the world, and being in position to command the choice of all offerings upon this market we spare no pains nor expense to give the trade -

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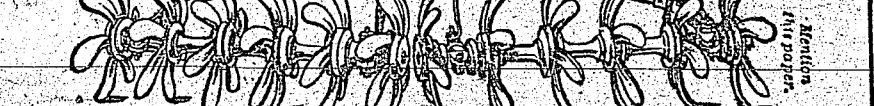
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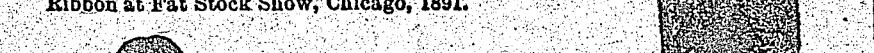


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110 Pine Street, St. Louis, Mo.

We speak from personal knowledge, as we have dealt with this firm. [En]



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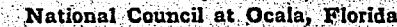
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that produces a grade of Tobacco, that in texture,

flavor and quality is not grown elsewhere

in the world, and being in position to command

the choice of all offerings upon this market we

spare no pains nor expense to give the trade -

THE VERY BEST.

None genuine without the Trade-

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manded the complete abolition of all tariff on manufactured cotton goods. This will benefit the wheat farmer by lowering the price of such goods, which will enable him to buy more goods for less money. It will benefit the cotton planter because by increasing consumption it will increase the demand and therefore improve prices. It will in the long run benefit American mills because by giving steady run through the year increased sales will enable them to work on a smaller margin, and because they can enjoy no permanent prosperity that is not based on the prosperity of both the producer and the consumer.

With the price of wheat and cotton depressed by anti-silver legislation, and the depression made permanent by a tariff that increases the price of the manufactured product and hampers consumption, and the market "stepped" and "balanced" on the bottom rail by the sale of future for twelve months in advance, the only wonder is that cotton brings anything at all and that wheat is not lower.

It is only a question of time, if this condition is allowed to continue, when the people will rise in their might and abolish such tyranny by main force if need be. "But," say the Democratic politicians, "if we pass a free silver bill it will split the

Democratic party, because the money NO of New York and New England

Peach soul de- served notice on us that they

split the party." The answer to

let it split the party, because

Republicans are worse off. They

accept the anti-silver people on

free-silver platform, and that

it the Republican party. It

held a test without splitting the

other, and in the new political alignment

the party that gets the West and

South on a sound financial platform

will get a good long lease of the

national government.

EDUCATION.

The old adage, "to make haste slowly," can be applied to the anticipated results of economic teachings with more propriety, perhaps, than to any other one subject. Because the human race, to a large degree, partake of the same proneness as the balance of the animal kingdom—to follow in a similar course as did their immediate ancestors.

Considering the mental powers of man and intelligent calculation granted to the human family over that of the brute creation, the obstinate refusal on their part to accept innovations and hasten to change methods, and thereby better conditions, seems to justify the belief that after all the animal controls the intellectual. The seeming satisfaction with present conditions, and the obstinacy with which beneficial changes are contested, point out clearly the fact that each and every

step taken outside the regular beaten path must be the result of laborious education. It is also true that impatience and its usual sequence, an attempt to accelerate the speed at which this education is being received, and thereby hasten the day of ultimate results, are in nearly if not quite every instance the premonitions of complete failure. It is evident alike from past experience as from present conditions that the people, as a rule, have elected and still continue to prefer "to bear these ills we have than fly to others that we know not of." It is to this fear of innovations that all the opponents of reform appeal in their effort to keep the people within old party lines; and it is because of this fear, to a large extent, that the people cling to old methods and measures. Without precedents to bring forward to establish the fact (and there are none with first changes), the only recourse is through reason and intelligent judgment. The mere matter of assertion unsupported by example or intellectual analysis should never be expected to bring about a change from old-established theories or systems. The natural animal fear which either halts or flees from anything that is out of the regular usual surroundings is just as strong in the human as in the animal, and stands as a bar, until removed, to all further progress. Association will, to some extent, remove this obstruction, but in the case of man it was doubtless the intent of the Creator to have this work accomplished through the mental faculties.

Hence it happens that all methods which smack of coercion, beget at once an antagonism born of animal instincts, which interferes with, if it does not entirely prevent, the action of reason and argument on the mind. In such cases a double work is made necessary, which prolongs the effort and brings discouragement and often failure.

There are also other and important obstructions which to a more or less degree conspire to make education upon economic subjects slow and tedious. Partisanship, as a rule, stands at the head, and with a majority of people is so intensified as to preclude even an examination of any proposition that is not strictly within party lines. Again, the young man will usually take the word of his father upon these matters in preference to the most conclusive arguments and authentic propositions presented by the reformer. It is also a lamentable fact that the father in too many cases obtains his economic code from the politician. Such conditions form a net-work of obstructions which are difficult to remove even with the most care and earnest effort. But amid this tangled mass of ignorance, superstition, and party slavery, there lies a spark which, at some word or idea advanced by the educator, may be

kindled into a flame that in good time and increased volume, the operations of the exchange market fail utterly to correspond with the statistical data.

This statement is followed by an admission of the inaccuracy of the treasury statistics that will challenge the attention of all careful readers:

It is true that some of the real causes which affect the workings of exchange or govern the international movement of specie may be ill-defined or difficult to estimate with accuracy, nevertheless they are real in character, and can be traced with sufficient accuracy to furnish an explanation for the current manifestations. In the first place, what has been so often said in these columns must be repeated: that the treasury statistics, while as accurate a presentation of the data they cover as could be obtained, for statistical purposes, afford after all only a partial view of the factors which really determine the country's international business and financial relations. The figures which are supposed to represent the balance of trade take no account of the freights which this country pays to Europe, or of the interest or other profits which are returned upon foreign capital invested in this country, all of which are in effect equivalent to a large but unascertained addition to the volume of our imports. The amount we are annually called upon to pay in Europe on these accounts can not even be approximated. Taking, however, the ten fiscal years ending January 30, 1890 (1890-91 being omitted as too exceptional in its showings), it is found that the average excess of exports of all kinds over imports amount for that period to \$75,000,000 annually. This, it might fairly be claimed, would furnish a measure of the unseen debt items in our balance sheet.

While the money market continues to be oversupplied with funds and loaning rates are maintained upon an exceptionally low level, little practical importance attaches to the movement of foreign exchange. In spite, however, of the existence of such conditions at the present time, the unexpectedly higher rates which exchange has attained are the subject of considerable public attention and remark. It may, indeed, be said that something akin to a feeling of disappointment has been aroused by the cessation of gold imports and the advance of exchange in the face of the heaviest exports on record and the existence of an exceptionally large trade balance in favor of the United States. During the autumn months the rising tide of our foreign exports was accompanied by a return movement of specie from Europe corresponding to the anticipations aroused by the relative outcome of the crop of the two continents and compensating for the remarkable drain of specie to the old world which had marked the first half of 1891. But though the volume of export trade continues to show a relative increase, the close of 1891 and the beginning of the current year has witnessed an advance of exchange to figures which are actually nearer to the exporting than the specie importing point, the action of the market, in fact, being of a character which affords little hope that the return movement of gold will be resumed during this season.

The Alliance press has maintained all the time that a greater portion of this gold had gone abroad to stay. This position is now confirmed by the best authority. This paper further says:

The publication of the detailed statement of the country's foreign trade returns for December, 1891, has apparently created a marked degree of interest in the somewhat anomalous situation thus presented. The month in question completed the record of the calendar year 1891 and of the first and more important half of the fiscal year 1891-92. On the face of the showing the excess in the value of merchandise exports over imports is for the month of December no less than \$50,000,000, while for the six months and the year ending December 31, 1891, it is \$155,000,000 and \$142,000,000, respectively. Adding to these figures the excess of silver exports for the same period the total balance in our favor would be for the six months \$160,000,000 and for the year \$151,000,000. Against this, while in the last six months of 1891 the inward movement of gold shows an excess of \$33,000,000, the outflow of \$79,000,000 to Europe in the first half of the year is not counterbalanced, the result for the twelve months being an excess of gold exports of \$34,000,000. At the same time when this is deducted from the so-called trade balance the result is still apparently in favor of the United States by no less than \$121,000,000. Yet, as already stated, in spite of this and in spite

of the continuance of exports in a steady

and increased volume, the operations of the exchange market fail utterly to correspond with the statistical data.

order of the postmaster-general will not only double the present number of money order offices, but give an excess of about 25 per cent in addition.

When it is seen that the total expense of establishing one of these offices amounts to but \$4, and that the only subsequent expense to the department is in the matter of blanks, which are purchased at about \$3 per thousand, it will be apparent that this departure is an exceedingly important one, and affords facilities to the patrons of post-offices with very small expense to the government. The offices already established are doing an amount of business greatly in excess of the anticipation of the department.

There seems to be more progressive ideas in the post-office department than in any other branch of government. Such an extension of the money order system will be a great boon, especially to newspapers. It will eliminate to a large extent the troublesome postage stamp as a factor in currency, and save letter postage on the heavy silver coins. Taken altogether, it is a move in the right direction, which in the near future will doubtless be extended to all post-offices.

SERIOUS LOSS OF RURAL POPULATION.

M. G. E.

The serious loss of rural population in some of the oldest and most fertile agricultural districts in the United States is a sign of the times which challenges the attention of all thoughtful and patriotic citizens, irrespective of party theories and partisan prejudice. It is not merely in the remote situated and sterile parts of New England that abandoned lands are to be found, and that agriculture has retrograded, accompanied by the decadence of all rural trades, occupations, and professions which can only prosper in the midst of a prosperous agriculture. The State of

Massachusetts, which represents nearly, if not all the principles of government loans and land as laid down in the Ocala demands. It aims to protect the home-stead, and in no way can it be made to serve the speculator or large land holder. Both the amount of loan and number of acres are limited, as they should be.

A bill to provide for the relief of the agricultural population of the United States and to promote and encourage agriculture.

Whereas the agricultural interests of the country are now greatly depressed, and consequently the farmers, farm laborers, and those dependent upon them are impoverished, and the present demand for labor and employment are such that many crops are grown at an actual loss, compelling the farm owners to mortgage their homes to greedy usurers at exorbitant rates of interest, and many of their homes are passing into the hands of great landed proprietors or financial corporations, and

the duty of the representatives of the people, the lawmakers of the nation, to recognize existing conditions and to provide remedies for existing evils; and

Whereas immediate action is demanded to alleviate this depressed condition and give prompt relief to the agricultural classes, besides providing for the encouragement, greater development, and future prosperity of that great industry; Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any citizen of the United States, or any person who has declared the intention of becoming a citizen, who owns and resides upon the tract of land containing not less than ten acres of land, and who has at least one-half of said tract of land in actual cultivation, shall be entitled to apply for and receive from the treasury of the United States a loan, in amount not to exceed one-half the assessed value of said tract of land and the improvements thereon.

Section 1. That from and after the passage of this act all persons, natural and artificial, and all co-partnerships, and all estates within the limits of the United States of America and Territories of the United States of America, receiving an annual income of not less than four thousand dollars and upward, shall be assessed for taxation as follows: the said assessment to be collected by the collector of internal revenue and paid annually into the treasury of the United States.

Ten thousand dollars and up to twenty thousand dollars shall be assessed 3 per cent of said income above twenty and not exceeding forty thousand dollars shall be assessed 2 per cent of said income. Above forty and not exceeding eighty thousand dollars shall be assessed 1 per cent of said income. Over eighty and not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, 6 per cent of said income. Exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, up to and including two hundred thousand dollars, 10 per cent of said income. Above that sum and not exceeding four hundred thousand dollars, 15 per cent. And upon all net incomes exceeding four hundred thousand dollars, 20 per cent of said income.

Section 2. That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to establish in his department a bureau of agriculture, under the charge and direction of a commissioner, to whom he shall be appointed by the President, by the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall receive a salary of five thousand dollars per annum. Said bureau shall have charge, under the Secretary, of all business relating to the loans herein provided.

Section 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be prepared by the law officers of his department a blank form of mortgage, with instructions as to the proper manner of filling the blanks in said form. Said mortgage shall contain a clause binding a mortgagor to keep the land mortgaged free from all claims for taxes, and the improvements, instead of some responsible company for the protection of the government. The Secretary

shall also have prepared such other blanks as may be required under this act. That the President shall appoint upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury, a loan agent for each congressional district of the United States composed wholly or in part of agricultural lands. Said loan agent shall be an actual resident and qualified voter in the district for which he is appointed, and shall receive a salary of one thousand five hundred dollars per annum and necessary travel expenses, and shall give a good and sufficient bond for the faithful performance of his duties.

Section 4. That the commissioners of Internal revenue with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury shall fix in time when he may deem it necessary, issue regulations for the assessment and collection of the taxes hereby imposed, and for carrying into effect the provisions of this act.

paid during the year, and the amount paid for other business from which income is derived, the amount paid for the rent of the house or premises occupied by the residence for himself or his family, and the amount paid for ordinary repairs. Provided, That no deduction shall be made for any amount paid out for new buildings, permanent improvements made to increase the value of any property or estate.

Section 3. That the commissioner of Internal revenue with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury shall fix in time when he may deem it necessary, issue regulations for the assessment and collection of the taxes hereby imposed, and for carrying into effect the provisions of this act.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

farmers far ahead of the requirements would not create a depression in itself. If you added to that volume, it is ridiculous to suppose that you can advance prices thereby. If a man brought into a certain town one hundred horses for sale, and the town could hardly absorb that number of horses for sale in that town, and another man brings in one hundred horses, would not horses be cheap in that town? Now, there is no distinction in the market between wind wheat and wheat based on actual possession. Nobody can tell whether a man has the wheat or whether he buys it from a speculator; consequently, instead of fifty or sixty million bushels of wheat finding its way to the market, here are one hundred million that absorb so many buyers. There is a law and rule of trade that every holder of a product is entitled to the whole buying capacity of the country, the whole buying prosperity of the country, and anybody who robs him of the buying prosperity, and forefounds the market or towns of the buyer before he meets the producer, robs him of his natural right. Besides it creates a class of people who are dangerous to the prosperity of the country. In virtual sales the buyer or the seller is never an enemy of the market, because as soon as he has sold he loses his interest entirely. If he is a producer he is interested in the market, because his farm might improve by higher prices and values, and he knows that at some time he may have something to sell again. So even after he has parted with all his grain he would wish prices to go up. The merchant who sells does not care whether prices go up or not. Even if he sells for insurance, he is perfectly indifferent, but the man who sells wind wheat, he moves heaven and earth to break prices after it is sold. The farmer wishes good success to the one who buys, the merchant is indifferent whether the man who buys from him makes a profit; but this man moves heaven and earth to depress prices as much as possible, because he can only make a profit if prices go down. If that is done at the time the farm products reach the market in such quantities that capital can hardly take care of them, at the time when the dealing in May sales come in, the bulk of that prosperity of the producer is delivered into the market during the depression. Probably shortly before May, in the end of April, when the farmers are bare of their products, the buying in of this wind wheat may cause a little relaxation. They commence to buy in the market, and there is a general bulge in the market in March, but the raise that is created by the buying in is not one-fourth of the depression, and the farmer does not benefit by it, because he has to market his grain during that depression. You see there are four months between the buying in and the selling of the wind wheat, and consequently during those four months the heaviest deliveries come in. People say that he can buy no cheaper than he otherwise could. Say he commences early in the spring and sells for July delivery, and he sells heavily. Of course he does not expect to have anything for July delivery, but July deliveries regulate somewhat the May deliveries. He sells heavily for May, because time is long off, and he need not be afraid of being caught. The sales in July regulate the sales in May. A great many who buy him think it would be inconvenient to carry that grain, and they will buy July and give up May, so he generally escapes, because the market buyers drop their May holdings and buy for another month. But under all circumstances the producer suffers by that short selling. I will give another illustration: Suppose, for instance, the officers of a certain railroad company would take the liberty of issuing stock in excess of the authorized stock, and if that became apparently every conservative business man would abstain from investing in the shares of such a company. They may retire it before an investigation comes. Suppose they can issue stock and before an examination comes retire it, but they have given that stock a very bad name, so that the price is much lower than it was before they made these over issues. Now the same thing occurs in the grain market. There is another way of showing by figures the disastrous result of this selling of wind wheat. For instance, this year the crop was extraordinary. There might have been at that time, counting in millers and farm stores, etc., possibly 100,000,000 bushels. The boards of trade say there are 70,000,000 bushels, but there is a great

deal starved in this country which is not included in these figures. If there were 10,000 people in the United States who were willing to buy each one an average of 10,000 bushels at \$1, these 10,000 could take up everything that could be brought into the market, all the selling that could be done for May delivery. But if four or a dozen speculators sell 30,000,000 bushels for future delivery, they absorb 3,000 of these 10,000 buyers, consequently the other 7,000 could not take care of this other. Now you have to find 3,000 more to take the places of those who were headed off by the seller of wind. Finally you find 3,000 who think that 90 cents would be a profitable purchase and they supply the place of the 3,000 who have been headed off by the sellers of wind. But that does not end the mischief yet. Now, out of the original 10,000 they have dropped off a couple of thousand that were not able to stand their losses and new ones have to be found to take their places, which is done by again lowering the price. If you have 20 men in a crowd maybe five or six think they will make a handsome profit if they invested in wheat at \$1. Five or six who would think that if they got it at 90 cents they would make a good profit, and others would say they certainly would not invest unless it touched 75 cents. Now if that product is to be taken care of, you have to bring down the price so low that you can finally find a purchaser for all of it. But if a great deal of the buying capacity of the country is absorbed by the seller of wind, the price has got to go infinitely low. The gentleman from Chicago made the remark—that this short selling is very old, and there was more of it done some years ago. I suppose that there was more of it done some years ago, because buyers had not been so thoroughly convinced that it was manipulating the money market, that is, people went on the market and bought freely on their conviction when wheat was low. It is the same thing with race tracks. A great many people go there and bet on what they believe to be the fastest horse, until they find out that it is not betting on the fastest horse, but guessing in what shape and manner the jockeys have been manipulated.

Now at the present time nobody is fool enough to go to the Chicago board of trade and buy on his conviction that wheat will rise. He tries to guess what the big sellers will do, what Mr. Patrice, etc., plans for the market. Whether the cable reports are high or whether there is much European buying. If he guesses what these parties will do he will win, if he guesses wrong, no matter how the situation, he loses. This kind of betting is not to the taste of a great many people, consequently the Chicago board of trade has suffered and the volume of business is not so great and they do not make so much profit now. At the present time in Chicago the big fish eat the little ones. The little ones try to find out how the big fish will act so that they can go with them, for if they do not go with them, and go against them, they lose. It is an unquestioned fact that the short seller in America can depress prices, and cost this country a vast sum of money last year. Mr. Whittaker stated it would amount to at least \$50,000,000 balance last year, and I am perfectly sure he is most conservative in his estimate. In fact the thing is so apparent that wind selling is injurious to the morals of the country that nothing more need be said about it. Anybody who is not convinced by the remarks made by Mr. Whittaker yesterday, that this unqualified, unlimited, outrageous dealing is not injurious to this country can not be convinced by anything that can be said hereafter.

The cause that led to the prohibition of American pork was, as is well known, certain epidemics of trichinosis considered particularly severe in the United States. The Societe des Agriculteurs de France, in union with the ultraprotectionists, took advantage of the situation, and, on the ostensible ground of excluding meat unfit for food, but in reality for pure protection of the French farmer, forced the government to declare the prohibition.

How the general commerce of the two countries was affected is seen from the fact that in 1880 the imports from the United States were 772,000,000 francs, while in 1888 they were 269,000,000 francs, and in 1889, 320,000,000 francs.

The exports from France to the United States in 1880 were 491,000,000 francs; in 1888, 382,000,000 francs; and in 1889, 405,000,000 francs.

The admission of the meat into France then depends upon its being found good for food by the French inspectors. The inspection in the United States and the certificate seem to be wholly unnecessary.

What the cost of the French inspection will be is not yet known, but soon will be, as an experimental pork shipment to this port is now on the way.

It now develops that these chief politicians have gained their desired haven, and are confronted by the emoluments of office (which they did not seek), while their ex-Alliance dupes are tormented, being left to grapple with hard times as best they can. Should the official lives of these noble politicians be prolonged for the next half century (as some of them have been for the past), and still assume the mastery, the government will become bankrupt, the wheels of progress will reverse their action and switch back to colonial days.

Any information concerning the missing herd of honorables will be received at Alliance headquarters, but no reward will be given, as we hold that "titles of honor, conferred upon those who have no personal merit, are like the royal stamp set upon base metal." Therefore, we can only admonish the fugitives to—

"Loose the grasp
Of fond coat tail desire!
Weigh anchor,
And some happier clime explore."

The Semaphore, of Marseilles, of November 14, 1890, says the result has been, not that French pork has replaced the American, but simply that the poor have had less meat to eat. All of the French octrois state the diminution in the consumption of meat in consequence of its dearness.

There is another important feature of the case for the French, and that is, the loss to French maritime commerce during a decade of an important source of traffic. Nearly all the American pork imported into Marseilles prior to 1881 came in French bottoms, it amounting to 3,290 tons in 1880, and in all France the same year to 37,100 tons.

MEAT FOOD IN MARSEILLES.

In Marseilles an inferior grade of meat is being substituted for the wholesome article. There was used for food as follows:

Year.	Horses.	Mules.	Asses.	Total.
1886.....	808	689	446	1,943
1887.....	1,012	788	604	2,204
1888.....	957	782	627	2,366
1889.....	1,063	871	732	2,666
1890.....	2,128	1,738	1,811	5,677

Strayed.

EUPORA, MISS., January 9, 1892.

Sometime during dog days, from the Alliance fold, a small herd of so-called honorables and editors of the stringy potato variety, who, in their flight carried off under their wings a brood of covering speckled chickens upon whom, by means of clubs, was enforced the rallying cluck which had been obtained from the sting of the political lash. When last seen, the said herd were tenaciously clinging to the coat tails of certain well skilled politicians of the modern school type; who, by their platonic reasoning, had convinced these ex-Alliance men that the organization was composed only of an ignorant, poverty-stricken set of unworthies, appointed by the French minister of agriculture for that purpose; that all meat found to be unfit for food is to be destroyed; and that the expense

of attending the inspection is to be borne by the importer.

The admission of the meat into France then depends upon its being found good for food by the French inspectors. The inspection in the United States and the certificate seem to be wholly unnecessary.

It is an unquestioned fact that the short seller in America can depress prices, and cost this country a vast sum of money last year. Mr. Whittaker stated it would amount to at least \$50,000,000 balance last year, and I am perfectly sure he is most conservative in his estimate. In fact the thing is so apparent that wind selling is injurious to the morals of the country that nothing more need be said about it. Anybody who is not convinced by the remarks made by Mr. Whittaker yesterday, that this unqualified, unlimited, outrageous dealing is not injurious to this country can not be convinced by anything that can be said hereafter.

Now, the question is to stop this iniquitous business. The sale of wind is a tumor on a valuable body; we have to cut off the tumor and leave the body alive. The legitimate short sales on the boards of trade protect the farmer in a great measure. They allow the commission merchants and the elevator men to pay him the prices that are ruling at the time less a small commission and small fees for insurance, interest, and storage. If he could not procure such insurance without any hindrance, he would be dealt with on very wide margins only. He would be offered much less than the intrinsic value for the goods, because he would not know whether, after having stored up four or five months, these goods would not bring much less than they bring to-day, and that margin would be so wide that the farmer would probably lose ten or fifteen cents a bushel if

SCHOOL-HOUSE READINGS

And Other Highly Important Proselytizing Agencies.

BY W. M. DE CAMP.

All true and ardent friends of labor are interested in promulgating the peculiar sentiments they advocate, the most speedily to remove the almost universal and stolid ignorance touching the reforms they defend, the establishment of which they have most deeply at heart. We have three lines of thought in reference to this most desired end, which we think worthy of notice.

First, in all communities, including the small village or hamlet, and even in the country district where the school-house is the centre of attraction, there may be found a fairly good reader, who, upon a fair presentation of the subject, could be induced to read to his neighbors, not less often than once a week (the oftener the better) advanced ideas on important reforms, the acceptance of which is necessary to secure such political action as is indispensable to promote the pecuniary welfare of the whole community, the laboring classes in particular. We suggest Saturday and Sunday evenings as the most appropriate time for such readings.

The master selected should be brief, logical and conclusive, and therefore convincing. Terse essays on money reform, railroad reform, and land reform, should receive almost exclusive prominence. Other reforms may follow in due time as a natural consequence to those already mentioned. Too many issues will only divide and distract. As in war, so it is in morals—it is impossible to place all our enemies *hors de combat* in a single conflict. The prudent course is to select the most powerful, defeat them if possible, and this done, it will be a comparatively easy task to secure minor reforms.

We will conclude our subject by a second reference to the humble and highly practicable agency of school-house readings. Let a good reader be selected in every neighborhood and set to work at once, to the end that the kingdom of heaven be established on earth at the earliest practicable moment.

That "Overproduction" Convention.

BY T. D. HINCKLEY.

Time, January 8, 1892; place, Memphis, Tennessee; actors "800 of the most progressive southern planters and merchants who are personally acquainted with some 'Sam,' or 'Jack,' or 'Pete,'" and possibly with more than one of each name who, with their families, are unsufficiently clad and fed from year's end to year's end. Yet, because wheat and cotton are a drug in the market, they practically say that they are in favor of adding to the list of partially fed mouths and partially clad backs among their own countrymen.

As a matter of fact, I haven't the

least doubt that the two governors

and the ex-Secretary of Agriculture

are personally acquainted with

some "Sam," or "Jack," or "Pete,"

and possibly with more than one of

each name who,

in the beginning of the present

century, discovered one or more of

the four small planets now known to

revolve around the sun between the

orbits of Mars and Jupiter, the largest of which, it is confidently believed, does not exceed 2,000 miles in diameter. What would be thought of our astronomer who would think of nothing else and talk of nothing else than his pet discovery, to the exclusion of that immense planet whose diameter is well nigh forty-five times larger, known as Jupiter, and which, for the purpose of our illustration, we will style money reform. Jupiter, it is admitted, is the largest planet of the solar system. Similar in importance is the money subject, which properly understood in all its ramifications, is the indispensable stepping stone to all other reforms of a pecuniary or political character.

Again, let our one-sided astronomer exclusively employ his telescope with either or all of the comparatively insignificant planets known as Vesta, Juno, Ceres and Pallus, and he shuts out from his gaze that stupendous planet Saturn, with its double ring, and also the more remote but highly important planet known as Uranus, or Herschel, in honor of its discoverer. To complete the comparison, the planet Saturn represents railroad reform as affecting passenger and freight rates, while its rings represent the kindred or associate re-

forms made necessary to remove telegraphic abuses or extortions, while the second ring represents the extortions demanded by all express companies without exception.

The third reform of our preferred trio is land reform, as symbolized by the planet Herschel, which, although remote and comparatively unimportant, is not without immense influence touching the reforms they defend, the establishment of which they have most deeply at heart. We have three lines of thought in reference to this most desired end, which we think worthy of notice.

Immense influence can be secured through the medium of exchanges on the part of labor journals of recognized merit. All such journals should, to the extent of their pecuniary ability, send out an unlimited number of their publications to every other known periodical in the United States if possible. Limited in ability, they should especially select all papers devoted to agriculture, religion and secular education. An editor truly converted will feel an interest in converting all his readers.

Finally, as a highly effectual, but somewhat expensive, mode of making proselytes, we suggest that a fund be raised, the use of which should be devoted to the publication of pertinent and highly important reform literature, as an advertisement in the New-York World, New York Tribune, Boston Herald, Philadelphia Record and similar popular capitalistic papers published in all our large cities, notably Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, New Orleans and San Francisco. If said papers would receive and publish for a consideration the valuable political truths now kept in the background, it is scarcely possible to conceive a wiser use of money.

We will conclude our subject by a second reference to the humble and highly practicable agency of school-house readings. Let a good reader be selected in every neighborhood and set to work at once, to the end that the kingdom of heaven be established on earth at the earliest practicable moment.

That "Overproduction" Convention.

BY T. D. HINCKLEY.

Time, January 8, 1892; place, Memphis, Tennessee; actors "800 of the most progressive southern planters and merchants who are personally acquainted with some 'Sam,' or 'Jack,' or 'Pete,'" and possibly with more than one of each name who, with their families, are unsufficiently clad and fed from year's end to year's end. Yet, because wheat and cotton are a drug in the market, they practically say that they are in favor of adding to the list of

destitute. Two years ago this month I had the pleasure of attending, in the character of a spectator, a "wheat growers' convention," held at St. Louis, Mo. This convention was inspired by the same thing which produced the cotton growers' convention, to wit, the embarrassed condition of the western wheat growers resulting from the low price of cotton; ultimate conclusion, the cotton area must be reduced 20 per cent, and cotton growers must plant more wheat, corn, peas, hay and oats.

To curtail the production of wheat and cotton is to still further stint the destitute "Sams" and "Petes" of every class without adding one iota to the comfort of the real producers of wheat and cotton, for the simple reason that a vast majority of the "Sams" and "Petes" aforesaid are themselves cotton and wheat producers. What the honored governors and honored ex-secretaries as well as the "800 most progressive planters and merchants of the South" need to do is to turn their gigantic minds to discovering some plan that will enable our citizens to consume more of their products than they do at present. While the "home market" bosh, as advocated by certain interested hypocrites, is certainly abhorrent, yet it can not be successfully gainsaid that

if our farmers alone were enabled to consume as much of each other's products as they would like to do, the home market for cotton and corn, wheat and wool, and all other farm products, as would not only materially increase prices but would meet our farmers to trying to devise methods of increasing their productive area instead of seriously considering the idea of abandoning a portion of their cultivated land to waste and weeds. As there are millions of planters in the South, including the negroes who, perhaps, scarcely see white bread during the year, so, too, there are millions of farmers in this mighty West and Northwest who would, were they able, at once double their purchases of cotton goods. Nor is this all. As there are millions of planters who do not consume as much of cotton goods as they ought and as they really need, so, too, there are millions of wheat growers who do not consume as much wheat bread as they would like to do, but by the force of circumstances are compelled to live largely upon corn bread and black flour bread. When we supplement these truths by the further indisputable fact that there are other millions of producers in our mines and manufactories and huge trade centers who are continually in a half-clad condition, how contemptible, nay, how barbarous sounds the doctrine of the overproduction theorists! That there are men who, in the face of these facts, really need, and earnestly advocate this doctrine, and who have gathered about themselves a large school of followers in waiting, evidence of the near approach of the time when the world's civilization is to start on its march of retrogression which will ultimately land it in the depths of barbarism. If the overproductionists are correct, it will not take long for the humanitarians to discover that the fault is not with the area cultivated so much as it is with the improved machinery used to work up the products of the field and forest, and the adoption of which has displaced so many able and willing workers. Having made this discovery, they will speedily demand, and their demand will eventually have to be acceded to if the present pig-headed condition of things is permitted to continue, that first one and then another labor-saving device shall be dispensed with until all the poorer class are employed and are thus enabled to buy bread. This point once gained, and the turning point of the world's upward career will have been rounded and the career of progress sent on a downward grade, which will know no termination until the barbarism of a thousand years ago shall have supplanted our present civilization. But the overproductionists are wrong, foolishly, senselessly and wholly wrong. There isn't a pound of cotton or wheat, as of any other product of intrinsic value to man in existence to-day, that might not be duplicated instantly with the result, under a proper system of distribution, of adding to the happiness of man. But under a distribution such as exists to-day, and which puts a ten thousand dollar valuation in a dog and a hundred thousand dollar valuation in a horse, and a scant board and clothing valuation on the mass of humanity, is not only rotently and radically, but so palpably

wrong as to excite no wonder that it is so prolific of idiotic attempts to change it. We farmers of the northwest had seriously hoped that a start towards changing the present system of distribution would be made this year, but alas, the most progressive planters of the South will now require at least two years to satisfactorily demonstrate to themselves the childish fatuity of their Memphis plan of raising prices.

All Right.

BY WM. M. MARTIN, ELMIRA, N.Y.

Every true member of the Alliance will say with you, let us protect and defend the Alliance and its principles. We will all help you to defend them, and we will help you in securing the incorporation of the Alliance principles into the laws of our country. Is that all right? If so, then we say to you that that is exactly what we mean, and what we intend to carry out to the letter.

I am a member of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, and I feel myself duty bound to support the principles of the Order. There is no way for me to crawl around it.

Now, let us understand each other as we advance. So, I will ask, what are the principles of the Order? Are not the demands of the Order as formulated at Ocala and ratified at Indianapolis, which demands have been examined, discussed, and debated upon in every sub-Alliance on the continent during the past year, and finally indorsed by the National Council and the Order generally; I ask, do not those demands form a part of our principles, and a very important part, too? Most certainly.

Will every honest, well meaning member of the Order answer, They are our declaration of principles made public to the world. They are our banner that we have flung to the breeze, telling the world what we are here for. Read them over and over again, dissect them, turn the lights on and examine them thoroughly. Carefully examine every objection raised against them, and at the close of your investigations you will settle down better satisfied than ever before that they are, all of them, right and just.

Am I correct in the foregoing conclusions? If you answer yes, then I ask you what are you brothers and sisters, members of the Order, going to do? If you turn the tables and ask me what I am going to do, I will answer you truthfully and tell you just what I believe it to be my duty to do, as a true Alliance man, in this great conflict of 1892, now begun.

I declare that I will support the principles of the Order as they now are, unless by mutual consent a change is made on February 22, in an honorable, honest and straightforward manner. And since the Order did, at Ocala one year ago, by its own official acts, promulgate the plans and inaugurated the coming meeting of all industrial organizations for the purpose of making a platform or declaration of principles upon which all lovers of liberty and justice can unite, and also for the purpose of designating and determining upon the methods and plans to be adopted in the coming campaign of '92, in order to secure victory for our principles and the people; and since all of the foregoing was regular and in order, therefore I declare that I will not vote for any man for any office

in the gift of the people, from President down, who does not openly declare his support to our principles; and he must also be able to show a clean record of his past political life. Patriots, men of honor, we are looking for this year—not political tricksters.

There is not the least doubt but what that convention will indorse, in substance, the Alliance demands—sub-treasury and all,—consequently I say that I will support that political party that is in sympathy with and indorses and supports our principles, and will oppose any and all parties or candidates who oppose our principles. How can any honest member do otherwise? Is not principle above party?

Let every member make the same resolves that I have made, and stick to them and work for them, and we will elect the next President and Vice-President of the United States as sure as the sun rises; all the powers of hades can not prevent it.

The sub-treasury and loans on land planks are among the best and most important of all our principles.

Convert the mortgages that are on the nine millions of homes into money—full legal tender paper currency. Let that be done at once by issuing money direct to the people, on real estate security, at a tax not to exceed 2 per cent. The people will then furnish their own money at cost of issue. Immediate relief will follow. The value of money in circulation will then have been increased to nearly the point that we desire it for the people?

It makes no difference with the monopolies which party is in, they are perfectly safe in the hands of either party. So all this talk about turning the Republicans out and letting the Democrats in is mere boast. Have we not tried this? And what better off were we? Our enemies keep us just playing see-saw, back and forward, from one party to the other. They must necessarily change partners once in a while, in order to satisfy the people and prevent them from uniting and forming a party of their own. How long will we be humbugged in this way?

One word with my Knights of Labor brothers. For many years we have kept those articles in our declaration of principles which declare for a monetary system which shall issue money direct to the people without the intervention of banks, and which also declares for the issuing of a full legal tender paper currency.

"The Democrats of New York join

hands with the West and the South, pledged to purge the money of the United States of its paper legal tender poison." So Hill went Cleveland "one better" in his bid for the support of Wall street. For Wall street and Lombard street, and all of the real old Shylocks of this country and all Europe have been looking for their man who has fallen low enough into the slums of political corruption to be willing to become their tool and servant, and one upon whom they can rely in assisting them in securing their "fondest hope," viz., the destruction and annihilation of the people's money—the paper legal tender currency of the United States.

D. B. Hill steps to the front and says, Shylock, I am your man. At the same time he is trying to deceive the people into believing that he is their friend also. He pretends to champion free coinage (in a distance), but does not want any legislation on that issue at present, because it might injure his chances if the people should happen to settle that issue in their favor this winter.

Sixty millions of people can suffer on and endure on, I suppose, provided that they give one man a better chance to "down somebody." It is said the retiring Governor of Maryland will recommend the establishment of a State department of agriculture for the State of Maryland. We think such a department wisely organized would be worth to the State many times its cost. The best form of organization appears to be

wait a year or two before taking them off either.) Andrew Jackson was the people's friend.

In that Elmira speech, Hill discloses his doctrine in regard to destroying the people's money, the paper legal tender currency, to be the doctrine of true modern Democracy, which doctrine means, when fully interpreted, to increase the purchasing power of the dollar, and reduce the price of labor and all its products, which system is wholly European, and is the system which enslaves the world to-day. That is just what Shylock wants, and just what we don't want.

Cleveland will indorse that kind of Democracy, for he will not be behind Hill in his bid for the support of Wall street. There will be no difference between them. For Hill said in his speech at the banquet in New York, where both Cleveland and Hill were present, "that his highest ambition was to emulate (imitate) the example of Grover Cleveland." So, Alliance men, what hope have we at the hands of either of the old political parties? With the Democrats and their hardware relics of barbarism system on the one hand, and the Republicans and their national banking system on the other, what chance is there for the people?

It makes no difference with the monopolies which party is in, they are perfectly safe in the hands of either party. So all this talk about turning the Republicans out and letting the Democrats in is mere boast. Have we not tried this? And what better off were we? Our enemies keep us just playing see-saw, back and forward, from one party to the other. They must necessarily change partners once in a while, in order to satisfy the people and prevent them from uniting and forming a party of their own. How long will we be humbugged in this way?

"The Democrats of New York join

that of a board of agriculture composed of representative men, with a secretary whose office shall be at the State experiment station. This board should be charged with the management of the Agricultural College, and experiment station, as a board of visitors, and with their duties of a State board of immigration. It should be the duty of the secretary under supervision of the board to prepare an annual report upon the agriculture of the State, as well as any special bulletins for publication; which publications should be circulated outside the State as well as at home. The data for such reports should be arranged with special reference to advertising the State's agricultural capabilities and advantages, and would, if conducted with ability and judgment, constitute the records of a complete physical and agricultural survey of the State. Illustrative specimens of soils, mineral products, and natural history, should be collected as a museum for the State experiment station; where accurate information should always be attainable with regard to all natural resources of the State. Under management of that sort, the station itself would become the most reliable and effective immigration agency which could be established, for the scientific accuracy of its information would be accepted everywhere as authentic. The influence of such a board would be potent, if well directed, in behalf of the diversification of agricultural products, and the consequent multiplication of rural enterprises and industries, so rendering the State attractive to the best class of immigrants, and reducing the cost of production of the prime necessities of life. All of this would have a tendency to check the present overgrowth of cities at the expense of the country, which is unquestionably a very serious evil in itself. A State

in danger of becoming a mere annex to an overgrown city is in a poor way. It must not be forgotten, however, that no department of agriculture will be very much better than a weak and inefficient one; itself a mere annex of some college or station. The secretary should be paid a reasonable annual salary, and the board should command his time. When sitting as a board of visitors for the college, the college should pay the expenses of the meeting. When sitting as a board of visitors for the station, the station should pay the expenses. When sitting in its general capacity as a State board, the State should provide for the expenses of the meeting. One member of the board from each congressional district and an equal number from each political party would secure equitable distribution of the membership. The members had best be appointed by the governor; his choice limited to representative men in agriculture, or some allied mechanical pursuit. These arrangements would have a tendency to keep out place hunters and political hacks. Unless these be excluded, the whole thing would degenerate into a costly farce.

A State Board of Agriculture.
BY M. G. ELLZEY.

It is said the retiring Governor of Maryland will recommend the establishment of a State department of agriculture for the State of Maryland. We think such a department wisely organized would be worth to the State many times its cost. The best form of organization appears to be

Had he admitted it, I should be bound to have given it an overhaul, to discover wherein it could be so effective as to merit his good opinion. Of course my platform is substantially our Ocala demands, that everywhere now bob up so serenely in the face of opposition as that friends feel perfectly comfortable even if others feel otherwise. My "improvement" upon our Ocala formula is intended to make it more immediately persuasive with average voters. We desire to attach these gentlemen to our cause without delay. They have to be won though. To accomplish this, appropriate attracting force must be developed. The loyalty of John Warren to monopoly "demands" is of that faithful character that I confidently trust his judgment as showing what my platform ought not to be. It is especially pleasing, therefore, to learn that in his estimation my poor little "annex," if ever incorporated with the Ocala group, would be the most mischievous sinner of the lot. I understand this to mean that, in John Warren's opinion, my annex might possess power to demoralize the voting ranks of the enemy and recruit from them for our own. Please stick in a pin there. Guided by the light of this indorsement, so to speak, from a man whose natural sense of justice is still in subjection to the monopoly influences which surround him, I proceed with the discussion.

Now as to an ideal platform: (1) Its base is a few general propositions the conscience of mankind already accepts. (2) Its spirit breathes mutualty and brotherhood. (3) Its legislative proposals are plainly adapted to present needs. (4) Its methods will be the education and organization of principal victims against principal monopolies. These several steps must lead to achievement. They do not necessitate a platform so lengthy as to breed confusion of ideas in the average mind. It is taken not by money lending alone. Call it interest and dividends. Now, divert this current of privileged tribute into the public treasury, and lo, there exists a fund to meet the pensions. It can be properly done in a jiffy. Should the dive of the steering from the first monopoly prove inadequate, tap the next one. Begin with the money monopoly, because it is the biggest, fattest, oldest, wickedest. But tap the series in succession, dutifully bleeding them to death. The exchange of thieving monopolies for comfortable pensions; what a bargain is this for the toilers of our race!

Our Ocala demands in their present form, with the interpretation generally put upon them, fail as sufficient incentive for right voting. By implication they contain the political germ of everything that is good. Why not have this appear on the surface, with the adaptation of means to ends plainly visible? We want a platform the wayfarer, though a fool, may understand. The average American voter needs the stimulus of immediate personal advantage. No discredit attaches to him for this, for what is involved is but the institution of his financial rights. The inertia which makes of him a voting pillar for monopoly must be overcome. It is merely a question of inducement, sufficient of which must be offered. Why limit our inducement to just out-bidding the old parties? Why not honestly offer all there is? Can this great nation be in better business than destroying monopolies and applying proceeds to "pensions for the comfortable support of aged persons?"

If the reader please, it all depends upon adaptation in the proposals. A very long lever will be required to lift chronic ignorance and prejudice out of the path. The proposals should appeal to personal interests. What is it that voters most want or need, that is procurable through Alliance politics? We can outbid the old parties. This can easily be done, for principal monopolies must not be jeopardized by offering sub-

sstantial benefits. There will be no voluntary relinquishment of land, money, transportation, and market stealage. Precisely, then, the things the old parties dare not offer or do are the things to be done. How shall the programme be presented in its most striking and attractive shape? May it not be advisable to push two or three proposals as "leaders," so to speak? What shall these be?

In no more effective way can we appeal to the debtor element among producers, excluding mere speculators, than to propose the Ocala demand for government loans at 2 per cent interest upon house, farm, labor product, or any widely available but adequate security. Because this demand implies government banking, with the control of money rightfully in the hands of the industrial class, it is very nearly a platform in itself. Measure it by the work it is doing. It is undermining the old banking systems to the backbone. Without other help, given reasonable time, it will yet reach their marrow and kill them. It is a comfort to know there is not on this earth a power that can recall it from its mission. Incomparably it would be the best single-plank platform that could be made.

Monopoly will never willingly yield from its stolen revenues a comfortable pension support for aged persons. It can never love its aged and needy neighbors as itself; yet abundant revenue for such support is taken from labor every day in the year. It is taken not by money lending alone. Call it interest and dividends. Now, divert this current of privileged tribute into the public treasury, and lo, there exists a fund to meet the pensions. It can be properly done in a jiffy. Should the dive of the steering from the first monopoly prove inadequate, tap the next one. Begin with the money monopoly, because it is the biggest, fattest, oldest, wickedest. But tap the series in succession, dutifully bleeding them to death. The exchange of thieving monopolies for comfortable pensions; what a bargain is this for the toilers of our race!

Resolved 1. That in the election of men

to represent us in any and all of the functions of government, State or national, we demand an unconditional adherence to the principles underlying said demands, and that in this way we will have no re

present to person or party.

2. That in this it is our purpose to stick

to the principles of our original non-partisan declaration, and that we will not vote for any man who seeks a position in the legislative branches of the government who will not pledge himself to work for the accomplishment of the designs suggested in the Ocala demands.

Resolved further, That our representatives also be instructed to favor no one for Congress who does not adhere strictly to the demands of the Alliance promulgated at Ocala, Fla., and reaffirmed at the last meeting of our national body at Indianapolis.

Whereas there is being almost a unanimous effort of the politicians of the State to day to elect R. Q. Mills United States Senator from this State, and him for his defeat for Speaker of the House of Representatives, and, whereas as he does not represent the interests of the people of this State, therefore,

Resolved, That we hereby demand that our representative, J. W. Peebles and Senator M. H. Townsend, not only vote against but use their influence to defeat him.

Resolved 2. That this be published in our district, State and national organs and that a copy be sent to our Senator, M. H. Townsend.

P. G. ELLIS, Secretary,
Leesville, Texas.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by Greene County Alliance:

Resolved, That we, the members of Greene County Alliance, tender our thanks to the members of Congress who voted for Crisp for Speaker as against R. Q. Mills, and recognizing in his election a step toward financial reform.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, Arkansas Economist, and Rector Star for publication. JOHN F. HAMITT, EZRA WARREN.

The Farmers Advocate (Charlestown, W. Va.) says:

When the farmers owned this country forty years ago, they controlled its legislation and rendered every class of business profitable. In 1892, when they own only 20 per cent of the wealth of the country, and every branch of the government has passed out of their hands, paralysis of business of every character has followed, and it has become difficult for many to even obtain subsistence in a land of plenty. Farmers, remember that the reins of government have simply passed out of your hands, but not beyond your control, if you make up your minds to influence their management or regain control of them. Isn't your situation a sufficient commentary on the wrongs you have endured, or do you wish to be further enslaved, ere you wake up. Verily, "a little more sleep; a little more slumber, and your poverty cometh as an armed man." Will you sleep on and lose your heritage?

Alliance Resolutions.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Gonzales County Alliance at its regular meeting in the city of Gonzales, January 7th and 8th, 1892.

Whereas, from the expressions of the people of this and all other Southern and Western States, it is plainly evident that they, by a large majority, favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver, and

Whereas, from the public utterances of R. Q. Mills, in this and the State of Ohio, that he, as we believe, is under the baneful influence of the money power of the East, bitterly opposes making said question an issue in the ensuing election, thereby confusing this issue by tariff reform, on which the two parties are virtually a unit; therefore,

Resolved, That we, in County Alliance assembled, representing two-thirds of the voters of Gonzales county, do most heartily and enthusiastically endorse the actions of the seventeen Alliance Congressmen who participated in the Democratic caucus for the election of Speaker of the House of Representatives for the purpose of defeating, and by their vote did, defeat said R. Q. Mills, who by his words and actions represents the East, our task masters, and misrepresents his constituency.

Whereas the leaders of the two great political organizations of this country, known as Democratic and Republican, have, as it were, to a man ignored the demands of the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union of America, known as the Ocala demands, leaves us no hope of succor or co-operation from either of them, therefore,

Resolved 1. That in the election of men to represent us in any and all of the functions of government, State or national, we demand an unconditional adherence to the principles underlying said demands, and that in this way we will have no re

present to person or party.

2. That in this it is our purpose to stick to the principles of our original non-partisan declaration, and that we will not vote for any man who seeks a position in the legislative branches of the government who will not pledge himself to work for the accomplishment of the designs suggested in the Ocala demands.

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THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
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The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST our official organ has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best schools of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, That this Supreme Council renews its support to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of Brother C. W. Macune and his associates in said paper, and will do all we can to urge them onward in their good work of education.

Address all remittances of communications to:

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

PUBLICATION OFFICE, 230 North Capitol street.

ENTRITED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON,

D. C., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

N. R. P. A.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To all persons interested in the growth of the cause of right and justice:

THE ECONOMIST was started as a special champion of this cause and not as a money-making enterprise.

It has up to date been put out to the people at cost, and will continue that policy. As a proof of which, note the following extraordinary offer:

THE ECONOMIST FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 1892 FOR FIFTY CENTS.

From February 15 to March 31 all 50 cent subscribers received will get the paper till November 1, provided as many as ten are in one club.

Secretaries are requested to bring this notice before the Alliance and make a special plea for as much as one club in each body. All friends are requested to get up a club.

Now is the time to renew. Now is the time to subscribe.

Eight months for fifty cents, in clubs of ten or more.

A CORRESPONDENT asks for the facts concerning Senator Kyle's action in regard to his assignment to committees. It has been explained several times, but another explanation will do no harm. Senator Kyle indulged in no deception or double dealing, but acted the part of the man and gentleman that he is. He selected his seat on the Democratic side of the chamber because he had a right to. He accepted minority positions on the committees from the Democratic minority for the same reason.

After he had accepted this courtesy, the Republican majority undertook to make this action unpleasant for Senator Kyle, and force him into an equivocal position. This they failed to do, and hence the unfair re-

ports that have been circulated. In the meantime Senator Kyle, through his honesty of purpose and fearlessness in doing what he considers right and just, is winning the respect of all his colleagues, and bids fair to do the cause of humanity and reform a great service.

A copy of the "World Almanac" has just been received. It is a wonderful compilation of statistics and valuable information, and is worth many times its price.

SOME time ago a silver brick was taken to the mint at Philadelphia and a demand made for its coinage into standard dollars. This was refused.

A similar demand was made of the treasury department, and was again refused. A mandamus was then sought in the district court of Washington to compel the Secretary of the Treasury to coin the silver into dollars. The case was argued recently and the idea advanced that the law of 1837 which granted free coinage had not been repealed. As might have been expected, the writ was denied, and the case now goes to the Supreme Court of the United States. The matter has created considerable interest and the action of the Supreme Court will be anxiously awaited.

CONGRESSMAN WATSON has introduced a resolution to investigate the organization known as "Pinkerton detective agency." At first this resolution was looked upon as bungcombe, and it attracted but little attention, but soon the letters, resolutions and petitions which began to pour into

the bonded debt of the United States on the 31st of January, 1892, was as follows:

Loan of 1897, 4 per cent.....	\$55,576,150
Loan of 1891, continued at 2 per cent.....	25,364,500
Funded certificates, 4 per cent.....	126,020
Pacific railroad bonds, 6 per cent.....	64,623,512
	\$64,651,192

The Pacific railroad bonds are not put into the public debt statement now. The government has paid \$66,946,462 in interest on these bonds, and will have to pay nearly as much more together with the principal.

GEN. B. F. BUTLER has written a book containing an account of his rather eventful career. In conclusion, he refers to his legal and Congressional career. Of the latter he says:

It is not generally known that the United States pays annually large amounts for pensions to aliens, but such is the fact. Congressman Newberry, of Illinois, has introduced a bill cutting off the pensions to foreigners and non-residents. In speaking of this bill, Mr. Newberry said:

This subject is becoming one of international interest, and threatens to become one of the most serious problems to be solved this session by the House committee on pensions. Dispatches from abroad state that in one province of Can-

ada over 1,300 people will be affected by the proposed legislation, and General Newberry himself estimates that the foreign beneficiaries of pension law aggregate at least 15,000.

In Germany, Austria, Turkey, Egypt, and, in fact, all over the world, there are large numbers of United States pensioners residing, with no intention of ever returning to the United States. They can live abroad cheaper and are raising families, the sons becoming citizens of foreign countries, and, in case of war with the United States, they will fight against their mother country. When I was in Germany I talked with any number of United States pensioners, who expressed an intention of remaining away from home.

Mr. Newberry is evidently mistaken in the number of pensioners, since the amount sent abroad for that purpose was estimated at \$300,000 several years ago.

THE finance committee of the Senate have hastened to report adversely upon a bill for free coinage. The vote stood as follows:

Ayes—Messrs. Morrill, Sherman, Allison, Aldrich, and Hiscock, Republicans, and Messrs. McPherson and Carlisle, Democrats.

Nays—Mr. Jones, of Nevada, Republican, and Messrs. Harris, Vance, and Voorhees, Democrats.

The vote of McPherson, a gold-bug Senator from New Jersey, was no surprise, but to have Senator Carlisle stoutly his past record upon this question will hardly add to his political status. Kentucky is a free silver State, and this vote will meet with a just rebuke when the first opportunity presents itself. This action on the part of the committee does not mean that free coinage is defeated in the Senate, as there is little doubt that the bill will pass that body. It simply discloses the animus of the finance committee and its members.

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The Pacific railroad bonds are not put into the public debt statement now. The government has paid \$66,946,462 in interest on these bonds, and will have to pay nearly as much more together with the principal.

GEN. B. F. BUTLER has written a book containing an account of his rather eventful career. In conclusion, he refers to his legal and Congressional career. Of the latter he says:

My proudest boast is that through my advocacy and efforts the legal-tender greenback was made the constitutional money of the United States, to be issued in peace or in war, during the existence of the nation; and I believe soon it will be the only money of the United States, gold and silver taking their appropriate places as products of the mineral resources of the country.

BROTHER J. E. DEAN, State lecturer of New York, writes:

I enclose you a copy of a bill which will be introduced in the New York legislature next Monday with the approval of the Grange, Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, Knights of Labor, Patrons of Industry, and Farmers League. I wish you would publish such a bill and

ask our friends to push it in every legislature in the United States. This will prevent double taxation and compel the actual owner to pay taxes.

An act to equalize taxation.

It is enacted by the Senate and Assembly in legislature assembled. That for the purposes of taxation, from and after the passage of this act, mortgages upon real estate shall be assessed as real estate.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted. That only the excess of taxable valuation over and above the amount of mortgage shall be assessed to lawful owner of mortgaged property.

All laws conflicting with this act are hereby repealed.

IT HAS often been denied that English capitalists had anything to do with the demonetization of silver.

The following, taken from the Bankers' Magazine of August, 1873, seems to indicate that they did have a hand in the matter:

In 1872, silver being demonetized in France, England and Holland, a capital of \$500,000 was raised, and Ernest Seyd, of London, was sent to this country with this fund as agent of the foreign bondholders and capitalists to effect the same object (demonetization of silver), which was accomplished. In corroboration of this testimony we read from the Congressional Record of April 9, 1872, page 2032, these words: "Ernest Seyd, of London, a distinguished writer and bullionist, who is now here, has given great attention to the subject of mint and coinage. After having examined the first draft of this bill (for the demonetization of silver), he made various sensible suggestions, which the committee adopted and embodied in the bill." So says Mr. Hooper, who at the time was chairman of the committee on coinage, thus you see a British capitalist sent here to make laws for the American people.

Points in Missouri not included in above, also from Indian Territory, Arkansas, and Louisiana (Iron Mountain and Cotton Belt Railroads) one fare for the round trip to St. Louis. Dates of sale February 20th to 23d inclusive, with final return limit March 10th.

States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri (points north of and on the Missouri Pacific Railway, also from all points on the M. K. & T. R. Y.). One lowest first class fare for the round trip. Selling dates to be February 20th to 23d inclusive, with final return limit March 10th.

St. Louis, February 22, 1892:

Editor, please publish the following:

WANTED.—W. S. Morgan, secretary of the National Reform Press Association, wants the address and a marked copy of every reform paper in the United States. If you want the name of your paper to appear in the revised list of reform papers, send him the name on a postal card and a marked copy of your paper. Do this at once and don't neglect it. Get into line. Address

W. S. MORGAN,

Sec'y N. R. P. A., No. 22, N. 2d St., St. Louis, Mo.

Other announcements will be made later.

W. S. MORGAN,

Secretary N. R. P. A.

G. GENERAL NOTES.

Mr. Cleveland should try an ultimatum on David.

Chile's back down is not quite so ridiculous a sight as Chile's back up.

They say in the House that, verily, these be the days of Tom Watson and Jerry Simpson.

If Senator Hill wins the star-eyed goddess, he will be obliged to elope,

for the parents of the prospective bride are not exactly smitten on the match.

Oil paintings of ex-Speaker Randall and Grow were presented to the House on the 21st inst. by the State of Mississippi Valley Territory. One fare for the round trip. Selling dates February 20th to 23d inclusive, with return limit March 10th. Via Illinois Central, St. L. A. & T. H., Mobile and Ohio, K. C. F. S. & M. (No advice as to return limit.)

For the States of Ohio and Indiana.

One fare for the round trip. Dates of

sale February 20th to 22d inclusive, with final return limit to February 28th.

Later announcements will be made of the arrangements that will be applicable from points in eastern and southern territory not covered by the above.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS.

Hotel accommodations have been arranged for at from 50 cents to one dollar per day for room, no board; and in hotels and select boarding houses, convenient to the Exposition building where the meetings of the Convention will be held, at from \$1.25 to \$2.00 per day for room and board.

If you desire your accommodation secured in advance, please state the price you desire to pay for room, or room and board, and whether you desire committee rooms at your hotel or not. Any request will receive prompt attention and no charge for services rendered. It is recommended that Delegates have their quarters secured in advance.

If you desire your accommodation secured in advance, please state the price you desire to pay for room, or room and board, and whether you desire committee rooms at your hotel or not. Any request will receive prompt attention and no charge for services rendered. It is recommended that Delegates have their quarters secured in advance.

The climax was reached by Hon. Tom Watson, of Georgia, in his recent speech against centralization of House power in the hands of the rule committee and Speaker, when he charged the United States Senate with being the acme of corporate money and monopoly, and later, when he

read dramatically from an open letter the pitiful plight of a Georgian farmer, whose child was dead, refused a coffin by his town merchant because the limit of his credit had been reached. "What shall I do?" asked the unfortunate wretch.

S. H. SNIDER,

Chairman Com. Arrangements, Hotel Richelieu, St. Louis, Mo.

The Reform Press Association will meet in St. Louis on the 19th of February, 1892. Editors of reform papers will please look after transportation on local lines that do not run into St. Louis. Under no circumstances can I secure transportation for more than two for one paper and them only for wife or daughter.

On some lines we will be unable to secure transportation at all on advertising rates. Transportation will be sent as soon as secured. Headquarters for the Press Association will be at the hotel Richelieu.

For information regarding meeting of Press Association, address

W. S. MORGAN,

Sec'y-Treasurer, St. Louis, Mo.

EDITOR.—Please send names of delegates selected to attend the Industrial conference and the number of persons you think will attend from your State. Don't delay this.

S. H. SNIDER,

Chairman Com. Arrangements, Hotel Richelieu, St. Louis, Mo.

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For the States of Ohio and Indiana

PRESIDENTIAL SKETCHES.

"Biography is the only history."

ZACHARY TAYLOR.

Our eleventh President was born November 24, 1784, in Orange county, Va. When he was but yet an infant his parents yielded to the attraction which at that period drew so many Virginians to the western frontier. They settled at a point only a few miles from the present city of Louisville, Ky. When Zachary Taylor was about twenty-four, the father succeeded in obtaining a lieutenancy for him in the United States army. He went to New Orleans to join the troops. He was promoted, and as captain was placed in command at Fort Harrison, and for his gallant defense of the fort was made major-general by brevet. The war closed and he was ordered to Fort Crawford in defense of the frontier. In 1837 General Taylor was ordered to march against the Seminoles. He obtained at his own request a change to the department of the Southwest. He established his headquarters at Louisiana, and bought a plantation at Baton Rouge. In 1845 Texas was annexed to the Union, and trouble with Mexico followed promptly. General Taylor's day had come. Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, and Buena Vista are names that will be forever associated with his courage and valor, and on the flood-tide of popularity he was, in 1848, triumphantly elected President of the United States. When he had occupied this position a little more than sixteen months, on July 2, 1850, he died of a sudden cold, with "I am not afraid to die; I am ready to do my duty," on his lips.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

The nation was plunged in grief at the sudden death of Zachary Taylor, but on the self-same day that his life went out Millard Fillmore took the oath of office as President of the United States. Our twelfth President was born January 7, 1800, at Sumner Hill, Cayuga county, N. Y. His family had but little means, and his opportunities were of the scantiest in his early boyhood; but he was plucky. It is significant that the first book he purchased with his own money was a small English dictionary, which he studied while attending the cording machine. Time passed and he resolutely set himself at his legal studies. At twenty-three he was admitted to the court of common pleas. In 1829 he became a member of the New York legislature. In 1832 he was sent to Congress. In 1837 he was re-elected to the House. In 1847 he became Comptroller of the State of New York. Having been Vice-President for sixteen months and President during the unexpired term of President Taylor, on March 4, 1853, he returned to his home in Buffalo, N. Y., where, on March 8, 1874, he died from a stroke of paralysis.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

In Hillsborough, N. H., November 23, 1804, Franklin Pierce was born. In 1824 he graduated from Bowdoin, and at once began the study of law. His constituency sent him to the State legislature, where he served four years, the last two of which he was speaker of the house. In 1833 he was elected to Congress. When he was only 33 years old he entered the Senate. When Mr. Polk became President he appointed Mr. Pierce Attorney General of the United

States. He declined the offer, as he did the nomination for governor of his native State. At the Democratic convention at Baltimore, after ten days of balloting, the New Hampshire lawyer was nominated for the presidency. It took the country by surprise. When Mr. Pierce was congratulated upon his nomination he said: "Sir, you could not congratulate a more astonished man." The shadow of a great grief lay in the threshold of his inaugural; just two months before his only child, a boy of thirteen, was instantly killed in a railway accident. His wife died a few years afterwards, while he was yet in the prime of his years. His death was due to dropsy, and occurred on October 8, 1869, in the sixty-fifth year of his life.

The February Convention.

BY W. H. EDWARDS, ROCK HILL, S. C.

Some months ago I wrote an article, which was published in THE ECONOMIST, on the question of the Alliance going into the third party movement. In that article I took the ground that it would wreck the organization if we, as a body, go into any political party. That article was criticised pretty severely by some of our brethren who hold extreme views. In an organization as large as ours a great many men will be gathered who are rash and impulsive, who imagine that we can accomplish our aims and purposes in a very short time. These for the most part are honest, well-meaning men, but they are letting zeal outrun prudence and wisdom. It will take time and patience to educate and build up a public sentiment that will finally make our views and principles triumphant. I did not reply to any of my critics, for the reason that abler pens than mine were discussing the question. Time has strengthened my views, and convinced me more and more that as an organization we can not and must not ally ourselves with any political party. If we do so, disintegration will speedily commence, and the Order will crumble and fall to pieces like a rotten rag. There are many reasons why this would be so. The mission of the Alliance is very different from the mission of a political party. Its mission under God is to elevate the toiling millions, mentally, morally, socially, and financially. This is the very nature of things, must be done by education. A sick man must know what is the matter with him before a remedy can be intelligently applied. It is the mission of the Alliance to teach the people and show them the seat of the disease in our "body politic," and then leave them free to apply the remedy. It is (according to our constitution) made incumbent upon us to educate the people in the science of economical government (political economy) in a non-partisan sense. While we are slowly accomplishing this mission we have hitherto left the members of the Order free to vote according to the dictates of their own conscience. This is the only safe course for the organization to pursue. To attempt to bind the Order to any particular party would violate our "declaration of principles," and would be a dangerous and suicidal policy. Our delegates to the convention at St. Louis, in February, ought to keep their heads level and steer clear of "political deals," and not become entangled

by pledging the Order to any set of men or to any party. They ought to ring out with no uncertain sound our principles, aims, and demands, and reiterate and publish to the world that we intend to stand up like true and brave men and defend our views, and contend for our rights while breath is in our bodies, and that we do not intend to vote for men for office who oppose our views and demands. Our strength, power, and influence upon the political condition of our government depends upon our standing aloof from all party entanglements. In the same sub-Alliance there are men of different political creeds. Leave these men free, and they will all perhaps vote for the same men, but undertake to bind that sub-Alliance to any particular political party, and you will raise a tempest and smash your Alliance. Because the Alliance is not a political organization, the politicians have the greater reason to fear and dread it. The politicians and the political press are branding us with being an oath-bound secret political organization. Well, let them have their say. They don't understand us and are simply guessing, and if they lie in their guessing, they are used to it, and it won't make them any the worse. The politicians are greatly worried in regard to what action the Alliance will take in politics. They first attempted to destroy the Order by maligning our leaders and those who were prominent in the Order. In this they utterly failed. The Order is now suffering from an effort to crush us by a combination of money. While some will squall and give up the fight because of ignorance and the lack of the right kind of sand in their gizzard, the great mass of Alliance men will grin and bear it, and will come out of the ordeal better men for the experience. Nothing would please the politicians better than for the Alliance to form, together with other kindred organizations, a separate political party. We would be playing directly into their hands. There would be a combination of parties against us, as there was in Kansas last year, and they would divide the offices and we would be powerless to stem the tide, and the reformation in our government that we are so fondly hoping for would be delayed for years, and perhaps forever. If this movement fails and the plutocracy proves too strong for the people, then farewell to the bright anticipations of the fathers of the republic. The freedom of the American people will be gone, and nothing save what no patriot wants to speak of or contemplate will ever restore it.

But why should this movement, born of necessity, fail? Is the love of country and free institutions dead in the hearts of the American people? Are the toiling millions in our fields, mines, workshops, and factories, the producers of all the wealth of the nation, willing to be reduced to the hustings, and the political and literary press of the whole country has been nearly solid against us. And we have had against us the influence of combined millions of money in the hands of unscrupulous men who have hitherto known no such word as fail. Having accomplished so much against such odds, what reason have we to be discouraged? On the contrary, we have learned our power. The sleeping giant has awakened. All we need is courage, perseverance, a disposition to hold on, to keep wide awake and

the masses of the people. They will do right when they know what is right. They can be safely trusted when properly formed. There are hundreds and thousands of our people who have learned more in regard to the workings of our government in the last two years than they ever knew in their lives before. The people are awake to the importance of going to the polls and voting for the right kind of men to represent them in our law-making bodies. A few years ago unless there was some local excitement a great many of our men did not go to the polls at all. The Alliance has brought about this change.

While a great many of our politicians in both the political parties are corrupt and venal, and are under the influence of what is known as the money power, are there not hundreds—yes, thousands—of honest, capable men in both the Democratic and Republican parties? Not only so, but there is excess in both parties plenty of capable men holding our views to send to Congress in every district where Alliance men are strong enough to elect them? If the candidates all hold our views, then the only question for Alliance men to decide is capability. If our measures are ever enacted into law, what will it matter if it is done by Democrats or Republicans, or by both conjointly? It is now humiliating and almost painful to see their crying back-down since they have heard from Wall street on the subject. One of the pimps of the bloated and arrogant power has the audacity to say that if the South votes for silver, that Congress (at the bidding of Wall street, of course) will put the force bill upon us. Another tells the Democratic party that if the Democratic Congress passes a free silver bill, that the Democrats of New York and New England will not support the Democratic ticket for 1892. And now the Philadelphia Record warns the Democrats in Congress that if they dare pass the bill, that it will surely bring about the Third party. The silver question is getting somebody into trouble, and a trouble that will not end, even by obeying the dictates of New York, Wall street, and New England. What insolence, arrogance and bigotry. New York and New England and Wall street Democracy standing up and threatening the South with the force bill, and the Democracy with defeat if the free silver bill is passed. And to the eternal disgrace of American manhood there are thousands of would-be leaders who will bow in cowardly submission to such insolent dictation. But isn't that a rare and rich dodge about the Third party—the worst scare of all. If the Democracy don't obey Wall street, there will be a Third party in the field, says the Record. Springer, Hill, Wall street & Co., swear that there must be no free silver bill passed. Bland and the Democracy of the South and West say it must pass. So this financial question is troubling some folks besides the farmers.

Well, the Alliance is going to stand by free silver. There is no division among us on that question, nor will there ever be. We will stand for it, whoever is against it.

The Cleveland Citizen (Cleveland, Ohio) says:

There are thousands who attribute the rise and fall of civilizations in the past to the unequal distribution of wealth and rights. This will doubtless occur in the future. But in a hundred generations to come civilizations will fall through the destruction of forests. There is a mine of material for study in this last sentence.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, February 5, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

The Speaker laid before the House a request from the Senate that the House return to that body the joint resolution (S. R. 9) to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to the governor of the State of West Virginia the sum appropriated by the act of Congress entitled "An act to credit and pay to the several States and Territories and the District of Columbia all moneys collected under the direct tax levied by the act of Congress approved August 5, 1861."

The Speaker. If there be no objection, the committee on the judiciary will be discharged from further consideration of this joint resolution, and the request of the Senate will be complied with.

There was no objection and it was so ordered.

The House met for the first time under an adopted code of rules.

Mr. Lanham, of Texas, presented the memorial of the irrigation convention held in St. Lake city, Utah, in September, 1891, in favor of granting in trust (save mineral ones) all lands to the several States and Territories for the purpose of developing irrigation.

Mr. Bushnell, Wis., introduced a joint resolution in relation to the complete prohibition of polygamy under the jurisdiction of the United States.

Mr. Fithian, Ill., offered a bill putting agricultural implements on the free list.

Mr. Proctor, Vt. Authorizing the enlistment in the army of a force of 3,000 Indians.

Mr. Higgins, Del. To refund certain import duties.

Mr. Sawyer, Wis., from the committee on commerce, reported a bill to repeal the act requiring life-saving appliances on steamers so far as it relates to the carrying of line-carrying projectiles, and the means of propelling them on steamers plying exclusively on any of the lakes, bays or sounds of the United States. Passed.

Mr. Daniel, Va., offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of accounts between the United States and the State of Virginia in regard to the refunding of direct tax.

Several reports from committees were placed on appropriate calenders.

Mr. Sayers, Tex., in charge of the bill on census deficiency, brought a charge of extravagance against the census bureau. Mr. Henderson, Ia., and Dingley, Me., defended the superintendent. These charges should have been made before the appropriation committee. Extra services had been demanded and put upon the census bureau, and extra expenditures thus incurred. Congress had obliged them to inquire into the private affairs of citizens and disclose the amount of farm mortgages. An appropriation of \$1,000,000 for this purpose had been made. At least \$350,000 would be required in order to complete this investigation, which was made solely for partisan purposes. The superintendent asked for \$1,000,000 not only for the balance of the fiscal year, but the next fiscal year, and included in this the \$350,000 to complete the mortgage investigation. Five States had been so investigated, and he rejoiced to say the calamity charges had been dispelled. Mr. Dockery, Mo., and Simpson, Kan., attacked this statement, and a spirited exchange of facts and opinions took place.

The Senate, in open session, at 3:30 resumed consideration of the bill for public printing. At 4 o'clock and 45 minutes, without accomplishing further business, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, February 8, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

Adverse reports were made by Mr.

Morrill, from the finance committee, on the following bills:

To provide for free coinage of gold and silver bullion (Mr. Stewart).

To increase the circulating medium by issuing treasury notes based on gold and silver coin and bullion (Mr. Peffer).

For the retirement of national bank notes, the free coinage of silver, and the promotion of the international free coinage of silver (Mr. Plumb).

For the loan of money to the farmers of Indiana (Mr. Peffer).

Making certain issues of money a full legal tender in payment of all debts (Mr. Kyle).

The journal of the proceedings of Saturday was read and approved.

Mr. Raynor, Md., from the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, reported a bill allowing railroad companies to grant special rates to commercial travelers—House calendar.

Mr. Culberson, Tex., from the committee of the judiciary, reported a bill to deprive judges of the United States courts of the authority to give opinions upon questions of fact—House calendar.

Mr. Sayers, Tex., from the committee on appropriations, called up the resolution directing that committee to make an inquiry concerning the management of the World's Fair, and expenditures thereof.

Mr. Sayers said, in explanation, that an application would be made to Congress either for a loan of \$5,000,000 or the investment of such a sum in stock to be held by the government. He agreed with Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, who had offered a resolution of a similar character in 1890, that it would be well to have all possible information touching the expenditures, whether they referred to the government exhibit or not.

Mr. Henderson disclaimed any but the friendliest feeling towards the fair, but said the country would not sustain Con-

gress in making appropriations for this great enterprise unless it acted with wisdom and patriotism. He alluded to the salaries of the World's Fair commissioners and declared them excessive. If every Congressman was entitled to \$5,000, [Laughter and cries of "vote."] Congress had a right to look this matter in the face, and he cautioned the friends if they sought further aid they must cut where cutting was necessary.

Mr. Durborow, Ill., desired the inquiry placed in the hands of the World's Fair committee. He courted an investigation, and was not prepared to vote until it had been made.

The balance of the day was consumed in speeches by members pro and con as to the proper reference for the resolution. The friends of the bill for the aid to the exposition making a fight for its reference to the World's Fair committee as the proper one. They were defeated, and the resolution went to the committee on appropriations. It reads as follows:

That the committee on appropriations is ordered to inquire into those obligations and undertakings, and now subsisting, so as to determine justly and properly with the requirements of the act of Congress approved April 25, 1890, and whether all expenditures of whatever character for the exposition have been judiciously made; whether the number of employees and apprentices to carry out the laws is excessive and their compensation reasonable; otherwise, and to ascertain and report the salary and compensation of each officer and employee; from what State the several appointments have been made, and generally whether in the care and conduct of said exposition proper management has been had; that they obtain a full report of those in charge of the exposition and of the amount of all such expenditures, and that the report of the committee based upon the inquiry may be made at any time in Congress.

The Speaker made the following committee appointments:

Banking and currency—Mr. Busey, of Illinois, and Mr. Russell, of Kentucky.

Interstate and foreign commerce—Mr. Caruth, of Kentucky, and Mr. Coombs, of New York.

District of Columbia—Mr. Hallowell, of Illinois.

War claims—Mr. Cadmus, of New Jersey.

Eleventh census—Mr. Fithian, of Illino-

is.

The House then adjourned at 5 o'clock and 10 minutes p. m.

TUESDAY, February 9, 1892.

Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D.

The resolution went over till the mor-

row.

Mr. Butler, S. C., asked if he had any objection to incorporating the State of South Carolina in his resolution.

Mr. Daniel replied no.

The resolution went over till the mor-

row.

On motion of Mr. Hiscock, the Senate at 1:30 proceeded to executive business.

Mr. Ratburn was confirmed as postmaster of Elmira, N. Y. This is the special appointment Senator Hill, of New York, opposed.

Adverse reports were made by Mr.

Morrill, from the finance committee, on the following bills:

To provide for free coinage of gold and silver bullion (Mr. Stewart).

To increase the circulating medium by issuing treasury notes based on gold and silver coin and bullion (Mr. Peffer).

For the retirement of national bank

notes, the free coinage of silver, and the promotion of the international free coinage of silver (Mr. Plumb).

For the loan of money to the farmers of Indiana (Mr. Peffer).

Making certain issues of money a full legal tender in payment of all debts (Mr. Kyle).

The first three bills with adverse re-

ports were placed on the calendar, and the other two indefinitely postponed.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

The joint resolution for the payment of special tax to the State of West Virginia was then taken up. Much time was spent in debate upon it, but no conclusion reached. A short executive session was held, and at its conclusion the Senate suspended to pay fitting tribute to the memory of the late L. C. Houk, Representative from Tennessee. Eulogies of the deceased were made by Messrs. Sherman, Cullinan, Gallinger, Higgins and Bate.

At 3 o'clock and 30 minutes p. m. the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, February 9, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

Mr. McMillin, Tenn., reported back the Mutchler resolution directing the committee on banking and currency to make inquiry into the failure of the Keystone bank, Spring Garden bank of Pennsylvania, and National Maverick banks of Boston, Mass. Agreed to.

Mr. Mutchler, Penn., stated that Congress owed it to the people to make investigation into the affairs of national banks. If it was found that the government power was not sufficient, the law should be amended. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Dockery, Mo., offered a resolution directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the right of the Secretary of the Treasury to employ the \$100,000,000 gold reserves for current expenditures. Referred.

Mr. Bacon, N. Y., from the committee on banking and currency, reported a bill to promote the safety of national banks. House calendar.

Some sectional bills of unimportant nature were reported and passed, or placed on calendar.

Mr. Powers, Vt., reported from committee on judiciary the bill introduced by Mr. Hatch, Mo., placing the Secretary of Agriculture fourth in the line of presidential succession. The bill passed.

Mr. Bynum, Ind., from the committee on the judiciary, called up a bill abolishing the minimum punishment for violation of internal revenue law. In every case a sworn complaint alleging the facts to be within the personal knowledge of the affiant is necessary to accomplish arrest. Passed.

The President's annual message was referred to appropriate committees.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole upon the military academy appropriation bill.

Mr. Wheeler, Ala., briefly explained the extra appropriations and necessity therefor. A new gas plant was an imperative necessity; sewerage was also; present conditions at West Point were a menace to the health of cadets. The bill, he said, appropriated \$465,795, which was \$88,525 less than the estimates of the department. While it carried a larger appropriation than the bill of the past year, it was \$114,247 less than the average appropriations of the last three years. While it was true the people demanded economy, they did not desire cheese.

They Have Changed Base.

The Caucasian, Clenton, N. C.

The enemies of the Alliance have again changed base. As one evidence of this, notice the changed tone of the press dispatches and the partisan press, one of the most important agencies through which they do this. Their policy in the beginning was one of indifference, to entirely ignore the organization, to go on with their old-time tunes and knitting, thinking from the depths of their conceit that the movement would soon die for the want of their condescending notice of it. But the inconvenient multitude grew and continued to grow. They became alarmed, held a hurried council of war and decided that the hay-seeders must be brought to their senses, that the causes of complaint must be ridiculed and poohooed and the officers must be abused and crushed. In the meantime they would stop the members from thinking and investigating on economical lines and make them forget their debts, high taxes and the low price of products by appealing to their partisan prejudices; then they would get up a scare, cry third party, negro in the wood pile, etc., and try to stampede the whole organization. This was the comic farce they played

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of currency. It can not be taken from the manufacturing and mining centres, nor be withdrawn from the channels of commerce or the usual and ordinary demands of trade. It must be met. The currency in circulation is wholly inadequate. If the sub-treasury was in existence, sufficient products would be stored and drawn upon their value to supplement the volume of circulation to make it come up to the demands of business. This money would meet the exigency and supply the demand. As soon as the emergency had passed, when the needs of those who stored the products would compel them to sell, this sub-treasury money would be returned to the government and as consumption would take them the normal condition would at all times be maintained. These depressions and stringencies would be obviated. The country would be the beneficiary. The government would be taking no more risks in advancing to these farmers than business men now take; for anybody can get 80 per cent of the value of cotton, corn, wheat or tobacco advanced. It is no risk. It is nothing unusual for it to be done. The only difference is in the cost of storing and holding and the relief from or continuance of stringency. The syndicates and combines might complain; but no man engaged in legitimate business would be damaged or lose by it. On the contrary, all would be benefited by destroying the abnormal stringency and strain which is annually made upon every business, in inciting an extraordinary exigency, caused by the want of some automatic means for relieving the pressure when intolerable, and returning to the normal when storing would cause an unusual volume of currency, which would inflate prices. No such condition as now exists could be possible with the sub-treasury plan in force. Its purpose and object is to remedy and prevent such conditions as now exist. No other plan will accomplish it.

The Star also says:

The tendencies of the people to-day, if less toward independent action are to go more toward compelling the tendencies to let up in their inquiries. —
The Farmers' Review (Bonham, Texas) to be won.

The demands of the Alliance be discussed in each sub-Alliance. The discussion will tend to inform the membership, as to the necessity and propriety of the demands. This will generate and promote healthy growth and the members, knowing they have made these demands, will see that they are enforced; and then "affy and love" for the farmers and laborers will give way to measures of relief.

The Carolina Watchman (Salisbury, N.C.) says:

Seventeen years ago some philanthropists suggested that if things were not managed better land values would depreciate one-half. They were laughed at and hooted. They were said to be crazy. However, right here in North Carolina we have the proof of this truthfulness. Land will not bring half what it sold for fifteen years ago. With a few exceptions this will apply to all sections of the United States. Now some

The hypophosphites of lime and soda combined with cod-liver oil in Scott's Emulsion improve the appetite, promote digestion, and increase the weight.

They are thought by some to be food; but this is not proved. They are tonics; this is admitted by all.

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In Scott's Emulsion the cod-liver oil and hypophosphites are so combined as to get the full advantage of both.

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of our best men are predicting a general collapse of the business interests of the country. They are called fools, cranks, and some even go so far as to say they are rascals. But who ever heard of a reformer getting anything in the way of money for his labor? It is very unreasonable to say that they are working to enrich themselves. Anyhow their predictions are coming true. There will be a collapse in less than ten years if reform fails.

The Faulkner County Wheel (Conway, Ark.) says:

Thousands of farmers and working people have had to take their children from school to help them make a living by their labor, but the rich send their children all the year, hence, as "knowledge is power," the working children are raised to be the slaves of those better educated. Let every working man think of the better education the labor people asking for their children.

The Union Labor Gazette (Mitchell, S. Dak.) says:

If one were to make the statement that farmers were subject to a tax of nearly 10 per cent on all transactions involving the sale and delivery or exchange of their products, of which they have never taken account, the average farmer would be quite reluctant to accept it. But that they are subject to such a tax is susceptible of easy proof. All outgoing and incoming products and supplies of the farm have to be moved over the public highways, at a loss of time, of horse feed, repairs, wear and tear of vehicles and harness, which will foot nearly if not quite 10 per cent on the investment, and more than the necessary costs of roads properly macadamized. In addition to all this is the discomfort and inconvenience of the farmer and the abuse of the long suffering and patient horse.

The True Citizen (Waynesboro, Ga.) says:

Neither Republicans nor Democrats like Mr. Blaine's efforts at reciprocity with France, which would admit wine and silk into our ports free of duty. The Republicans don't like it because it would make California Democratic. The Democrats don't like it because it admits luxuries free and leaves the tariff on necessities. It would take the tariff off those who are able to pay it and leave it on those who are not. Mr. Blaine will have some trouble in proving the justice of allowing those who are able to wear silks and drink fine wines to receive such things free, while the man who is thankful to get warm clothes and brogan shoes has to pay a tax on them. But that is in keeping with our Republican rule.

The Missouri World (Chillicothe, Mo.) says:

With the mammoth crops of 1891 in America, and the short crops in Europe the American farmer ought to be flying high by this time. His receipts ought to be all the way from \$500 to \$5,000 more than usual. But Uncle Jerry Rusk, the Secretary of Agriculture, puts the average excess for the crop of 1891 over the short crop of 1890 at about the pitiful sum of \$100. Had it not been for the famine in parts of Europe the American farmer would probably have little or no market for his products, and yet there would have been many millions of half fed people here.

The Waycross Herald (Waycross, La.) says:

The great producing classes are struggling against their fate. A fate worse than death, if the present system of monopolistic greed is not supplanted by one in which the rights of the people will take precedence of greed for gain. It is a well known fact that 3,000 millionaires have so monopolized the money of the country that at will can crush the life out of all our industries; they can at their own sweet will close up ninety-nine business houses out of every hundred in the whole country. They can keep the medium of exchange so closely locked up that scarcely a dollar could be had with which to move our crops. No one doubts these facts, and the only reason why they do not bankrupt all farmers and merchants at once, without the least

I CURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made this disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of Express and Post Office.

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SALES MEN.

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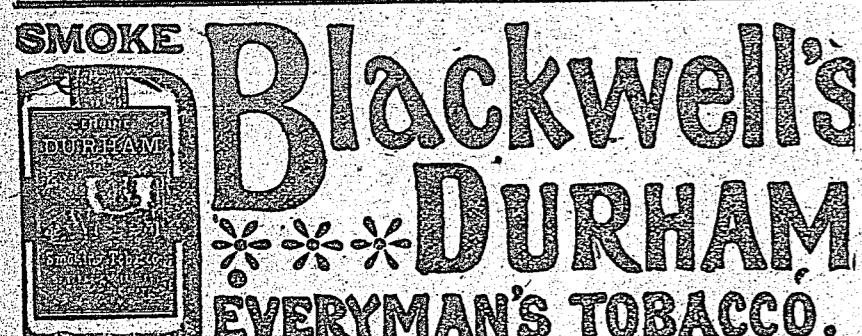
Do you favor Trusts and Combinations? Don't you know that manufacturers combine they do so to enable them to get control of the market and advance prices of the articles they manufacture? Don't you know where there is no competition prices are high? Don't you know that the Mann Axe, Red Warrior Axe, Lippincott Axe, Blood Axe, Hunt Axe, and nearly every well known brand of axe made in the United States have gone into a combination? Don't you know what it will result in if this combination should be able to get complete control of the market? Don't you know you would undoubtedly be compelled to pay big prices for axes? Don't you know you can prevent it by using only the best?

KELLY PERFECT AXE?

Why? Because we have refused to go into this combination with the axe makers. Now if you favor trusts and combinations we would say use axes made by the axe combination. But if you are opposed to trusts and combinations, then use only our axes. Ask your merchant for them, and if he does not keep them, ask him to order them. Or, if he will not keep them, make up your orders for not less than 12 axes and we will send them to you, freight prepaid, to any railroad station.

In ordering please inclose remittance by post-office money order, as follows: Kelly Perfect Single Bit Axe 85 cents each; Kelly Perfect Double Bit \$1.25 each. In ordering, please state what pattern axe you want and the weight. Write your name, address, and shipping directions plainly.

KELLY AXE M'F'G CO.
LOUISVILLE, KY.



Situated in the immediate Section of Country that produces a grade of Tobacco, that in texture, flavor and quality is not grown elsewhere in the world, and being in position to command the choice of all offerings upon this market, we spare no pains nor expense to give the trade -

THE VERY BEST.

You can buy my celebrated LAWN GRASS SEED, Quart 25c., Pound 50c., postage paid, or 25c. per Pound and \$2.00 per Bushel, purchaser paying expressage. LAWN FERTILIZER, \$2.00 per 100 Pound Bag. SUGAR, COTTON, &c. None Genuine without the Trade-mark of the Bull on each Package.

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American products were sent from the United States, and not a dollar of value or wealth returned as an equivalent, can not be disapproved. That this vast sum has gone to pay debts or dividends is equally clear, and the question naturally arises as to how much more will necessarily have to follow in this same line. How much tribute can alien investors draw from the American people if present conditions continue, will in the near future demand careful attention. This tribute increased from \$42,951,470 in 1890 to \$135,813,582 in 1891. Will it show the same increase in 1892, and what will be the result, are questions that interest every citizen of this country. This condition could only obtain through an inadequate volume of money, and is the legitimate result of going abroad to borrow what could not be obtained at home. Money seeks the most profitable investments, and they are found where the volume is inadequate.

A CANDID REPLY.

The ECONOMIST recently addressed a communication to Mr. Leech, director of the mint, asking if the per capita of currency circulation which he gave before the committee of coinage, weights and measures, was the amount in circulation among the people or the amount outside the United States treasury? The following reply was received:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF THE MINT,
Washington, D. C., Feb. 5, 1892.

The National Economist, 239 North Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: Replying to your communication of the fourth instant, as to the amount of currency in circulation in the United States, I would say that the amount of \$24,707 is the per capita amount of money in circulation in the United States, that is, outside of treasury vaults. I enclose herewith a statement exhibiting the same. Very respectfully,

E. O. LEECH,
Director of the Mint.

Mr. Leech plainly states that this is the per capita of currency outside the United States treasury. No matter whether this currency is lost, destroyed, sent abroad, or at the bottom of the sea, if it is outside the United States treasury, Mr. Leech claims it is in circulation. Upon this point it might be well to quote from Mr. Leech again. In a government report that comes yearly from his department, Mr. Leech said (See "Production of Gold and Silver," 1399, page 55):

It may be interesting to present by way of comparison the official tables of the stock of the United States gold coin in the country side by side with the visible stock at the same date.

Metallic stock January 1, 1890 (official tables):
United States gold coin..... \$202,069,663
Gold bullion in mints and assay offices..... 67,265,914

Total estimated metallic stock..... \$269,275,007
Visible stock in United States treasury and banks:

Gold coin..... \$2,641,051
Gold bullion..... 67,255,244

Total in the treasury..... \$135,667,89
National banks..... 71,910,67
Turner bank..... 31,000,000

Total visible stock..... \$19,578,05
Difference..... 259,6,642

From this it will be seen that the ex-

cess of our gold coin, estimated to be in the United States above the visible stock was \$269,667,89. In view of this wide difference between the estimated and visible stock of gold coin it may not be inappropriate to briefly explain the methods which have been employed by this bureau in preparing the estimates which have been put forth from year to year, commencing with 1873, as to the stock of gold coin in the country. The foundation on which these estimates were built was the actual amount of gold in every hundred receives in ordinary business transactions a gold certificate or a gold coin once in twelve months. Contrast that fact with the other, that on the 1st of January, 1890 there were 60,779,321 silver dollars in circulation in the United States, the remainder of the \$307,000,000 being in the form of silver certificates. Of that 60% million silver dollars we venture to say that every inhabitant who during last year has tendered a \$5 bill in payment of some small purchase made has nine out of ten times had offered to him one or more in change. Such ubiquity in the case of 60% million of silver dollars proves enough that if there was even a little gold coin passing from hand to hand it would be often met with. Still in the following statement, locating the gold in the United States, we have made a very liberal allowance for circulation, so that the reader may be satisfied that the amount hoarded is understated rather than overstated.

In treasury, gold, coin and bullion, less certificates outstanding.....	\$203,585,219
In national banks:	
Gold..... \$70,821,87	
Gold certificates..... 75,334,420	
Gold clearing-house certificates..... 7,399,000	
	153,558,707
In State banks, etc.:	
Gold..... 27,015,051	
Gold certificates..... 937,710	
	27,953,661
In actual circulation, gold and silver certificates.....	40,000,000
Total in sight and estimated in circulation.....	425,397,487
Total hoarded January 1, 1890..... 204,608,169	

Total hoarded January 1, 1890..... 275,210,658

In the above it will be seen that we allot \$40,000,000 to circulation, and yet even with that deducted there are still left \$275,210,658 unaccounted for. From these facts the conclusion is unavoidable that either there are to-day at least \$275,000,000 in gold hoarded by the people of the United States, or else that the government mint figures are extremely erroneous.

Evidence of this character tends to confirm the suspicion that the officials of the treasury are unfair in their statements of the per capita of money in circulation. When this vast discrepancy is admitted as to gold coin alone, may not a very material addition be expected from a similar discrepancy in silver and paper money? Facts like the above should be kept for future reference to meet arguments and objections against an increase in the volume of currency.

He concludes as follows:

The presumption, therefore, is almost conclusive that either gold coin has left the country without being recorded, or a very large amount is hoarded by the people of the United States, in the shape of keepsakes and private savings.

From this statement it is learned that nearly one-half of the estimated stock of gold in the United States can not be found. Under such conditions it hardly seems fair to assume that this amount is in circulation.

In a similar report for 1888, pages 42 and 43, the following corroborating and remarkable statement is made, taken from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle of February 9, 1891, the accuracy of which was endorsed by the director of the mint:

In years past we have often insisted that there must be an error in the item, because the most industrious inquiry failed to bring to light a very considerable portion of it. At present there are at least \$275,000,000 of the total that can not be accounted for. Since the New York banks turned their gold into the treasury and obtained gold certificates for it the government's gross holdings have become large. On January 1, 1888, it held gross \$24,773,67; it had outstanding of gold certificates issued against it \$120,88,448; hence its net holdings were \$203,85,219, as we give them in the above table. Even of these certificates afloat it is impossible to trace more than seventy-six and one-fourth millions in all, and of the gold not in the treasury only

about one hundred millions can be found. So whichever method the investigator adopts—whether by counting the gross gold in the treasury, with an estimate for circulation, deducting certificates which are not in bank and in the treasury, or by taking the course we have pursued—the result reach will be the same.

As to the gold in active circulation, whatever there is of it must be in the Pacific States, for the Eastern, Western, and Southern State not one individual in every hundred receives in ordinary business transactions a gold certificate or a gold coin once in twelve months. Contrast that fact with the other, that on the 1st of January, 1890 there were 60,779,321 silver dollars in circulation in the United States, the remainder of the \$307,000,000 being in the form of silver certificates. Of that 60% million silver dollars we venture to say that every inhabitant who during last year has tendered a \$5 bill in payment of some small purchase made has nine out of ten times had offered to him one or more in change. Such ubiquity in the case of 60% million of silver dollars proves enough that if there was even a little gold coin passing from hand to hand it would be often met with. Still in the following statement, locating the gold in the United States, we have made a very liberal allowance for circulation, so that the reader may be satisfied that the amount hoarded is understated rather than overstated.

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Gold clearing-house certificates..... 7,399,000

In State banks, etc.:

Gold..... 27,015,051

Gold certificates..... 937,710

In actual circulation, gold and silver certificates..... 40,000,000

Total in sight and estimated in circulation..... 425,397,487

Total hoarded January 1, 1890..... 204,608,169

bord of directors of the New York Life that pensioned President Beers, but the people who are insured in that company. This statement discloses the fact that this company has taken from their patrons a sufficient amount of money over and above the legitimate cost of insurance to pension one of its officers to the amount of \$37,500 per year. If this is a fair sample of its business methods among officers and stock-holders, this company has been very successful indeed in plundering the people. It is well, especially after such a showing, to consider the practicability of mutual insurance with a view of keeping this vast sum in the pockets of the insured.

PINKERTON AGAIN.

MR. WATSON, of Georgia, recently introduced a bill in the House to regulate the employment of private citizens to do the work of guards, etc. The bill is an indirect blow at the Pinkerton detective force, which Mr. Watson has so strenuously fought since he has been in Congress. It provides that persons employed to guard or defend property of any kind shall be residents of the State where the property is located, and their employer and the owner of the property shall be responsible for their conduct, both civilly and criminally, while the employment exists. No person, the bill provides, shall employ any private citizen directly or indirectly, or arm or equip any one already employed, to make arrests without warrants, to disperse mobs or quell disturbances, to establish martial law, to aid in the operating of engines, cars and boats by force of arms, or to do any other acts within the scope of the legal duties of the militia or authorities and officers of the towns, cities, counties, and States. No person shall organize, keep or maintain any force of employees, agents or associates for the purpose of hiring it or any part of it to private citizens or corporations to perform any of the acts mentioned above.

THE ST. LOUIS CONVENTION.

The following is a list of the delegates elected by the different State delegations:

H. Tracy, Texas; L. P. Featherston, Arkansas; Marion Butler, North Carolina; William Farr Goodwin, New Jersey; Col. C. M. Butt, Wisconsin; Alva Agee, Ohio; T. S. Adams, Louisiana; Marion Cannon, California; L. F. Livingston, Georgia; Frank Burkett, Mississippi; J. Brad Beverly, Virginia; Matt Rhea, Tennessee; L. Leonard, Missouri; J. B. Weaver, Iowa; M. V. Rork, Oregon; C. Maxson, New York; Sinclair Thompson, Pennsylvania; M. A. Householder, Kansas; M. G. Elzey, Maryland; T. I. Gardner, Kentucky; Thomas W. Force, Indiana; William Hess, Illinois; R. A. Southworth, Colorado; M. V. Loncker, Michigan; S. M. Adams, Alabama; A. P. Baskin, Florida.

Besides these delegates from the State at large there will be delegates from the congressional districts of every State, elected by the Alliance and by laboring organizations.

INTERVIEWS.

HON. L. F. LIVINGSTON, OF GEORGIA, has done telling work for the reform cause since taking his seat in

Congress. Upon the Holman resolution he fired the first Alliance gun of the session in a thoroughly earnest and eloquent speech of twenty minutes duration, and has introduced a resolution (published two issues back in THE ECONOMIST) calling for investigation by committee of seven of our whole financial system, besides re-introducing the sub-treasury bill. Upon these two last acts he courageously granted THE ECONOMIST the following interview:

"Men," he said, "differ radically as to the cause or causes for financial stringency. Theories are as plentiful as blackberries. One thinks it over-production (no matter how many backs bare or mouths empty), another lays it to overtaxation and the tariff, the third perhaps has a hazy idea that the manufacturer is responsible, because it is so evident that the producer sells too low and purchases too high. My opinion is that the whole question is one of triple domination, and that it is no longer a partisan, but geographical—one—the South, West, and Northwest arrayed against the cormorancy of the East. So the first object of the resolution is to probe to the truth, and settle once and forever uncertainty and dispute."

"About the national banks, Colonel?" "Those three sections run, to ascertain: 1. The amount of national bank notes outstanding, the amount based upon United States bonds and United States currency; also the amount of United States bonds held by national banks as basis for circulation, and the reason for their not being used for that purpose, together with the contraction of the volume of national currency, the rate of interest charged by national banks, and the profits of the system since its inauguration.

"2. The amount of contraction in every species of currency that has been used as a part of the circulating medium since the year 1865, the amount of currency now in the United States, its kind and where located, and how distributed by States.

"3. The amount of currency in kinds held by the United States treasury and by national banks as reserves, and also the probable amount held by the other banks for the same purpose.

"You see by this that the amount in circulation would be correctly ascertained, the amount held back in the treasury as reserves for 'specific purposes' noted, and the two together fix undeniably the volume of currency. The government of the United States really farms out its credit through the agency of its national banks to citizens. In some States the interest charged is 10, others 8, again 6 per cent. Now, if the government really wants to go into the money renting or changing business, it is very palpable that its citizens, (taking an average for a basis) pay too high for the loan of its credit. Let it fix one rate of interest throughout the Union as a short step in the right direction."

"You demand a statement upon the volume of business transacted during 1860 upon cash and credit; why is this?" "To prove that 95 per cent of our affairs, public and private, is conducted on credit—paper. We have been driven to it. The financiers and speculators who have accumulated the country's wealth hold it because of its enhancing power to

oppress, and for vast enterprises which yield golden returns."

"Your fifth clause, relating to alien or foreign capital in the United States, its amount, interest, and dividends?" "The magnitude of these investments is unrealized—totally uncomprehended by the great bulk of the people. We are almost a mortgaged nation. Aliens have bought in, accumulated, and monopolized our avenues of trade. Last year eighty millions of gold went abroad. The cry is, 'when the balance of trade is in our favor it will flow back.' The balance is in our favor, and only fifteen millions has returned. The explanation lies in the Baring bank failure. Before that, foreign investments paid so happily, foreign interest and dividends were re-invested. When home credit was shaken, they withdrew their reserves and rushed them to the re-establishment of English confidence."

"So the failure of one banking institution—" "Can, under present conditions, shake two continents, produce a panic, ruin thousands, and make times harder than ever."

"It is easy to understand that, but how does alien capital control the products and labor of this country?"

"About the national banks, Colonel?" "Those three sections run, to ascertain: 1. The amount of national bank notes outstanding, the amount based upon United States bonds and United States currency; also the amount of United States bonds held by national banks as basis for circulation, and the reason for their not being used for that purpose, together with the contraction of the volume of national currency, the rate of interest charged by national banks, and the profits of the system since its inauguration.

"2. The amount of contraction in every species of currency that has been used as a part of the circulating medium since the year 1865, the amount of currency now in the United States, its kind and where located, and how distributed by States.

"3. The amount of currency in kinds held by the United States treasury and by national banks as reserves, and also the probable amount held by the other banks for the same purpose.

"You see by this that the amount in circulation would be correctly ascertained, the amount held back in the treasury as reserves for 'specific purposes' noted, and the two together fix undeniably the volume of currency. The government of the United States really farms out its credit through the agency of its national banks to citizens. In some States the interest charged is 10, others 8, again 6 per cent. Now, if the government really wants to go into the money renting or changing business, it is very palpable that its citizens, (taking an average for a basis) pay too high for the loan of its credit. Let it fix one rate of interest throughout the Union as a short step in the right direction."

"You demand a statement upon the volume of business transacted during 1860 upon cash and credit; why is this?" "To prove that 95 per cent of our affairs, public and private, is conducted on credit—paper. We have been driven to it. The financiers and speculators who have accumulated the country's wealth hold it because of its enhancing power to

oppress, and for vast enterprises which yield golden returns."

"Your fifth clause, relating to alien or foreign capital in the United States, its amount, interest, and dividends?" "The magnitude of these investments is unrealized—totally uncomprehended by the great bulk of the people. We are almost a mortgaged nation. Aliens have bought in, accumulated, and monopolized our avenues of trade. Last year eighty millions of gold went abroad. The cry is, 'when the balance of trade is in our favor it will flow back.'

The Silver Dollar.

The following interesting letter on the silver dollar appeared in the Indianapolis Journal recently, and is worth careful perusal by our readers:

To the Editor of the Journal.

In the Journal of July 16, under the caption of "An Historical Life," you have several things to say relative to the silver dollar. Some of your propositions concerning coin are correct in fact and deduction, but in one place you make a serious mistake. You say: "Once the weight of the silver dollar was reduced for the sole purpose of adding silver dollars to the circulation of the United States, but to no avail." I beg leave to say that the intimation contained in this sentence that an effort was made to make the silver dollar circulate by reducing its value is wholly erroneous. The one central fact in respect to our American coinage is that the value of the standard silver dollar has never been altered by the smallest fraction of a grain from the year 1792 to the present date. Every other coin which we have, whether of gold, silver or copper, has been tinkered (not to say tampered) time and again, but the value of the silver dollar has never been changed by the tenth of a farthing from the time when the coin was established by the act of April 2, 1792, until the present time. What you say about the reduction of the weight of the silver dollar refers to the act of January 18, 1837; but that act did not touch the quantity of pure silver in our American dollar, but only the amount of alloy which it should contain. Hitherto the aggregate weight of the coin was 416 grains, but the pure silver in the coin was only 892.4 thousandths of the whole. The act of 1837 established the ratio of 900 parts of pure silver to 100 parts of alloy, and thus, the amount of alloy being reduced, the aggregate weight of the coin was established at 413/4 grains. The amount of pure silver was left, just as it had been for forty-five years, at 371/4 grains. The act of 1837 had no further significance, so far as the silver dollar is concerned, than the regulation of the amount of alloy which it should contain. The value of the coin was not touched by so much as the estimation of a hair. At that time and down to the epoch of the civil war, or at least until 1849, when a gold unit was added to the currency, the silver dollar was unquestionably the unit of money and account, and all the coins, whether gold, or silver, or copper, were conformed thereto. One has only to open a copy of Webster's dictionary of any date prior to 1838 to discover in the very definition of "dollar" the unmistakable fact that our silver standard of 371/4 grains was the center and unit of the whole system. In 1878 the administrators of the estate of Noah Webster, deceased, cut the plates of his dictionary and inserted a new definition of "dollar" in direct contradiction of the facts, and for what purpose the publisher best knew. Meanwhile, as was said above, all other coins, whether of gold, or silver, or copper, were altered in the quantity of pure metal which they respectively contained, for the purpose of making them conform perfectly to the unchanged value of the silver dollar. But the question is endless, and I will pursue it no further than this, namely, that the act of 1837 had no purpose of "adding silver dollars to the circulation of the United States," but only to reduce the amount of alloy in that coin which, according to all truth and justice, is the standard unit of money and account for all debts, public and private, in the United States, and is emphatically for such debts (excepting only those which were contracted between the years of 1874 and 1878) the dollar of the law and the contract. To say that debts are not honestly paid when they are paid in the only invariable unit which has ever existed in the United States, in the only coin which has never been changed by the smallest fraction of a grain, in the dollar which is unquestionably the dollar of the law, and the contract, is to say the thing that is not."

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ENGLAND—ITS PRIVILEGED CLASSES.

GEOGRAPHY.

England is 365 miles long; its greatest breadth from East to West is 280 miles.

Its area is 50,922 square miles.

Population, 27,482,104.

England and Wales together are nearly as large as the State of Michigan.

HISTORICAL EVENTS.

55 B. C.—Julius Caesar visited England, then known as Britain. He states that the population of Britain was large; that the inhabitants possessed numerous buildings, and that they were very rich in cattle.

43 A. D.—Rome did not attempt to conquer Britain until the reign of Claudius. About 43 A. D., Caractacus, a native chief, was defeated, taken prisoner and sent to Rome. When he saw the splendid city of the Caesars, the British chief could not repress his astonishment that the master of such a city should covet his poor cottage in Britain. During the next three centuries the Romans succeeded in conquering Britain and introducing Christianity.

871-901.—Until the time of Alfred the Great, the history of Britain is the history of a succession

of petty wars between Britons and Romans, and later Picts, Scots, Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Danes. The Saxons succeeded in sweeping away every vestige of civilization which the Romans had implanted. But Alfred had been educated in Rome, and esteemed the reign of law and order as the greatest happiness of a nation. He gave his kingdom a definite code of laws formed from the Mosaic law and the older English codes. His system is generally deemed the origin of what is termed the common law.

1066.—At the battle of Hastings in 1066, Harold, the last of the Saxon kings, was defeated by William, duke of Normandy, who was crowned king of England. Upon taking possession of the southern counties, he claimed all the land as feudal lord of the country, and at once proceeded to parcel it out among the followers as military chiefs. The result was that few of the native English were allowed to retain their lands, and many of the great landowners were either reduced to the grade of small holders or were beggared. Every man held his land direct from the king, and the feudal system was thus instantaneously put in full force in England.

1215.—Foreign wars, and a series of contests for power between the pope, the barons and the king, occupies English history until 1215, when King John was compelled by the barons in arms to sign Magna Charta, or the "Great Charter," which is still regarded as the foundation of the liberties of England. This famous deed granted or secured important liberties or privileges to the three orders of the English people—to the clergy, to the nobles,

and to the commons. The sheriff "shall not put any person upon his trial from rumor or suspicion alone, but upon the evidence of lawful witnesses. No free man shall be taken, imprisoned or dispossessed of his free tenement and liberties, or outlawed, or banished, or otherwise hurt or injured, unless by the legal judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land; and all who suffered otherwise in this or the two former reigns shall be restored to their rights and possessions."

1297.—Edward I was compelled by the barons

"to give his consent to a law known as the Confirmation of the Charters, by which he surrendered his power of levying arbitrary taxes upon the people."

1509-1547.—King Henry VIII declared himself the "protector and supreme head of the church and clergy of England."

1603-1625.—James VI, son of Mary Stuart, asserted the "divine right of kings," and was always in trouble with his parliaments, as he was always striving for absolute power, while they sought to secure freedom from his control.

1625-1649.—His son, Charles I, had imbibed his father's ideas of absolute power, and he came to the throne with the firm resolve of making himself master of his people. He regarded himself as superior to the laws of his kingdom, and considered every attempt of the commons to limit his authority within the bounds of the constitution as downright treason against him.

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bord of directors of the New York Life that pensioned President Beers, but the people who are insured in that company. This statement discloses the fact that this company has taken from their patrons a sufficient amount of money over and above the legitimate cost of insurance to pension one of its officers to the amount of \$37,500 per year. If this is a fair sample of its business methods among officers and stock-holders, this company has been very successful indeed in plundering the people. It is well, especially after such a showing, to consider the practicability of mutual insurance with a view of keeping this vast sum in the pockets of the insured.

PINKERTON AGAIN.

Mr. WATSON, of Georgia, recently introduced a bill in the House to regulate the employment of private citizens to do the work of guards, etc. The bill is an indirect blow at the Pinkerton detective force, which Mr. Watson has so strenuously fought since he has been in Congress. It provides that persons employed to guard or defend property of any kind shall be residents of the State where the property is located, and their employer and the owner of the property shall be responsible for their conduct, both civilly and criminally, while the employment exists. No person, the bill provides, shall employ any private citizen directly or indirectly, or arm or equip any one already employed, to make arrests without warrants, to disperse mobs or quell disturbances, to establish martial law, to aid in the operating of engines, cars and boats by force of arms, or to do any other acts within the scope of the legal duties of the militia or authorities and officers of the towns, cities, counties, and States. No person shall organize, keep or maintain any force of employees, agents or associates for the purpose of hiring it or any part of it to private citizens or corporations to perform any of the acts mentioned above.

THE ST. LOUIS CONVENTION.

The following is a list of the delegates elected by the different State delegations:

H. Tracy, Texas; L. P. Featherston, Arkansas; Marion Butler, North Carolina; William Farr Goodwin, New Jersey; Col. C. M. Butt, Wisconsin; Alva Agee, Ohio; T. S. Adams, Louisiana; Marion Cannon, California; L. F. Livingston, Georgia; Frank Burkett, Mississippi; J. Brad Beverly, Virginia; Matt Khea, Tennessee; L. Leonard, Missouri; J. B. Weaver, Iowa; M. V. Rork, Oregon; C. M. Maxson, New York; Sinclair Thompson, Pennsylvania; M. A. Householder, Kansas; M. G. Elzey, Maryland; T. I. Gardner, Kentucky; Thomas W. Force, Indiana; William Hess, Illinois; R. A. Southworth, Colorado; M. V. Loncker, Michigan; S. M. Adams, Alabama; A. P. Baskin, Florida.

Besides these delegates from the State at large there will be delegates from the congressional districts of every State, elected by the Alliance and by laboring organizations.

INTERVIEWS.

HON. L. F. LIVINGSTON, OF GEORGIA, has done telling work for the reform cause since taking his seat in

Congress. Upon the Holman resolution he fired the first Alliance gun of the session in a thoroughly earnest and eloquent speech of twenty minutes duration, and has introduced a resolution (published two issues back in THE ECONOMIST) calling for investigation by committee of seven of our whole financial system, besides re-introducing the sub-treasury bill. Upon these two last acts he courageously granted THE ECONOMIST the following interview:

"Men," he said, "differ radically as to the cause or causes for financial stringency. Theories are as plentiful as blackberries. One thinks it over-production (no matter how many backs bare or mouths empty), another lays it to over-taxation and the tariff, the third perhaps has a hazy idea that the manufacturer is responsible, because it is so evident that the producer sells too low and purchases too high. My opinion is that the whole question is one of triple domination, and that it is no longer a partisan, but geographical one—the South, West, and Northwest arrayed against the cormorancy of the East. So the first object of the resolution is to probe to the truth, and settle once and forever uncertainty and dispute."

"About the national banks, Colonel?" "Those three sections run, to ascertain: 1. The amount of national bank notes outstanding, the amount based upon United States bonds and United States currency; also the amount of United States bonds held by national banks as basis for circulation, and the reason for their not being used for that purpose, together with the contraction of the volume of national currency, the rate of interest charged by national banks, and the profits of the system since its inauguration.

"2. The amount of contraction in every species of currency that has been used as a part of the circulating medium since the year 1865, the amount of currency now in the United States, its kind and where located, and how distributed by States.

"3. The amount of currency in kinds held by the United States treasury and by national banks as reserves, and also the probable amount held by the other banks for the same purpose.

You see by this that the amount in circulation would be correctly ascertained, the amount held back in the treasury as reserves for 'specific purposes' noted, and the two together fix undeniably the volume of currency. The government of the United States really farms out its credit through the agency of its national banks to citizens. In some States the interest charged is 10, others 8, again 6 per cent. Now, if the government really wants to go into the money renting or changing business, it is very palpable that its citizens, taking an average for a basis, pay too high for the loan of its credit. Let it fix one rate of interest throughout the Union as a short step in the right direction."

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"So the failure of one banking institution—" "Can, under present conditions, shake two continents, produce a panic, ruin thousands, and make times harder than ever?"

"It is easy to understand that, but how does alien capital control the products and labor of this country?" "It absolutely fixes the price—down to eggs. The East and the agents of foreign speculators control the money. They have the supply—you the necessity. They have massed the currency in one section of the country. You can get no sale for your product, be it cotton, wool, stock, or hogs—save to them. If you had a cargo of coffee and sent it to Galveston, though it is a staple and everyone uses it, yet you could not find a lump-purchaser. Why? Because the volume of available money in that city is more than probable insufficient for daily exchange. Your cargo would have to spread her sails and sail away to be swallowed literally and otherwise by New York. If you established a bucket factory in the South and borrowed the money for the plant, every bucket would travel East to be priced by your owners before it returned to be sold for home consumption.

"These are facts. The brown cotton goods we manufacture are manipulated this way. You can find no market at home. You must seek as a supplicant the man or men who have the cash, and they grind you to the earth with the bargain they drive."

"Sum up the situation, financially, Col. Livingston?" "Simply this. It is eastern domination, financial domination, commercial domination, political domination. This is why we must go East for our Presidents. They are chosen, and the party platforms they run upon. Divide the country into four quarters, nine-tenths East controls, runs, and owns the other three. The question is, how long are we going to stand it? How long is the laborer to be negatively told by press and politicians 'work on, and we will run the government,' when that very government was established to protect its citizens in their liberties, to prevent infringement of their natural rights, and to give to every man under it an equal chance?"

"Do you think you will get the committee appointed, and that the one of present reference will so report?" The Colonel's eyes snapped, and he struck the table he saw beside an emphatic thump. "They can't justifiably deny it. We are asking

for information. It would put Congress in bad shape to refuse it. If they do, then I will treat them to thunder and lightning. I propose to read the riot act on the spot, and bid them get ready their coffin and shroud."

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1839.—Rejected by 229 to 118, the bill to provide national education.

1844.—Opposed repeal of the penal laws (Ireland). These laws made it a crime for a Roman Catholic to teach a child to read, to be absent from Protestant services, and to own a horse above 5 pounds in value.

1860.—Refused education to miners' children.

1871.—Threw out ballot bill, and next year ruined it by an amendment making the method of voting optional.

1883.—Spoiled English agricultural holdings bill, but thought better of it afterwards.

1884.—Refused the franchise to 2,000,000 county householders, until cowed by the attitude of the country.

The reform almanac says: "We have at present really no second deliberative chamber, for the House of Lords is simply an assembly of the aristocracy for the purpose of protecting the privileges of the aristocracy."

BLACKBOARD EXERCISES.

Two-thirds of England and Wales belong to 10,200 persons.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Fifteen proprietors own two-fifths. Five proprietors own one-fourth.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Forty-four proprietors own three-fifths. Twenty-six proprietors own one-half. Duke of Northumberland owns one-seventh.

GREAT ESTATES.

Duke of Bedford, 33,000 acres.
Duke of Portland, 53,000 acres.
Duke of Northumberland, 181,000 acres.

IRELAND.

Duke of Devonshire, 11,000 acres. 27,000 acres.
13,000 acres. 32,000 acres.
Seven persons own one-seventh of Buckinghamshire. Population, 175,000.

7 | 175,000

Five persons own one-ninth of Cambridge. Population, 149,000.

5 | 149,000

Sixteen persons own two-sevenths of Cheshire. Population, 561,000.

16 | 561,000

PROBLEMS.

1. How many 80-acre farms does the Duke of Northumberland own?

2. How many 80-acre farms does the Duke of Devonshire own in England?

3. How many in Ireland?

4. How many in all?

5. The average valuation of the landed property of England is given at about \$140 per acre. What is the value of the Duke of Devonshire's English estates?

6. What is the value of the Duke of Northumberland's estates?

If sixteen persons own two-sevenths of Cheshire, and this amount be equally divided among the sixteen, each would own one-fifty-sixth of the whole amount of land. If the remaining five-sevenths were divided equally among the remaining population of 561,000, each person would own 1,785,400 of the whole amount of land. Is such a division of the landed property of a nation among its people just? Is it desirable? Is such a division of the land of America probable? Is it possible?

The Annual Statistician says: "Farm—largest in the world—1,500,000 acres, in the southwest corner of Louisiana, owned by Northern syndicate; has railroads, steamboats and telegraph lines." Are we drifting, slowly but surely, to the landlord and tenant system?

The reformers of England say: "The abolition of the House of Lords is, therefore, necessary if we are to make any real progress for the advancement of the social condition of the masses." Is it wise for the people of the United States to allow the formation of an aristocracy of landholders in this country?

QUESTIONS.

1. What king was the first to unite England under a strong government and give it a definite code of laws, which is generally deemed the origin of the common law?

2. Who introduced the feudal system into England, and what was it?

3. What king granted the great charter, and what were some of its enactments?

4. What king surrendered the power of levying arbitrary taxes upon the people?

5. What king declared himself the supreme head of the church of England?

6. What king asserted the "divine right of kings?"

7. What was the fate of his son and successor?

8. What was the condition of Great Britain in 1815?

9. What important bill was passed in 1832?

10. What were the reforms demanded by the chartists?

11. Of what does parliament consist?

12. Of what class of people is the House of Lords largely composed?

13. In 1810 what did the House of Lords do with the bill abolishing punishment of death for stealing?

14. What did they do with the reform bill in 1831?

15. What did they do with it in 1832? Why did they change their minds? What did the people do?

16. Ought throwing mud, riots and fires to be necessary to procure legislation in behalf of the people?

17. What important legislation did the lords try to check in 1884?

18. Name some other important bill which they refused to pass until compelled by the attitude of the country.

19. Should the privileges of the lords be preserved at the expense of the rights of the people?

20. Does the history of England teach us that it is as easy for a people to regain their rights as it is to lose them?

THE KING.

"The king can do no wrong."

"The law, therefore, ascribes to the king, in his high political character, not only large powers and emoluments, which form his prerogative and revenue, but likewise certain attributes of a great and transcendental nature, by which the people are led to consider him in the light of a superior being, and to pay him that respect which may enable him with greater ease to carry on the business of the government.

"Besides the attributes of sovereignty, the law also ascribes to the king, in his political capacity, absolute perfection. The king can do no wrong."

"The sovereign, moreover, is not only incapable of doing wrong, but even of thinking wrong; he can never mean to do an improper thing; in him is no folly or weakness.

"For the law will not cast an imputation on that magistrate whom it intrusts with the executive power, as if he was capable of intentionally disregarding his trust; but attributes to mere imposition, to which the most perfect of sublunary beings must still continue liable, these little inadvertencies, which, if charged on the will of the prince, might lessen him in the eyes of his subjects." —Blackstone's *Commentaries*.

"The Constitution of the United States not only supposes a President may be fallible, but also criminal. It prescribes the mode in which he shall be tried upon an impeachment, and expressly declares that he shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors." —Sharswood.

"The king can do no wrong," says the legal axiom, and hence it follows that somebody must be responsible for his measures, if these be contrary to law or injurious to the country's welfare. Ministers here are not responsible qua-ministers, that is, qua-officials (as such they are responsible to the crown), but they are responsible to parliament and the people, or the country, as 'advisers of the crown.' Any one of them may advise the crown, and whoever does so is responsible to the country for the advice he has given." —*Letter of the Prince Consort*.

THE QUEEN.

"The queen is the head of the aristocracy.

With many of its members, in one way or another, she is allied.

"The queen still exacts for herself the punctilio of former centuries. Men and women of the highest rank kneel to her to-day; cabinet ministers kiss her hand. She refuses to receive any personal service from a menial, except at table. She never opens a door or directs a letter. Dukes and duchesses cloak her in public, and commoners become 'honorable' for life because they have waited on her majesty.

"The ladies and gentlemen in waiting are not expected to sit in the presence of royalty, and countesses and marchionesses get themselves larger shoes because they must stand so long. I knew a personal attendant of the queen who acted as secretary, a woman of very high rank, and as old as her majesty, who often, after writing until she was exhausted, asked permission to finish on her knees." —*Badeau*.

"The queen shows great respect to royal blood, even though it flows beneath a black skin. The son of the king of Abyssinia, who died trying to defend his kingdom against the British, became a prisoner and a pensioner in England. Mr. Badeau tells us there was a gathering at which Prince Leopold was present and the prime minister of the day. They came together, and in the same carriage was the African prince of the blood. He looked to me like any little negro boy of nine or ten, but he had his gentlemen in waiting, he took precedence of the prime minister, and he stood on the red carpet reserved for royalty alone."

THE NOBILITY.

"In the present year of our Lord about six hundred men, with their immediate families, constitute the aristocracy of England.

"During the twelve years that I spent in England (1869-1881) Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone together made sixty-one English noblemen.

Of these, twenty-seven were promoted from a lower grade; the others had been commoners, and were thus absolute additions to the peerage.

A liberal marquis was made a duke solely because of his immense wealth, and the appointment was universally applauded, while a conservative com-

moner found himself suddenly noble in all his veins because he had been Beaconsfield's private secretary.

"On the other hand, no artist, no man of science, and, except Tennyson, no man of purely literary eminence, has ever received a coronet in England. Macaulay has sometimes been cited as an instance to the contrary; but had not his great genius been applied to politics, he never would have penetrated the House of Lords.

"The prime minister himself has no precedence by virtue of his place, and I have seen Mr. Gladstone, when at the head of the government, go in to dinner after barons of his own creation.

Even when ministers enjoy a temporary rank this never confers precedence on their wives, who, like the wives of bishops and archbishops, can sit at the bottom of the table and look up to the top, where their husbands are dining by the side of duchesses. When I first observed the little regard paid to official rank in England, I expressed my surprise, but was quickly told: 'Oh! we respect the substance, not the shadow.' An American would have said that rank was the shadow, and power the substance, but hereditary permanent rank is what most Englishmen prize above all earthly honors.

"The effect of rank on those who possess it is certainly vulgarizing.

"A duke may be a boor or a clown, a duchess may be illiterate, or drunken, or immoral—and

there have been instances of all this within the last twenty years—but they are dukes and duchesses all the same. Their precedence is not disturbed, their notice is still an honor, their society is courted, their alliance is sought, if not by all, yet by so many that they never discover the deficiency. They are men of the highest rank who turn palaces into dog kennels, and consort with pugilists, and yet marry into ducal families!

"While I was in England, the lords, as a body, resisted every step in the direction of progress, or reform. They opposed the ballot, the educational system now in force, the disestablishment of the Irish church, the abolition of purchase in the army, and every measure calculated to extend the suffrage, to favor the sale of land, or to modify the condition of Ireland; yet in every cause they were obliged to yield." —*Badeau*.

SERVANTS.

"In a great house thirty or forty servants is no unusual number; and when there is a house party, as many as a hundred are often assembled, for each guest brings his own servant, and the various valets and maids.

The extra coachmen and grooms make up a company that rivals the array in the drawing-room for pretension and pride. For all these—especially the upper servants—must be placed according to the rank of their masters.

"One nobleman that I know was master of the hounds and kept seventy horses, and for every two horses a man.

"In great houses the servants go in to dinner according to rank, and when the master is entertaining company for a week, the butler has a difficult task to arrange the visiting menials in the order of their degrees." —*Badeau*.

CURIOUS LAWS.

"The law is above the king."

An act was passed under George III which "fixed twenty-five as the age before which no prince or princess could marry without the king's consent."

Mr. Dowdeswell, of the House of Commons, said: "Men who are by law allowed at twenty-one to be fit for governing the realm may well be supposed capable of choosing and governing a wife."

"Quoth Dick to Tom, 'This act appears absurd, as I'm alive.' To take the crown at eighteen years, A wife at twenty-five. The mystery now shall we explain? Forsooth as Dowdeswell said, Thus early if they're fit to reign, They must be fit to wed." Quoth Tom to Dick, "Thou art a fool, And nothing know'st of life; Alas! it's easier far to rule A kingdom than a wife." —*Parliamentary History*.

"The influence of various trades, and of the owners of different kinds of property, pressing in turn upon our legislators, had rendered our code the most sanguinary that had, probably, ever existed in christendom. Each class of proprietor regarded only the preservation of his own property, and had no belief in the efficacy of any kind of protection for it, except such as arose from the fear of death; nor any doubt that he was justified in procuring the infliction of that penalty to avert the slightest loss to himself.

"The consequence was that, at the beginning of the present century, there were about two hundred offences, the perpetrators of which were liable to capital punishment, some of a very trivial character, such as cutting down a hop vine in a Kentish hop garden, robbing a rabbit-warren, or a fish pond, personating an out-pensioner of Greenwich hospital, or even being found on a high road with a blackened face, the intention to commit a crime being inferred from the disguise, even though no

overt act had been committed. An act of Elizabeth made picking a pocket a capital offense; another passed as late as the reign of William III, affixed the same penalty to shop-lifting, even when the article stolen might not exceed the value of five shillings. And the fault of these enactments was not confined to their unreasonable cruelty; they were as mischievous even to those whom they were designed to protect as they were absurd, as some owners began to perceive. In the list of capital offenses was that of stealing linen from a bleaching ground.

And a large body of bleachers presented a petition to parliament entreating the repeal of the statute which made it such, on the ground that practically it had been found not to strike terror into the thieves, but almost to secure them impunity from the reluctance of juries to find a verdict which would send a fellow-creature to the gallows for such an offense." —*Constitutional History of England*.

HOW TO PRESENT THIS LESSON.

Begin the lesson by reading slowly and distinctly the parts entitled, geography, historical events, and House of Lords, commenting as you read, making additions where you see fit. If you find anything of interest on the feudal system, have it read.

Discuss the reform bills and the chartists' demands, but avoid discussion of the corn law agitation, as that subject would require at least a full evening's work. Circumstances alter cases, and what may be good business policy for one nation, acting under one set of circumstances, may be bad policy for the same nation at another time, or for another nation differently situated.

Explain the blackboard exercises. If there is blackboard room, send members to the board to work the problems. If not, let them be worked with pencil and paper.

Those members who take THE ECONOMIST and study the lessons at home, will answer to better advantage than those who have only heard the lesson read. When the question is not answered, give the answer yourself, or read the paragraph to which the question refers. Try different ways of questioning. Try to bring out a discussion on such questions as 16, 19, and 20. Appoint one person to read what is said of the king, another of the queen, etc. Remarks and questions by the class are always in order.

In lodges where members are well prepared with papers, let each one in succession read a paragraph. Do the best you can, and these lessons will prove an educational benefit to you and to your lodge.

If you are a practical teacher, study the lesson, and then use your own methods.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Lesson 6 will be: "England—Its Workers." A study of English tenant farmers and agricultural laborers. What was their condition twenty and thirty years ago, before the formation of the Laborer's Union? What is their present condition?

Lesson 7 will be: "In Darkest England." Review. Open lodge.

Texas Politics.

From our special correspondent.

Politics in Texas is just now in a tangled condition, and the uncertainty which usually precedes the holding of primary conventions is, this year, intensified by the radical division which has arisen in Democratic ranks, as well as the attitude of expectant waiting assumed by the members of the Alliance, as individuals, and above all by the unmistakable signs of disgust with party politics generally, which is apparent everywhere in the actions and conversation of voters.

At the last election the question of railroad regulation was the issue. National politics was for the time being held in abeyance and the whole regulation was the issue. National politics was for the time being held in abeyance and the whole people for this occasion ranged themselves on the one or other side of that question. On the one side were the "Hogg Democrats," endorsed by the Alliance men, third party men and Grangers; on the other were the "Clark Democrats" endorsed by the banks and corporations. The Republican party was divided, as was the Democratic party, some acting on each side. The issue was fought out and railroad regulation won by a majority so immense that its effects upon the two factions of the Democracy has been very peculiar. They are waging against each other an unrelenting warfare. The Clark faction have given up the fight against the commission as an institution, and are now biding all their efforts toward revenge and to wrest from the other faction the party machinery.

The Hogg faction seem never to have realized the cause of their overwhelming victory and are so puffed up with conceit over the wonderful political sagacity displayed by them, as they think, that they have recklessly and carelessly, in the arrogance of unexpected success, snubbed, alienated and driven away from them the very elements who gave them the victory. Since the election this Hogg faction has done more than all other forces combined to make it possible to reverse the decision of the people on the railroad issue. These two factions are represented, respectively, by "Hogg" and the Gazette newspapers.

Immediately after the election the Gazette and Governor Hogg began a war against the Alliance, going so far as to plant and foster a bastard Alliance for the purpose of bringing about a split in that organization. They were also very sweet on the crowd of political traders represented by the Texas Farmer, whose creed seems to be office. (I do not mean that the last named paper represents the Grange, but it does misrepresent the genuine granger wofully.) On the other hand, the News and the Clark factions have gone quietly to work and have used moderation and conciliation and a kind of surface fairness, that has about regained them all the ground lost in their late disastrous battle with the Hoggites.

I have not the least fear that the commission verdict will be reversed, and I am satisfied the Clarkites do not hope it in their most hopeful moments; but if they do not get the Hoggites down in the dirt and fill their eyes so full of sand that they won't be able to tell the difference between a bunch of sour grapes and a good fat office, you can write me down as a false prophet. There's fun ahead, oodles of fun!

In the meantime the reformers are going quietly and steadily ahead in the middle of the road, arguing and pleading with the people and presenting their "bottom figures" to the different parties. These bottom figures are the Ocala demands. The reformers are assisted this year by the most persuasive reasoner the world has ever seen, "Old Father Necessity" has joined the reformer's ranks this year and is making converts by the thousand. Everywhere we are met with the cry from old time Democrats and Republicans: "I have lost all faith in parties." "I have voted for my old party the last time." "We must have a change." "A few years more of this will bring out the old shot-guns," etc., etc.

Oh, there's music in the air! There is nothing of boasting or bravado about these people either, but when they say "we must have a change," it is impossible to mistake their meaning. A change they are going to have and nothing can foil them except a mistake as to the proper means (party) through which to effect that change. Now we need another Solomon to point out the way. Vox.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
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NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND
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The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the national meeting in St. Louis:

Whereas, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore we, the members of this National body, that we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Resolved, That this Supreme Council re-inforce THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of brother C. W. Macneile and his associates in said paper, and will do all we can to urge them onward in the good work of education.

Address all remittances or communications to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
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N. R. P. A.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To all persons interested in the growth of the cause of right and justice:

THE ECONOMIST was started as a special champion of this cause and teen, as a money-making enterprise. It has up to date been put out to the people at cost, and will continue that policy. As a proof of which, note the following extraordinary offer:

THE ECONOMIST FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 1892 FOR FIFTY CENTS.

From February 15 to March 31 all 50 cent subscribers received will get the paper till November 1, provided as many as ten are in one club.

Secretaries are requested to bring this notice before the Alliance and make a special plea for as much as one club in each body. All friends are requested to get up a club.

Now is the time to renew. Now is the time to subscribe.

Eight months for fifty cents, in clubs of ten or more.

MR. CUMMINGS, of New York, has introduced a bill to organize a society to be known as the "Colonial Dames of America." Let it be done at once. There is just now a crying demand for just such an organization. If this could be supplemented by an organization of the hired girls of the same period the thing would be complete and the country safe.

THE department of agriculture has now in press Farmers' Bulletin No. 5, which treats in a brief and practical manner of smut, in oats and wheat especially, and of the means which should be adopted by farmers in preparing the seed so as to avoid injury to the crop from this cause. In order to avail themselves of the suggestions therem contained, farmers will want

to receive this bulletin without delay, and special urgency will be used to get it out promptly. In the meantime applicants should send in their names and addresses, and the bulletin will be mailed to them immediately on its issue. Farmers' Bulletin No. 6, also in press, treats of the cultivation and curing of tobacco. It is written by Mr. John M. Estes, a practical tobacco raiser, who has recently made a careful study of the subject in the tobacco-raising States.

Mr. A. C. Houston, whose article, entitled "The Separation of State and Individual," appears in this issue, has written a pamphlet entitled "An Incestuous Alliance," setting forth at length the principle for which he contends. This pamphlet can be ordered of J. W. Randolph & Co., Richmond, Va.; price 15 cents.

THE House committee on the election of President, Vice-President, and Representatives in Congress yesterday heard an argument from Representative Springer, of Illinois, advocating his joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution in reference to the election of President and Vice-President of the United States and Representatives in Congress. The resolution fixes the term of office of the President and Vice-President at six years, and provides that they shall be ineligible to a re-election for the next ensuing term. It also provides that "the times, places, and manner of choosing Senators shall be prescribed in each State by the legislature thereof, but that Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators. Terms of Senators shall expire on the first Wednesday in January, and Congress shall assemble on the first Wednesday in January."

THERE seems to be a difficulty in forcing the tariff issue to the front again. The people have at last learned that it has been used simply to throw dirt in their eyes while those who manipulated the finances plundered them of their hard earnings.

THE following resolutions were adopted by the First Congressional District Alliance at their meeting at Livingston, Tex., January 7, 1892: Be it resolved by the First Congressional District Alliance, in regular session at Livingston, Tex., January 7, 1892, That we endorse the action of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union in creating a propaganda fund for the purpose of circulating literature among the people, and request all Alliances to assist in the work.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST for publication.

T. J. BROOKS,
Secretary-Treasurer,
MACEDONIA, TEX.

THE following is taken from the Philadelphia Press and discloses a new danger which threatens one of the most important industries of the country:

One of the most gigantic schemes that has ever been projected in the leather trade is now being attempted by a com-

pany of English capitalists, whose agent or representative has been for some time in this country. It is nothing more nor less than the consolidation of the tanneries of the United States into a trust or syndicate, with headquarters in the East and a local office in each State. The English syndicate has already been formed, and \$1,000,000 of its capital stock had been subscribed for. The names of its members have not yet been made public, but are stated to be among the most prominent leather merchants in that country.

BROTHER NORTON, of the Chicago Express, in his war on the sub-treasury plan, is doing that plan a genuine service, because he shows that it is not to be confounded with the greenback movement, the inflation craze, or the doctrines of the professional money reformer.

THE result of the coming meeting at St. Louis is awaited with great anxiety by all true friends of reform. Upon the declaration of principles formulated at the meeting will be fought the most determined battles for reform and a change of conditions ever witnessed by any people.

OF THE \$828,313,890 OF EXPORTS for the calendar year of 1891, \$428,325,760 was imported free and \$486,725,897 paid a duty.

IMMIGRATION to the United States during the past twelve months amounts to 590,666, of which Germany furnished 123,401, Italy 68,481, Russia and Poland 104,428, Sweden and Norway 52,262.

THE WORLD'S WHEAT CROP.

A firm of New York brokers have issued a revised estimate of the world's wheat crop for 1891. The department of agriculture has praised this estimate and affirmed it the most trustworthy that has been given the public. The yields for the last eleven years, as stated in this publication, follow:

	Bushels.
1891.....	2,123,170,110
1890.....	2,234,869,994
1889.....	2,056,221,131
1888.....	2,153,177,819
1887.....	2,293,325,424
1886.....	2,177,805,285
1885.....	2,096,473,726
1884.....	2,290,306,659
1883.....	2,051,775,592
1882.....	2,258,982,485
1881.....	1,995,432,615

The 1891 crop of the United States is estimated at 600,000,000 bushels, against 399,262,000 bushels in 1890 and 490,560,000 bushels in 1889. The average yield per acre in 1889 was 12.9 bushels; in 1890, 11.1; while in 1891 the average rose to 15 bushels.

With the single exception of India, the United States is the only country with a larger crop in 1891 than in 1890. The yield in France is placed at 200,800,000 bushels, while in 1890 it was 338,902,124; in India at 255,434,667, as against 235,345,600 in 1890; in Russia at 164,000,000, as against 212,980,604; in Hungary at 124,000,000, while in 1890 it was 165,345,000; Italy's yield in 1891 is set down as 123,276,960, against 126,610,746 in 1890; in Germany bus-

hines of 1890 measured up to 94,899,840 bushels, while that of 1891 is estimated at 75,819,872; and in the United Kingdom the falling off is the difference between 78,306,016 bushels, the crop of 1890, and 72,000,000, the estimated yield of 1891.

BY REQUEST, the demands adopted by the confederated organizations at their meeting in Washington last winter is printed below:

1. We demand the abolition of national banks as banks of issue, and as a substitute for national bank notes we demand that legal tender treasury notes be issued in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country without damage or special advantage to any class or calling, such notes to be legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, and such notes when demanded by the people shall be loaned to them at not more than 2 per cent per annum upon non-perishable products as indicated in the sub-treasury plan; and also upon real estate with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money.

2. We demand a free and unlimited coinage of silver.

3. We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that Congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

4. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that taxation—national, State, or municipal—shall not be used to build up one interest or class at the expense of another.

5. We demand that all revenues—national, State or county—shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically and honestly administered.

6. We demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes.

7. We demand the most rigid honesty and just State and national control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision does not remove the abuses now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

8. We demand that the Congress of the United States submit an amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people of each State; also the President and Vice-President by a popular vote.

9. Resolved, That this confederation of industrial organizations demand that in each State a system shall be provided and faithfully executed that will insure an honest and accurate registration of all voters, a free, fair, secret and official ballot, and an honest public count; and we demand that each State legislature shall make it a felony for any improper interference with the exercise of the registration, ballot, or count.

GENERAL NOTES.

"John," said the affectionate wife of a politician, "I don't want any woman suffrage." "Why not?" "Because I'd always feel like voting for you for office, and I don't think I could conscientiously do it."

A dispatch from Berlin says: "Until recently the people of Dusseldorf have counted but five of their number as millionaires. The number has suddenly risen to over one hundred. This remarkable increase in the supply of plutocrats is not due to sudden influx of wealth, but to a more rigid application of the income tax laws than formerly. The result of the tax-gatherer's zeal is the discovery that one hundred and five persons in the city possess over a million marks each, while forty-six of these enjoy more than ten millions. A large enhance-

ment of the public revenue is the direct outcome of this investigation.

Justice Joseph P. Bradley, of the United States Supreme Court, died at his home in Washington, D. C., January 22. He was appointed in 1870. During his membership of the tribunal, he sat in a large number of important cases, notably those involving questions arising out of the civil war, the reconstruction, and other acts of Congress, constitutional amendments, and other subjects.

In the great contest in 1877 for the Presidency, between Tilden and Hayes, Judge Bradley was a member of the electoral commission. He concurred in the conclusion reached by the majority of the commissioners.

The largest chicken ranch in the world is on an island in Puget Sound. It is the property of George Hills, and occupies the entire island of one thousand acres in extent. He began business here ten years ago. He supplies the States of Washington and Oregon, and sends large shipments of poultry to San Francisco and Sacramento, and contemplates shipping poultry to New York and other eastern cities. At present there are on the ranch 90,000 chickens, 20,000 turkeys, 4,000 geese, and 10,000 ducks of all kinds, besides quantities of pigeons. He has not begun the use of insulators, but is arranging to have a number of them at work next year.

The death of Rev. Chas. H. Spurgeon at Mentone, Italy, has deprived the world of the ablest Baptist exponent of this century. He achieved renown by his eloquence when only 21 years of age, and his voice has been always potent in uplifting humanity, and adapting the progress of the age to the tenants of religion. We may not look upon his like again.

Sir Morrell McKenzie, the great English throat specialist, is dead. He attained the heights in his profession, and attended in his fatal illness Dr. Sputh's pulpit during his illness, made an eloquent address; compared Mr. Spurgeon to a cedar of Lebanon, whose fall had shocked the whole land; that no such vacancy had been left in the church in a century. When the olive wood coffin containing the body was borne down the aisle the entire congregation arose and joined in singing the hymn, "There is no Night in Homeland." On the coffin lay an open Bible. The sides of the hearse bore the text: "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith." The crowd was immense in Norwood cemetery. There the coffin was deposited in a vault, which will be surrounded by a bronze statue of Mr. Spurgeon, and upon it will be placed bas-reliefs symbolic of the dead minister's benevolent works. After public services the people formed in line and slowly filed before the open vault and took a last look at the coffin of Mr. Spurgeon.

Senator Quay has won two libel suits in Pennsylvania, and Messrs. Porter and Mellon are sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine of \$600. The judge said when pronouncing sentence: "It would appear that you were acting upon the amazing theory that if a newspaper accuses a man of a crime he is conclusively proved to be guilty until he proves his innocence in a court of justice. Even there his own denials are not entitled to any weight."

Ex-Speaker Reed claims the credit for the Fifty-first Congress of striking the fatal blow at the Louisiana lottery vampire, by depriving it of the use of the United States mails. The Supreme Court has sustained the constitutionality of the act, and John Morris is out in an open letter from the lottery headquarters grounding arms and accepting defeat.

The Hon. Sherman Hoar, of Massachusetts, has introduced one creditable measure. It provides for the promotion of postmasters from one grade office to another. The enactment into law would secure greater departmental efficiency through furnishing an appreciable incentive, and remove to some extent the office from the influence of partisan politics. In short, it is the essence of civil service reform.

Hon. G. W. Cooper, of Indiana, has introduced a bill providing for the furnishing of a regular copy of the Congressional Record to every

in so many of its provinces. All of Russia's faults and misfortunes are attributed to the man who sits on the throne. It is claimed that the semi-barbarism of parts of Russia can not be changed in a day. It is claimed that the czar does not know a tithe of the outrages committed on Jewish population, and that the Jews are largely responsible for these outrages; that Russia would stand out in a unique position if it were not that England, Germany, Austria, France, and Italy, are very much like her in their greed for territory.

Dispatches from Russia indicate that the czar has adopted measures for the relief of his famine-stricken provinces, and has ordered one of his big function aids to purchase a vast quantity (15,000,000 rubles' worth) of wheat, which will be distributed by military officers. It is inferred there is an abundance of grain in Russia, and that Russian government does not desire charitable contributions to be sent to it from foreign countries. It appears that the harvests of last year in the greater part of the empire were as large as usual. The reports of destitution are mainly from the fertile grain growing regions along the Volga—but crops failed there last season.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.
Senator Peffer says in relation to prohibition: "There is no efficient way to deal with the business of dram selling but to prohibit it. Any other course is merely temporizing."

Hon. Jos. D. Sayers, of Texas, has introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, calling for an investigation into all moneys expended and general management of the World's Columbian Exposition.

Wanamaker has informed the committee on post-offices that to reduce letter postage to one cent per ounce and postal cards to one-half cent each will cause a deficit in the postal revenues of \$25,000,000. He adds that he does not believe the increased business would compensate for deficit.

The resolution of the Hon. Marshall Arnold, of Missouri, introduced into Congress, demanding the recall of United States Minister Egan from Chile, is severely criticised. His fellow solons claim to have never heard of similar action by a Congressman. The Hon. Marshall Arnold is nothing if not original.

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court house for public reference. In explanation of it he says: "Under the present system it is within the discretion of a member of Congress to retain all his allotment of Records, and make it impossible for constituents to see one, unless they buy it. This bill is intended to remedy this manifest evil."

The Secretary of War, on the 21st of January, transmitted to the Senate a statement showing the military force of the United States, organized and unorganized, according to the latest returns. The abstract shows that the total number of enlisted men is 101,821, commanded by 8,879 commissioned officers, besides 1,248 staff officers, making an aggregate of 111,948 men in the regular service. The number of men available for military service unorganized is 8,567,258.

"I am not talking any for Bunkum," said the Hon. J. E. Washington when asked by THE ECONOMIST scribbler for an interview. "Know what Bunkum means? No? Well I'll tell you. A certain gentleman was making a spread-eagle speech. He rang in everything in the country but what the people wanted to hear. Finally some one sung out that he had skipped the track. 'Sir,' shouted the orator, 'I am not talking at you; I am talking for Bunkum.' Bunkum was his home county."

Hon. Tom Watson, of Georgia, has this to say about the recent mass meeting, held at Thompson, Ga., (at which his brother presided as secretary) which read him out of the Democratic fold: "It is quite natural that in every county in Georgia the Democratic party should make a fight for its old platform and old organization. It would be very strange if the new Jeffersonian Democracy which we are forming would

sweep the deck at the first clatter. In my home county the division exists as it does elsewhere, and this mass meeting is a counter demonstration to the one which endorsed me some time ago. As to my brother, I have only to say that each member of my family has as much right to his opinion as I have to mine. It is a free country. The issue is a vital one, and if my brother thinks his side is right, I would be ashamed of him if he did not stand up to it like a man."

Here is a lesson in practical politics. State Senator Thomas Murphy, of New York, tells it: "When I was a young man I was intimate with Seward and his family. My first visit to the Senate was for the purpose of hearing him speak. He made a great speech, and was replied to by Senator Foote, of Mississippi, in bitter and offensive language. I was so enraged at his tone that I could scarcely keep from leaping from my seat and choking him. I dined that evening at Senator Seward's house, and judge of my amazement to find the gentleman seated beside me to be Senator Foote. When the ladies had withdrawn I went round to Seward and said: 'Senator, I heard that man sitting next me at your table abuse you in such a gross manner that I was indignant.' They both roared, and Foote said: 'Young man, let me give you a tip on politics. Seward lives in New York, and when he makes a speech and I denounce him for his opposition to slavery, that helps me at home, and Seward tells me it don't hurt him a bit.'

THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

Views of Noted Men on the Objects and Purposes of the Meeting and the Work to be Done.

S. M. ADAMS, PRESIDENT ALABAMA STATE ALLIANCE.

Replying to your request asking my views as to what should be done at the February conference, I will say, first, that we should do nothing that would retard the education of the people in political economy, at the same time something must be done that will convince the people that we mean business, and I suggest that we speak out, and that we speak with no uncertain sound and let all political parties understand that they can not get our votes for national office unless they will pledge themselves to vote for the sub-treasury bill or something better; and should any one of the political parties substitute something for the sub-treasury, let that something be submitted to the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union for approval.

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In a country like ours, where the people are, in theory at least, the rulers, it is all important that there should be formulated some legal or economic principle, fundamental in its nature and far-reaching in its effect, around which with intelligence reformers may rally; a principle which will not only give motive power, but fix a limit to effort. Then even in the eyes of its enemies the great movement will no longer assume the features of a scramble for office, but become, what in reality it is, a contest for a principle. In carrying this principle into effect by legislation, in some departments of governmental activity there can be but little hesitation as to the method to be pursued, while in others action should at first be tentative and experimental. Why not, then, I ask, may not the new party, which will without doubt be a result of the present ferment, be called by some name that embodies the principle for which we contend, namely, the separation of the State and the individual?

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The St. Louis Meeting

BY WILT PRICE.

It behoves all of us who have at heart the interest of the great reform movement, of which the National Farmers Alliance is so important a part, to devote careful thought to the problems which must be solved by the conference of the confederated industrial organizations at St. Louis on the 22d of this month. While I am not a member of the Alliance, being ineligible, I am a member of the Knights of Labor, and hence make bold to trespass on your space. It seems to me that the great question to be decided by that conference is whether or not independent political action, right now, shall be recommended to the members of the organizations there represented. I believe that such recommendation should be made, and with your permission will give my reasons.

Now, take up the Democratic party. We find in it two factions struggling for supremacy. One is headed by Grover Cleveland, and its one battle-cry is "tariff reform." I have no fight with tariff reform. It is exemplified by the Cleveland Democracy, a harmless sort of thing, which means a reduction of perhaps 5 per cent in taxes of certain kinds; that is, instead of paying \$8 a year a piece, we shall only pay \$7.60. If the working people of this country are satisfied with a measure of reform which means a reduction of expenses of 40 cents a year, and allow the present unjust social conditions to continue, I am mistaken in the scope and intent of this movement and am result to the people. When you take the "demands" of the people promulgated by the reform organizations, the last analysis of them discloses this life-giving principle of a separation of the State and the individual.

Hon. W. L. Wilson was feeling his way toward this great and necessary principle of government when he said in a late speech before the Massachusetts Reform Club:

It seems to me we need first of all to free the government of the United States from private ownership or private control by my set of people in this country as the foundation of all reforms.

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Having announced the principle, he might have added that the only way to carry it into effect was to divorce the State and the individual. The State must be made to perform all its public duties, and the individual all private duties. This prevents the individual from being elevated, by an alliance with the State, into a position where he can lord it over his brethren. When this principle is announced, you hear from silly mouths the cry of "paternalism," a cry which has lost its force since it is suggested principally by those who wish to be the "patres" of the people. Choose you this day whom you will have for your father—the State or that child of incest, the corporation!

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In the machinery of the two parties which now control the government is in the hands of men who are absolutely opposed to all effective measures of reform, and they are so thoroughly entrenched in possession that the only way in which it can be wrested from them is by taking away the votes which makes the machinery effective, and this is forming a new party.

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Let us take the Republican party first. It is in the hands of men like Sherman, Allison, Harrison, Foster, McKinley, Blaine, Wanamaker, Depew and the like. Is there one of these men who would consent to the enactment of a broad, just, radical measure of reform of the currency of the country, of effective reorganization of our financial policy? I think not. They are on record irrevocably against even such a puny measure of relief as the free coinage of silver. They are the friends of the present managers of the railroads; they are the foster fathers of every oppressive monopoly in the country, and their shibboleth is a system of taxation which makes the man who works whether with his hands or head, in workshop or farm, bear all the burdens, while getting almost none of the benefits of government. While the Republican party is in the hands of those who control it now, there is no hope of relief from it, and I don't see how any thinking man can believe anything else; nor from past experiences do I believe that there is any chance to wrest the control of the party from these men.

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These as I take it are the three cardinal points for which we are all struggling. Every one of these reforms must be secured, if at all, through national legislation. The question then recurs: What means can be taken which will soonest put laws embodying these principles on the statute books? The first by acting through one of the old parties; the other through ignoring them, standing out for ourselves, electing our own Congressmen and Senators as well as executive officers. By the first, if practicable, the reforms could be effected almost immediately. By the latter, it would, under the most favorable circumstances, take years on account of our cumbersome system of government, to do anything. Hence it would appear that the first method was the best, and it would be but for one thing.

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I hold in my hand some good orthodox authority, orthodox for many reasons. First, authority comes from a leading member of the councils of the Republican party. He certainly ought to be orthodox as to party. He was a colonel in the Union army during the war, and ought to be orthodox on military matters; and he was a national bank president, and ought to be orthodox on that question. I will state that, the tendency to which you allude is the late Senator P. B. Pinchot's.

"The Senator from Delaware [Mr. Saulsbury] the other day spoke with regard to the mortgaging of farms in the country. So far as that complaint relates to a general condition, to the lack, and to the short-comings of legislation, it is more nearly related to the diminished volume of currency than to any other one thing."

June, 1860, Senator Plumb continued the discussion of this subject as follows:

"Let us see, therefore, how much money is available for actual use among the people. From the total of \$1,500,000, arrived at as above, must be deducted an average of \$200,000, which the treasurer has on deposit in his safe, and some sum has been set aside in this deposit of Mr. Hoar's bill, and that leaves as the maximum which can by any possibility be used \$1,300,000.

"There ought, in fairness, to be deducted from this \$1,300,000, error in estimate of gold in the country, which would reduce the money outside of the treasury to \$1,100,000. From this is to be subtracted also the amount reported before the bill was introduced, leaving a balance of \$550,000,000 which is available for delivery or use in the transaction of the business of all the people, or a trifle over \$8 per capita. But the force of my argument is not materially weakened by conceding the good coin to be as estimated by the treasury department, which would leave us with about \$700,000,000. In order to reduce this amount, all must be reserved in favor of the treasury and against the people, both the doubt as to the amount of lost and destroyed notes and that as to the gold supply. If I were deciding this case upon what I consider the best evidence, I would be bound to say that the whole money in actual circulation is to be deducted from the amount of paper money.

"Now, Mr. Chairman, I would vote to maintain the bill as it is; I would stand by the report of the committee in every detail, unless some provision is shown to be excessive, and I would add to the bill something that would meet the case.

"For instance, that the sum herein appropriated shall be paid out in the form of newly issued legal tender treasury notes, in the usual form and of the usual denominations, thus increasing by the amount of the said sum the present volume of the currency in circulation, and not adding anything to the burdens of the people."

"I have some further good authority that I would like to have submitted. I will not occupy the time of the House by reading it now, but I will insert it in the record, and I will make any questions from the same Senator, Mr. Plumb. There is very little of my own with it, I will say.

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"Upon this narrow foundation has been built the enormous structure of credit of which I have spoken. It is the greatest of the kind that was ever built, because it was built by the best people that ever built anything. Over twenty thousand million of debts, the enormous and widely extended business of 60,000,000 of people, all rest upon and depend upon the strength of this currency which must seem to the most veteran master as absolutely and dangerously small."

"Mr. Chairman, it is my opinion that instead of cutting down our national expenditures by hundreds of dollars, we should increase our ability to pay by restoring the hundreds of millions of currency which the national banks have robbed us of. Restore to the people their money in fair and just payment, and we will not grudge liberal appropriations for proper national expenses."

"Pending action on this bill, the committee rose, and the House at five o'clock and six minutes p. m. adjourned.

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The 7-30 three-year notes whose circulation as currency is most scattered were outstanding on the 1st of September, 1865, to the amount of \$30,000,000, every dollar of which was legal tender for its face value, and became the law; "the same exact as United States notes."

It is in our opinion, the height of folly for the opponents of the so-called national party to deny facts so well established as is that of the contraction of the currency. If that party can not be defeated by a fair and honest statement of the truth, then it had better be allowed to win.—Inter-Ocean,

I now call attention to testimony more recent, but equally orthodox and truthful.

In April, 1888, Senator Plumb of Kan., discussed this contraction subject as follows:

"But this contraction of the currency, by means of the retirement of national bank circulation, has been going on for more than ten years, and all the committee can do is to say now that it has considered spine bill, but it is not yet completed. If the committee will not complete some measure the Senate must. If the Senate will not, and if the other House will not, then the country is going upon the breakers of financial disturbance."

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"It is estimated that there are in circulation, including that which is locked up in the treasury and held in the banks as a reserve fund, about \$7,000,000 of all kinds of currency of the United States, and the value of the capital of United States population, and the increase of such issue every year, so as to keep pace with the increased population. Referred to committee on finance.

The bill to amend the law as to coasting trade on the great lakes passed.

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The Senate at 5 o'clock and 45 minutes p. m. adjourned until Monday, 15, 1892.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
THURSDAY, February 11, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D. The journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

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To extend linear promotion to first lieutenants in the army.

He offered a resolution for an investigation as to alleged efforts of railway and other corporations to control the election of Senators in the Florida legislature.

Mr. George offered a resolution instructing the committee on finance to draft a bill requiring the issue and keeping in circulation legal tender treasury notes to the amount of \$1,000,000,000, and the same year, so as to keep pace with the increased population. Referred to committee on finance.

The bill to amend the law as to coasting trade on the great lakes passed.

The printing bill was taken up. An amendment by Mr. Collier, introduced an agricultural report for \$1,200,000,000. The particular points of the bill were discussed at length, and an amendment by Mr. Manderson to create the office of superintendent of documents under presidential appointment, with a salary of \$3,000 a year, involved the Senate in a bitter controversy. No action was taken.

The Senate at 5 o'clock and

THE REFORM PRESS.
The Discussion of Current Topics from
Organized States.

The Goldendale Courier (Goldendale, Wash.) says:

Money was never "issued" except by authority of some government and it would be non-sense to empower a government to coin money without giving the power to issue. Money is issued from the mints when coined. It is issued from the government when put into circulation. No purpose would be served by coining money or issuing it from the mints without it could also be issued from the government. The constitution gives the power to coin the money to the Federal government; on that power to coin, it has assumed the power to issue. Two methods of issuance have been adopted by this country, the free coinage of metals and the national banking system. By the first of these methods, before 1873 the owner of the gold or silver bullion could go to our mints with his bullion and have it coined into money just as the farmer goes to the mill and has his wheat ground into flour by paying the toll. That was known as "free coinage" and was the only absolute fair and simple way of issuing metallic money. In 1873 for shame he said, a squad of English bankers duped the Congress of the United States into the demonetization of silver, and since that day only gold has been issued as described. Much money has gone to the people through the banking system and few farmers it has been who have borrowed direct from banks. Speculators have done the borrowing, at enormous rates, always presenting their accounts to the producer when they bid on their products.

The Advance Journal (Ashville, Ala.) says:

It has been a long while since there has been such a cry of "hard times" in this country. It is a case of "swap around," a case of barter on all hands. Money has ceased to fill its functions as a circulating medium for the reason that there is none to circulate. Where has it all gone is the all perplexing question and a question that nearly every one you meet has a different answer to. The farmers of the country are not the only ones who feel the pressure but it reaches into all the walks of life and men who were never known to be "short" before are unable to meet the demands upon them. But of all classes no doubt the small meaneants throughout the country are in the greatest strait and the outlook is most gloomy for many of them. The farmer is not the only one who should be urging a change in the financial policy of our government.

The People's Aid Alliance Review (Cincinnati, Ohio) says:

If the editors of the big dailies only knew how little, how infinitesimally small is the influence of their tremendous headlines on the Alliance mind they would cease to labor so hard to get them up in such style. The Alliance countenance only breaks into a broad smile as the eye beholds these mighty headlings. And again, those fish stories

Ask your doctor what happens to cod-liver oil when it gets inside of you.

He will say it is shaken and broken up into tiny drops, becomes an emulsion; there are other changes, but this is the first.

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about the "leaders" that are constantly appearing serve to provoke laughter, and laughter only. The Alliance has its own sources of information, the same as any well-regulated society, about its leaders, and their work, and upon these rely with absolute and serene confidence. Space and labor could be saved for some really good work, if the big dailies could only realize that their headlines and latest reports about the "leaders" were producing mirth, but otherwise were at zero, so far as the Alliance is affected thereby. But our readers know full well that "the best trees are always stoned for their fruit," and that there is so much "squirming" there is some jealousy." Straws tell which way the wind blows!

The Industrial World (Spokane, Wash.) says:

The struggle is not between American labor and foreign labor, but between capital in American industries and capital in foreign industries. Wages are low, but the great difference is in the wages of capital, rather than in the wages of labor. No less a man than the Hon. James Gillespie Blaine said that for the product turned out American labor was the poorest paid in the world. The difference is entirely in the wages of capital. The Republicans are safe in running the blun protection into American labor. The Democrats would never dare to expose the real weakness of the Republican argument.

The Tulare County Times (Visalia, Cal.) says:

Iowa must be a hopeless case, judging from the commotion and disputes of the Republican doctors. One says the trouble is prohibition, another protection and a third railway discrimination. Now comes a prominent Republican of Cedar Rapids who alleges that the billion dollar Congress and Reed's bulldozing had as much to do with it as anything else.

Our opinion is that all these things have had their effect. They are all counts in the general indictment against the Republican party, and upon every count the defendant has been found guilty. Let the prisoner be hanged forthwith.

The Commerce Journal (Commerce, Texas) says:

The government should manage its own finances and issue its own currency, instead of delegating its powers to private corporations to dominate the financial policy and control the issue or volume of currency. It is the duty of the government to resume the entire management of the currency and to regulate the issue of our circulating volume by a return to constitutional methods. The national banks, as banks of issue, must go, and the sooner they go the better it will be for the government and for the people, who are supposed to be the government.

The Liberator (Dallas, Texas) says:

Congress can give relief to the suffering and oppressed American people by the passage of a bill permitting the government loan of money on land at 2 per cent interest. There are mortgages on farms in this country amounting to \$9,000,000, and the enactment of such law would enable those whose lands are encumbered to pay the interest and partially cancel their mortgage. Unless remedial legislation is enacted by this Congress there will be thousands of homes in this country sold "under the hammer." By the passage of some law to relieve the distress among the masses this Congress can immortalize itself. We hope and trust the wishes of the people will not be ignored.

The Cleveland Citizen (Cleveland, Ohio) says:

What a hard thing it is, and what a reflection on civilization, when the ordinary workman can hardly earn enough to meet his immediate wants, let alone provide for the needs of old age. Under our present industrial system, a workman is employed as long as his strength holds out and he can produce something for his employer, but as soon as age and disease rob him of vitality he is turned adrift to end his days in the poor-house, or is dependent upon his children, placing a burden upon them that they ought

not to bear. What a heartless system it is! Even slaves, horses or cattle are often kept by the owner in old age in remembrance of the benefits he has derived from them, but employers do not see that, having secured the benefit of workmen's strength and skill, they should honor old age by making it the bright evening of life instead of robbing men of their strength and denying them the fruits of when they need it most. In the next century, when men will realize to some extent the contradictions of civilization, this evil will stand out as one of the foulest blots upon the name of the manhood of this century.

The Alliance Leader (Belmont, N. Y.) says:

Membership in an Alliance does not entitle one to benefits any more than church membership entitles him to a seat in heaven unless there be earnest effort along the lines indicated by those organizations. "Work out your own salvation" is an appropriate motto in both cases. Men who do not expect cows to back up to them to be milked sometimes indulge in severe criticism on the Alliance because it has not fulfilled all their expectations in regard to purchasing goods, when they have never made so much as a practical suggestion toward organizing this department of our work. Remember we are banded together to mutually counsel, encourage and help in all that is of true benefit to the toiling masses.

The Alliance Tribune (O'Neill, Neb.) says:

Both the old parties are wasting great chunks of sympathy for the Alliance because the Alliance Congressman refused to adopt any rule by which they should all be compelled to vote together upon any particular measure. Why, bless your dear souls, that one, man power, caucus rule, was one of the things which the Alliance was organized to protest against. The caucus rule in Congress by which a few men in and out of Congress has been enabled to shape the legislation of the country for the past twenty-five years is the cause of the class laws and special privileges which have made millionaires and mortgages so plenty.

The Lawerville Herald (Lawrenceville, Pa.) says:

What is that need? The classes are opposed to the masses; capital is in control; the few are governing the many! Every reading and thinking man ought to know that the legislation of this country for the past twenty-five years has been almost entirely in favor of certain favored classes, and against the masses. The farmer, the merchant and the artisan classes have been powerless to stay the flood of legislative enactments which in effect has bind them as in an iron yoke. How are the people to take possession of their own? How are they to regain their rights? In the first place, they must learn to understand the condition of the country and its needs. They must have opinions of their own and be able to defend them. They must know what they want, and they should also

not to hear. What a heartless system it is! Even slaves, horses or cattle are often kept by the owner in old age in remembrance of the benefits he has derived from them, but employers do not see that, having secured the benefit of workmen's strength and skill, they should honor old age by making it the bright evening of life instead of robbing men of their strength and denying them the fruits of when they need it most. In the next century, when men will realize to some extent the contradictions of civilization, this evil will stand out as one of the foulest blots upon the name of the manhood of this century.

The Free Press (Winfield, Kansas) says:

Go along the street of our principal towns and cities and you will see large stocks of provisions on one side and hungry people on the other, clothing men without customers and hundreds walking the streets clothed in rags, stacks of shoes on one side and barefoot people on the other. Merchants, can you tell us why these goods and the people are kept apart? There is an ample supply of goods in every line and no lack of people who need them but the customers come not. The people have no money to buy, yet merchants allow their party prejudices to lead them into voting for these conditions. Is your party idolatry worth more to you than the interests of your fellow men and the interests of your business? Think these things over carefully before you vote again.

The Alliance Herald (Montgomery, Ala.) says:

Have you considered the fact that when there was four times as much money as now, and prices were relatively four times as high, that the country had about the same tariff as now; and for this reason the oppressive influence of the tariff is four times as heavy as now. But the tariff can not be reduced to one-fourth of the amount now levied, because it would not then contribute that necessary proportion it now pays in defraying the expenses of the government. The volume of currency can be increased and prices made higher so that the tariff will not be so high—relatively—and the people can liquidate their debts with less produce. This is practical and feasible and ought to be done.

The Commerce Journal (Commerce, Texas) says:

The politicians are mad because the Alliance does not confine its business to the scientific principles involved in the feeding of hogs, growing of pumpkins and corn shucking. It is practical. It means business. It is going to the root of the disease. It is meddling in politics, taking a hand in the caucuses and the conventions, thinking and voting and killing more politicians, than you can shake a stick at, and that hurts. That's why they squeal.

The Grand Island Journal (Grand Island, Neb.) says:

The Vice-President laid before the Senate a communication asking the Senate to appropriate \$150,000 for the support of the Sioux Indians. Mr. Morton practically says he is afraid of another "ghost dance." \$150,000 more to keep the lazy Sioux "bucks" from ghost dancing. This much more money thrown away on the people who are too lazy and shiftless to do anything for themselves. Hundreds of thousands in our large cities, who would do something are perishing from sickness and disease. But they are white, and of no account except to groan under the heel of corporate greed and unjust laws.

But the noble red man, whose history is one of blood and rapine, he must live, and for fear that his nether limbs will get some exercise in a "ghost dance" we are asked to at once prevent any such dire calamity and appropriate \$150,000 of the people's money to support them in idleness. Verily, the noble red man has a soft time. Would it not be a good plan for the suffering poor in our cities to have very peculiar views and still more unfortunate comprehension.

The Alabama Mirror (Selma, Ala.) says:

There seems to be a general desire to abandon farming and to engage in other pursuits. A great many have been forced by necessity to make the change and to seek employment of some kind at stipulated wages. What the result will be to them and to their families is yet uncertain. There are many however who should hold firm, and reduce their operations as nearly as possible to a cash basis, dispensing with all hired help, and cultivating only a few acres, the first year, to be improved and increased as their means will justify. Almost any family can make a good living on ten acres of ground by planting a succession of crops. It will never do to abandon the farm for the town or village at such a time as the present. The true plan is to take in the sals and make everything at home. The present storm will soon be over, and those who remain upon the farms and re-double their efforts will have no cause to regret their decision.

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The Republican (Tecumseh, Nev.) says:

We demand governmental control of transportation; we demand the retention of our public domain for the use of our own people; we demand the prohibition of gambling in futures of agricultural and mechanical products; we demand the free coinage of silver; we demand that no class or interest shall be taxed to build up any other class or interest; we demand the election of United States senators by the direct vote of the people; we demand a graduated tax on income; but more important than all these, broader and deeper than all these, and

to the thorough car service of the Wisconsin Central and Northern Pacific Railroad is unnecessary. Its advantages and conveniences to the people are incalculable. It is the only route to the Pacific coast over which both passenger and freight cars can be run.

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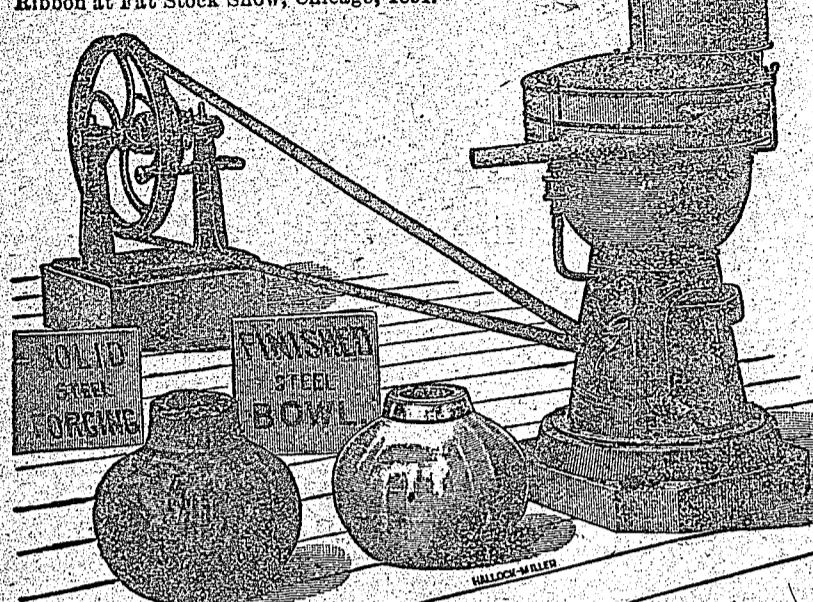
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VOL. 6.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 27, 1892.

NO. 24.

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ALLIANCE CONGRESSMEN.

The members of the Fifty-second Congress who owe their election in whole or in part to the members of the Farmers Alliance have not, up to date, been called upon to take any action which would test their faith to the principles involved in the Ocala demands, but the time is near at hand when they will be compelled to take sides and that so plainly that "he who runs may read."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To all persons interested in the growth of the cause of right and justice:

THE ECONOMIST was started as a special champion of this cause and not as a money-making enterprise. It has up to date been put out to the people at cost, and will continue that policy. As a proof of which, note the following extraordinary offer: THE ECONOMIST FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 1892 FOR FIFTY CENTS.

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CONGRESSMAN KEM, of Nebraska, is a plain, unassuming "hay seed" Congressman, but he got \$50 Republican money from Funston for a bit of information on the bond question.

You do not have to live in Washington long to learn that it will not do to judge a people by the intelligence of the men they send to Congress. Otherwise it would be fair to conclude that the people in the Second Kansas district (Funston) did not know who discovered America.

WHEN Mr. Funston tried to bluff Mr. Kem on the floor of the House of Representatives by saying that he would give him fifty dollars to show any authority in law for saying that United States bonds are not taxed, he did not know that Mr. Kem would call him by showing nine different passages of law supporting his position, but Funston paid the fifty dollars just the same.

cause of the people is strengthened by giving them latitude and bearing with them to use their own methods to fight for the good cause. But now the situation is changed. A Democratic caucus is called upon the silver question. That is one of the St. Louis-Ocala and Indianapolis demands, and every one of those Congressmen has told his Alliance friends

that he would not go into a caucus on questions involved in the demands. If he has not so told them by word of mouth there has been a general understanding to that effect, and for them to go into that caucus is to place an Alliance demand subject to the Democratic party, and will be treason to the Order. It is not sound to say that they are needed there to control the party and thereby control the House; that may be an excuse (afterward, and a very poor one) but it is not a sufficient reason. This test of fealty to the Alliance demands is now applied to the members of the Fifty-second Congress. Will they desert the demands and go into the Democratic silver caucus? The Order will watch closely the result and will applaud or condemn as justice may dictate.

Under this system the money which had been taken from the people is deposited with certain favored banks without interest until called for by the Secretary of the Treasury. At one time nearly \$70,000,000 was so deposited, for which the government did not receive one cent as interest. At the present time banks hold over \$18,000,000. This means a gratuity to these pet institutions of the interest that can be obtained by these banks for this money. At 8 per cent it amounts to \$1,440,000. Brother Lewis contends, and very justly too, that this is all wrong; that it is a twofold plundering of the people, first by excessive taxation, and second by exorbitant interest. His bill seeks to remedy this evil.

REPORT OF THE SILVER COMMITTEE.

The following is a synopsis of the majority report of the committee on free coinage.

It is quite voluminous, covering every phase of the silver question, and contains many extracts on the subject from newspapers and public reports.

The report begins with an explanation of the provisions of the bill reported. Free coinage of silver is provided for, and it is required that it be

cost of the alloy used, the alloy being all the expense now exacted of depositors of gold. Coin notes may be issued on the gold or silver deposited if demanded, instead of waiting for the coin. The committee raised the maximum denominations of these notes from \$500 to \$1,000, so as to accommodate dealing in large transactions, and bank exchanges. These notes are made legal tender, redeemable on demand. The bill provides for the conversion of all our gold and silver notes into coin notes, redeemable in coin, thus doing away entirely with all legal distinctions. It is believed this will greatly tend to promote equality in all respects. There will no longer be issued gold notes or silver notes, but bimetallic notes payable in either coin, at the pleasure of the government.

After reviewing the changes made in the bill as originally introduced by the committee on coinage, weights, and measures, it discusses, under the head of "The Dump of Silver," the vital question at issue, as follows:

The familiar warning that free coinage would cause ship loads of silver from other countries to be brought here and dumped at our mints in exchange for our gold is still urged. How can this be, under the bill or proposed law? The ship load of silver brought to our mints by the foreigner would be coined into standard dollars and these dollars returned to him, but he could not go to our treasury and demand gold for them.

Nor can he compel one of our citizens to swap his gold dollar for a silver dollar. The American citizen gives him a gold dollar for a silver dollar, that is a voluntary trade that no law ought to interfere with. Should the foreigner take coin notes for his bullion instead of coin, the same thing happens. He can take his coin note to the treasury and demand redemption, but the note is redeemable in coin, and the Secretary of the Treasury could hand him back the coin struck from his ship load of bullion. The foreigner then would ascertain that he had committed the blunder of bringing silver to our mints when it is worth 3 cents on the dollar less than it was at home, and that he loses this 3 cents and cost of transportation besides.

What, then, will he do with his money? He must either invest it in property here or go home with it. He could not buy gold with it, or gold exchange, unless gold and silver was at par; in this case there could be no reason for preferring the one metal to the other. If gold went to a premium he would have to pay the premium on his exchange, thus entailing on him additional loss in his enterprise of sending ship loads of silver. If he invests his ship load of silver money in our property and business enterprises it would at once stimulate industries, awaken enterprises, and give us a healthy business and sound currency. What more could be desired? Every ship load of silver thus brought here and invested in productive wealth would have a two-fold effect. It would bring unexampled prosperity to this country. The next would be panics in the old world. Business there would be paralyzed for want of money; their prosperity destroyed.

Prosperity here and stagnation in the old countries would force ship loads of their people to come to this country in search of their lost ship loads of money. The nations of the old world are aware of this; they would see it that no such thing occurred; they know the advantage the free coinage of silver would guarantee to us, hence their uniform predictions that calamity would be the result instead of prosperity. They are not in the habit of giving us trustworthy advice as to the course we should pursue in this matter. The following from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Windom, for the year 1859, is submitted as pertinent to this discussion:

"There is, in fact, no known accumulation of silver bullion anywhere in the

world. Germany long since disposed of her stock of melted silver coins, partly by sale, partly by recoinage into her own subsidiary coins, and partly by use in coining for Egypt. Only recently it became necessary to purchase silver for the Egyptian coining executed at the mint at Berlin. It is plain, then, that there is no danger that the silver product of past years will be poured into our mints unless new steps be taken for demonetization, and for this improbable contingency ample safeguards can be provided. Nor need there be any serious apprehension that any considerable part of the stock of silver coin of Europe would be shipped to the United States for deposit for treasury notes. There is much less reason for shipping coin to this country than bullion, for while the leading nations of Europe have discontinued the coining of legal tender silver pieces they have provided by law for maintaining their existing stock of silver coins at par. In England, Portugal, and the States of the Scandinavian Union, there is no stock of silver coin except subsidiary coins required for change purposes, the nominal value of which is far in excess of the bullion value. Germany has in circulation about \$100,000,000 in old silver thalers, but ten years have passed since the sales of bullion arising under the anti-silver legislation of 1873 were discontinued. It is safe to say there is no stock of silver coin in Europe which is not needed for business purposes. The States of the Latin Union and Spain, which has a similar monetary system, are the only countries in Europe which have any large stock of silver coins, and the commercial necessities of these countries are such that they could not afford, without serious financial distress, to withdraw from circulation silver coins, which are at par with their gold, to deposit them at our mints for payment of the bullion value.

The truth is that the conspiracy formed in the old world, planned, and so successfully carried through there and here, is aimed to confine the debt-paying metals of the nations concerned to the single metal, gold. For this purpose the par of centuries was broken. Gold decreased to rapidly rise in value, thus adding 50 per cent to the value of credits, enriching creditors, public and private, at the expense of debtors and taxpayers, enormously depressing the value of labor, and the products of labor as compared to the products of capital. The words free coinage of silver send a thrill of terror to the promoters of this conspiracy and the beneficiaries. They know full well that when this great government thus throws its weight in the silver balance, the world will again be restored to implicit faith and confidence in the future safety of silver as the money of the world. The old par will return, the two metals being tied together by the strong ligature of forty-four States, with five Territories, with a population of 65,000,000, and an area of 3,000,000 square miles. The greatest people and the greatest metallic power in the world can never again be disturbed. The conspiracy would be exposed and defeated. It is this phase of the issue they fear, not the swapping of ship loads of dollars of silver and dollars of gold. It is the restoration of the bi-metallic par. It is the skeleton of the defeated fraud and avarice that lurks in the closet of the gold palace that we are called upon to meet in battle on the free coinage question. The bushwhacking warfare waged against restoration of silver is the most potent exhibition of the weakening of the enemy. It is argued, first, that all our gold will go to a premium and be hoarded. The next breath says that the silver miner will be enriched by coining his bullion worth 75 cents into a dollar worth 100 cents, not stopping to think that this could not be so unless the free coinage of silver puts it at par with gold, in which case there could be no premium on gold and no hoarding for such reasons. The next slogan is that the billions of silver coins of other countries would immediately be brought here to exchange for our gold. No citizen of the United States is compelled by law to swap his gold dollar for a silver dollar, nor is there any law in existence or proposed that compels an exchange of silver for gold without paying any premium that may at any time exist on gold. Again, it is said we give the silver miner at our mints \$1 for bullion that costs only 41 cents without hesitating a moment to reflect that the gold miner, as is often done, extracts five ounces a day in gold,

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that we coin into \$100, when his day's wages is worth only \$3 or \$4,

ways) necessary for their movement, is less than \$700,000,000. I believe it to be less than \$500,000,000. Now, the greatest quantity of visible supply of wheat as shown in the reports of the Chicago board of trade is 62,000,000 bushels in round numbers, and the smallest quantity is 9,000,000 bushels; the mean of that would be about thirty-five and one-half million bushels, but we will assume that there is 62,000,000 bushels, worth say \$1 a bushel, which will put it at \$62,000,000. For the invisible amount we will put it as being equal, which will make \$62,000,000 more. The largest visible supply of corn I see reported is 21,000,000 and we may assume that the average price of corn is 40 cents a bushel, and four times two is eight, which will make a little over 38,000,000 to move the visible supply of corn, and if the invisible supply is twice as much it will be \$24,000,000 for the entire product of corn that had left the producer's hands and gone to the hands of the distributors, and so it is with all the other grains. The other grains are of small volume in the hands of the distributor, and you may add all the pork product. It takes from 45 to 100, say an average of 60 days to cure hog product, and you have to have about one-sixth or one-fifth the quantity of the money paid out for the hog product of the United States to move the hog crop. The entire plant and the entire capital invested amounts to less than \$300,000,000, while, on the other hand, the producer (the farmer) has constantly invested in the crop he has grown more than \$1,000,000,000 on an average for the whole year, and his interest in this matter is very much greater than that of the distributor. He not only has that invested for a short time but all the time.

During the five years ending 1879, we produced, per capita, in this country, thirty and four-tenths bushels of corn per annum, and we produced, for the five years ending 1880, thirty and five-tenths bushels of corn per year per capita. The proportion of corn to population is no greater now and the necessity for those methods no greater than fifteen years ago. For the five years ending with 1874, we produced six and forty-three-hundredths bushels of wheat for each unit of population; for the five years ending with 1879, we produced seven and eighty-six-hundredths bushels of wheat; for the five years ending with 1884, we produced eight and two-hundredths per capita; for the five years ending with 1889, we produced seven and twenty-four-hundredths. We produced less than we did five years ago. The figures are taken from those of the agricultural department (they are compilations from which I deduced the per capita product in order to make certain arrangements with them.) So that so far as the volume of production, relative to population, is concerned, we do not need these methods any more now than we did fifteen years ago. We were then able to market the products of the farm without these methods being practiced to such an extent as to disturb values. Consumption, gentlemen, has overtaken production, and if wheat brought \$1.7 (in gold) in Britain for the nine years ending with 1874, with a per capita of .427, why should it not bring a good price now, when we have only three acres and ninety-eight thousandths per capita? One gentleman, for instance, in a meeting where I was the other day, in arguing that these methods advanced prices, that the offering of immense quantities regardless of the quantities of the products tended to advance prices, to prove his contention stated that old pork was worth about \$3.50 less than new pork, although there was some three, four, or five per cent more weight in the old pork than in the new pork, on account of the absorption of salt. That was assigned as an argument to prove that speculation does advance prices; old pork not being a speculative article. I think after it has been packed in layers it is ruled out on the boards of trade, and that the fact that it could not be dealt in speculatively decreases its value, he says. What are the facts about pork? Very little barrelled pork is used; we all use bacon, ham, and things of that kind when we use the product of swine. Pork is made almost wholly for speculative purposes, and the result is that when, by reason of its age, it ceases to be a speculative article, and ceases to be delivered on these contracts, just that moment it loses its speculative value, and it declines in price by reason of deterioration in quality. Any man who has been at sea, as I have, knows that when pork has been packed

a year that it is unpalatable stuff, and the men who talk about this product know that to be the fact, I presume, as they also know that nearly every barrel of old pork is converted into strips, as it is called, prepared in dry salt, and sent out and sold to the only consumers who will take it, and that is the negroes on the cotton plantation. It can not be fried, and the action of the soda in the salt is that of the potash upon the fat oils of the pork, and the result is saponification. It forms a sort of gristle, and few in the world will eat it except the laborers on the cotton plantation.

A by-stander. I understand you a moment ago to intimate that you ate this kind of pork at sea?

The Chairman. While the gentleman is speaking he will not be interrupted by his consent.

Mr. Davis. I am willing to answer any questions the gentleman may wish to ask me.

The Chairman. This discussion will be conducted with the utmost courtesy to all parties.

Mr. Davis. I adverted to this because I know argument is being made to members of Congress and Senators, and to possibly members of your committee, hence I make this explanation, and any pork packer who will come before this committee will tell you just as I do about the quality of such old pork.

I made a statement before the national board of trade on Friday last that a certain quantity of fat products and a certain quantity of real products were sold in the city of New York during certain periods. I was told by three gentlemen who took the opposite side of this question, that there were no records kept in New York on any board of trade as to the amount of fat products or real products sold. I was desired to state if I had the official reports of the produce exchange of New York showing that the quantities stated by me had been sold. I had not at that time, but that evening wired a friend in New York who is always kind enough to help me in regard to anything I want, and yesterday morning I received the reports of the produce exchange of New York for the last four years, the only numbers obtainable, I have spent a part of my time since their receipt in making a compilation from these reports, which show the receipts in New York back to 1883 and the sales for the same years. Pardon me for saying I should never have thought of getting these reports had not my friends on the other side prompted me to do so. During the year 1885 there was received in the city of New York 5,988,000 barrels of flour. There was sold on exchange in New York during that year 3,362,000 barrels of flour, the remainder of which had sold as much wheat there would have been 130,000,000 bushels of wheat sold. It is a maxim in trade, as laid down by Thomas Took in his treatise on prices, that a deficit of 10 to 15 per cent in any indispensable product will increase the price 100 to 300 per cent, and that the converse rules. In case of an excess the price is depreciated very greatly by a very small excess. Now, these gentlemen say this thing of excessive offering does not depress prices; that when the world requires one million coats, the offering of ten million coats does not depress the price of coats. The world requires each and every secular day, six days in the week, 300 days in the year, a little more than seven and a half million bushels of wheat, and there is offered on the produce exchanges of the United States ten times that quantity, and many times that quantity is sold. If the offering of too many coats will reduce the price of coats, will not the offering of wheat, or cotton, or any other article, in excess of requirements, reduce the price of wheat, or cotton, or other articles? In conversation with a gentleman who has been a Speaker of this House the other day, he said: "We shut out the English-made coat and do not let them come here, for the very good reason that the English coat comes in competition with the American coat, and it reduces the price of the American coat, and you have to protect our manufacturers, artisans, and operatives." I said: "Why will not the limitless offering of wheat on our market reduce the price of wheat?" He said: "That being a fictitious product, and it does not affect it; it has no effect at home or abroad." Now, gentlemen, what is the result? There is not a cargo of wheat bought in India, Russia bought by a London, Liverpool, or Bristol merchant from Calcutta, from India, Roumania, or cotton

bought in Egypt or India, that they do not throw upon our market a quantity of wheat or cotton equal to the quantity bought in those countries. We have not only to compete with the real product of India and Russia, but fictitious products equal to what the real product is. The British merchant, the moment he buys a cargo, knowing it takes forty-five days to get it from Calcutta, wires his commission merchant in New York to sell that quantity of wheat or cotton short. We shut out the wheat from Canada with a tariff of twenty-five cents per bushel, but we allow a British merchant to come in here and sell any quantity of fiat wheat or cotton without taxing.

Mr. Caminetto. Then the tariff does affect the farmer?

Mr. Davis. Yes, sir.

Mr. Caminetto. I thought awhile ago you said it did not.

Mr. Davis. That is free trade; I said that it did affect the farmer.

Mr. Caminetto. Not very much?

Mr. Davis. I do not think it does very much in the cost of the product he buys. But what does affect the farmer is the offering of more property than the world requires. It is the law of trade and an axiom among those who deal with economic subjects that if the sum of the offerings exceed the sum of the requirement for a given period that it reduces the price, reduces the value of the property offered, if you please. Now, can the offering in the city of New York of 1,727,000,000 bushels of wheat affect the price; does it affect the price? Some of the gentlemen on the other side state that these excessive offerings enhance the value to the farmer, and it is the only case in the world, I presume, where the offering of an excessive quantity enhances the value of the article offered.

In the month of April, 1890, 3,039,000 bushels of wheat reached New York city. There was offered on the produce exchange and sold in New York city 245,000,000 bushels in that one month. Forty-four million bushels of wheat were sold in New York in one day, and that is but a small average of the offers, because hardly one offer in twenty is accepted. These gentlemen will tell us that the price reached New York in that year, New York sold 1,727,000,000 bushel in that year or within 300,000,000 bushels, as many bushels as were produced in the whole world. There are 20 boards of trade in the United States dealing in fictitious products employing this method. Chicago is supposed to do three, four, five, six, eight or ten times as much of this business as does New York city, but assuming that these boards of trade, each of the twenty-six, averaged half the sales of New York, what were the quantities of wheat offered and sold in the markets of the world during that year? If all the countries in the world, proportionately to the quantity produced, had sold as much wheat there would have been 130,000,000 bushels of wheat sold. It is a maxim in trade, as laid down by Thomas Took in his treatise on prices, that a deficit of 10 to 15 per cent in any indispensable product will increase the price 100 to 300 per cent, and that the converse rules. In case of an excess the price is depreciated very greatly by a very small excess. Now, these gentlemen say this thing of excessive offering does not depress prices; that when the world requires one million coats, the offering of ten million coats does not depress the price of coats. The world requires each and every secular day, six days in the week, 300 days in the year, a little more than seven and a half million bushels of wheat, and there is offered on the produce exchanges of the United States ten times that quantity, and many times that quantity is sold. If the offering of too many coats will reduce the price of coats, will not the offering of wheat, or cotton, or any other article, in excess of requirements, reduce the price of wheat, or cotton, or other articles?

Mr. Forman. Are the figures from the board of trade of Chicago to be had?

Mr. Davis. They are not to be had; they keep no record whatever. I stood upon the board of trade one day last summer and tried to count the offers, but any man who has been in one of these pits knows that it is impossible. As far as I was able to count there was about 300,000,000 bushels offered.

Mr. Forman. The reason I asked the question was that I assumed you possibly might have gotten these figures.

Mr. Davis. Mr. Stone, the secretary of the Chicago board has written me that they keep no record.

Mr. Lewis. How can they create the impression of a vast amount of wheat, for instance, as the product of the world, when we have the statistical information which gives the actual production, and how can they effect a market in the face of information of that character by fictitious offerings?

Mr. Davis. I will answer that by saying that during a talk here yesterday with a gentleman who deals very largely in wheat, I asked him if he knew how much wheat was produced in the world. I asked him if he knew how many acres of wheat there were in the world; what was the consumption of wheat in the world? I have talked, I suppose, with three or four hundred board of trade men, and I have yet found but two such men who know anything about the condition of the world as to the food supply, as to the wheat supply, etc. They know the conditions that come under their sight, what they can see with their eyes, but very few of them make any study of the subject so far as I have been able to ascertain. If they do I have not been able to ascertain

anything of that kind from them. But to show you how their operations affect the prices, I can best answer that question by having the clerk of this committee read from the Corn Trade News of January the 4th, 1892; this is only a short time ago.

The clerk read as follows:

"Mark Lane to-day was fairly well attended, but was very slow for all description, the reserve of buyers being nothing for their product; they have no capital employed, neither do they labor."

I do not know, gentlemen, that I desire to say anything more at this time.

The Chairman. If any member of the committee desires to ask Mr. Davis questions, beginning with Mr. Lewis, one at a time, Mr. Davis will be kind enough to answer in his own way any questions proposed from any member of the committee.

Mr. Davis. The prices of grain are not made in Liverpool so far as I have been able to ascertain. I used to believe implicitly that prices of grain were made in England. They are made in Chicago, and they are made by one, two, three or four men. For instance, I hold in my hand a telegram dated Chicago, the 20th of January, which I will hand to the clerk to read:

The clerk read as follows:

"Pardridge is larger than the market and has sold freely all day."

Mr. Davis. Now, gentleman, the Chicago papers for the last ten days and the Chicago gentlemen I have met have told me that Pardridge for the last ten days has dominated the market of Chicago; not only the market of Chicago, but this one man has been able to determine the price of wheat for the world. On Saturday Pardridge sold 4,000,000 bushels of privileges which any of these Chicago gentlemen can explain to you. I will ask the secretary to read this letter from one of the largest grain dealers in the country. The name signed to it I will thank him not to read.

The clerk read as follows:

"I am under obligations for yours of the 25th, covering enclosures. The bulls are having a hard time in wheat markets. Pardridge is in full control and, as they put it, 'is larger than the market.' There is no inducement for outsiders to speculate; here is cash wheat 85 cents, a decline of 30 cents, and all the advance we can get is 3 cents, and that seems to be only permitted by bears to sell."

Mr. Youmans. In your judgment, if these options were forbidden and not allowed, would not the farmer be able to sell his grain; in other words, do not we buy buyers of grain instead of sellers, that is, the farmer?

Mr. Davis. That is, they put the market up for the purpose of putting out a long line of "shorts," then they depress the market and buy in their promises to deliver. These are but promises to deliver; they are rarely ever delivered. Deliveries at the end of September, in which thousands of millions of wheat and corn were dealt in, amounted to less, according to the Chicago Tribune, than 100,000 bushels, and, as one gentleman explained it before the national board of trade, one warehouse certificate for 20,000 bushels could be made to suffice for the completion of sales of 300,000,000 bushels. In other words, gentlemen, the deliveries are of the same character as the sales—they are complete fictions. They are just of the same character as the product they sell and deal in—they are fictions; and it is the offering of these immense quantities of fictitious products that fixes the price; the farmer has nothing to do with fixing the price; he is the only man on earth that is not allowed to have anything to do with the fixing of the value of the property that he has produced at such a great cost.

I conduct, probably, a larger farm than the majority of the farmers in our State or the United States, but there are many larger farms than mine. I have invested in that property about \$50,000, and I employ a great number of men. We pay out a large amount of money for wages, and we pay out money for implements. We employ the hardware maker, the implement maker, the carpenter, we buy fence wire, in fact we employ all the artisans of the United States, except those who make luxuries (and we are not able to indulge in luxuries), and we spend the returns from our farm in that way, and we never produce more than 10,000 or 12,000 bushels of wheat. We keep about one-third of the ploughed land for wheat, and we have this year between 10,000 and 12,000 bushels of wheat. We have not thrashed the crop yet. All the investment of this capital, all this infinite labor, all the employment of these people throughout the United States, the raiser of cotton and the grower of tobacco—because our men chew and smoke tobacco—and the maker of corn-cob pipes, we employ all these people, and all we can offer, after a year, on the markets of the world is 10,000 bushels of wheat, and any young fellow in Chicago who can raise \$250 can order his broker to sell as many bushels of wheat as we have grown at the cost of this infinite labor and investment of capital; and yet, so long as

the \$250 and the broker's lung power is good, they can continue to offer 10,000 bushels every minute in competition with the 10,000 bushels of wheat which we produce. Now, gentlemen, we ask from you and this Congress some protection.

The men who grow cotton or wheat suffer from such competition; it is a destructive competition. These people expend no thing for their product; they have no capital employed, neither do they labor.

I do not know, gentlemen, that I desire to say anything more at this time.

The Chairman. If any member of the committee desires to ask Mr. Davis questions, beginning with Mr. Lewis, one at a time, Mr. Davis will be kind enough to answer in his own way any questions proposed from any member of the committee.

Mr. Davis. The reason is the world is producing less wheat than it consumes.

Mr. Alexander. Can you give us a reason for it?

Mr. Davis. That is the reason is that the fall of wheat in New York \$1.70 to \$1.30 was caused by these sales.

Mr. Davis. No, sir; I say that fall was caused by the excessive acreage brought into production. During the eighth decade the world added some 37,000,000 acres to its wheat-producing power. During this decade it has only added 4,000,000.

Mr. Caminetto. The fall of prices in those years was due to the competition caused by the production in India.

Mr. Davis. There were 24,000,000 acres added to the world's producing power in that decade. Then India came in as an exporter, an addition which was equal to about two and three-quarters of a million acres more.

Mr. Caminetto. Would it help the price of farm products by preventing any foreign purchaser from selling short as you say?

Mr. Davis. I should suppose it would.

Mr. Caminetto. Was that the object of this bill, Mr. Chairman, is that one of the conditions of the bill.

Mr. Davis. Wheat is a product that ought to be sold in the world's market, and the world's market should make the price, and would without these fictitious methods. The price made in the world's market is determined by the price made in Chicago—in America, if you please.

Now, if there is an increase beyond the world's requirements of ten or fifteen percent it would, necessarily, reduce the price. But there has been no increase beyond the world's requirement. The wheat crop of the world, for this year, is less than it has been in August, and there is no reason why it should be, except the one named, that I can see. It is true we have sent great quantities of wheat abroad; we sent 129,000,000 bushels the first six months, I believe. Our crop was about 130,000,000 bushels this year beyond what we produced with an average crop.

Mr. Moses. I would like to ask Mr. Davis a question. He has spoken about the great army of sellers; that these sellers depress the price. On the other hand, are there not a great army of fictitious buyers, and whose buying tends to raise the price?

Mr. Davis. There is an army of fictitious buyers.

Mr. Moses. Do not they effect these sellers, so far as your information goes, in regard to the raising and depressing the market?

Mr. Davis. Well, I apprehend not.

Mr. Moses. They can not sell any more than there are buyers.

Mr. Davis. They can not sell anymore than there are buyers, but they may offer ten, fifteen, or twenty times as much as is bought. It is not the horse you buy that determines the price you pay for that horse; it is the number of horses offered to you relative to the number you want. The fact that you buy one horse does not determine the price of horses in your town.

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Mr. Moses. If I buy one and offer to buy ten more, will it not raise the price?

Mr. Davis. There are just as many buyers of fictitious products as sellers, but there are not as many buyers as there are sellers.

Mr. Moses. They are offered to the reserve.

Mr. Davis. They

ECONOMIST EDUCATIONAL EXERCISES.
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A series of instructive lessons for use in Alliances, debating societies, lyceums, and to disseminate a correct understanding of the economic questions of the day.

The series will consist of forty exercises, and will be published in THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST during the year 1872, ten lessons each quarter.

Lodges or societies which meet only once or twice a month should at once open a voluntary class that will agree to have weekly meetings for the purpose of conducting this educational work.

The exercises will be published about two weeks ahead of the date on which they are intended to be used, in order that all may have time to get them and study them well.

LESSON NO. 6.—To be used during the second week in March.

ENGLAND—ITS WORKERS.

In our last lesson we studied about the English aristocracy, the privileged classes, who own great estates and live upon the labor of others. Now we are about to examine into the condition of the "working classes," giving special attention to the

condition of the agricultural laborers and the tenant-farmers of England. What privileges do they enjoy? Are they well fed, well clothed, and well housed?

The idlers dwell in stately mansions, and even their servants are surrounded by luxuries. How is it with the workers?

Chateaubriand, writing in 1838, says: "Society, such as it now is in England, will not continue to endure. Try to persuade the poor man, when he shall be able to read—him to whom knowledge is daily supplied by the press, scattering its lights in every town and village—try to persuade the individual possessing the same information and intelligence as yourselves, that he ought to submit to all sorts of privations, while some one, his neighbor, enjoys without labor all the superfluities of life, and your efforts will be fruitless. Do not expect from the masses virtues, which are beyond the force of humanity."

Dr. Channing said: "In the civilized world there are few sadder spectacles than the present contrast in Great Britain of unbounded wealth and luxury, with the starvation of thousands and tens of thousands, crowded into cellars and dens, without ventilation or light, compared with which the wigwam of the Indian is a palace. Misery, famine, brutal degradation in the neighborhood and presence of stately mansions, which ring with gaiety and dazzle with pomp and unbounded profusion, shock us as no other wretchedness does."

In 1863 a book, by Joseph Kay, of Trinity College, Cambridge, on the "Social Condition and Education of the People in England," was republished by Harper Brothers. The writer of the preface says: "I have an object in reprinting Mr. Kay's chapters. I believe he describes a form of government directly opposed to the principles of our own. I hope these results will induce my countrymen to value our institutions, and persuade all men among us to perform their part in sustaining them in their integrity until the favorable moment arrives for such changes as it may be desirable to make." Mr. Kay's book is authority on the topics of which it treats. It gives an accurate account of the condition of English laborers at that time.

ENGLISH MONEY.

4 farthings, 1 penny—marked d, —2 cents.
12 pence, 1 shilling—marked s, —about 25 cents.
20 shillings, 1 pound—marked £—about \$5.

In 1874 a book on "The English Peasantry," by F. G. Heath, was published in London. This book contains valuable reports in regard to wages collected from official sources. Two years before the publication of this book the Agricultural

Laborers' Union had originated, and the attention of the "higher classes" was forcibly called to the condition of the "lower classes." Taking the countries alphabetically:

Average wages, 1872-1874.—Bedfordshire, 11s. to 12s. per week; Berkshire, 10s. to 11s.; Buckinghamshire, 11s. to 12s.; Cambridge, 10s. to 12s.; Chester, 11s. to 12s.; Cornwall, near Devon, 9s. to 10s.; Cumberland, 15s. to 18s.; Derbyshire, 14s. to 17s.; Devonshire, 8s. to 9s.; Dorsetshire, 8s. to 9s., etc. In the report from twenty-five other counties we find the lowest wages paid to be in Somerset, 7s. to 8s. a week; the highest in Durham and Northumberland, 15s. to 18s. per week; that is, \$1.75 to \$2 in Somerset, and \$3.75 to \$4.50 in Durham and Northumberland per week. In some cases "perquisites" were added to wages, such as a few pints of poor cider daily, potato ground, cartage of fuel, a little fire wood (probably to be dug out of a hedge by the laborer), beer, or grist corn.

The laborer's plot or allotment was sometimes a quarter of an acre in size, but often only an eighth, and sometimes less; and for this the laborer is charged from two to four times the rent paid by the farmer.

"In very many cases the peasant of North Devon was forbidden by the farmer to keep a pig, or even poultry, for fear he might steal the food which he required for fattening them."

Frequently the laborer is obliged to walk from two to seven miles to get his daily labor, often through the pouring rain both going and coming. To farm laborers in general an umbrella is an unknown luxury."

Milk could scarcely be obtained by the Wrington laborers. "There was one farmer in the village who could sell milk, which in most cases was given to the pigs."

"Women working for 8d. a day were employed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m."

Typical case of a skilled agricultural laborer who could read and write, and bore an unblemished character. During fifty years his average wages were 12s. a week. He ordinarily worked in the summer from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m., and frequently during harvest from 3 a.m. to 12 at night. For hard work, extending over six extra hours per day, would get an extra allowance of cider and his supper—rarely, if ever, any money payment. This man brought up ten children. "No such luxuries as sugar or butter ever found their way into his family. Candles also are rarely used by the laborers, who have often during the long winter evenings to sit without candle light, often without fire. It is difficult to imagine anything more wretched than sitting hungry for hours in the cold and the darkness."

Another typical case. Energetic young peasant, with wife and four children, was in full employment during the year, but earned less than \$1.60. Rent, \$26. After buying necessities, had 64 cents of his year's wages left with which to buy meat and clothing for himself and family. But perhaps it was extravagance that caused this unfortunate condition. We find that this family of six used a quarter of a pound of butter weekly. Meat, butter, or sugar were not considered "necessaries" in an English laborer's household.

Warwickshire laborer, with wife and five children. Wages—father, 12s.; son, 3s.—15s. per week, which is about \$3.75, or a little less than 54 cents per day for the support of a family of seven, or less than 8 cents per day for the food, fuel, lodging, and clothing of each individual. Expenses—The week's bread and flour, 9s. 4d.; 1 cwt. of coal, 1s. 1d.; schooling for children, 2d.; rent of allotment (1 chain), 1d.; total, 10s. 8d. (\$2.66), leaving for meat, tea, sugar, soap, lights, medicine, clothes for seven persons, etc., etc., per week, 4s. 4d., or about \$1.08.

Women were "obliged to go a-field and to take for the market price of a day's hoeing or reaping sometimes as little as 6d., and rarely more than 8d. (16 cents)." "To-day on the road between Dolchester and Milborne there were as many laborers of that sex as of the other, to be seen shambling along in heavy boots, with their hoes across their shoulders, or sitting by the wayside, with a sodden and sulky expression of weariness."

Case of a woman 70 years of age. She "had to work from 6 o'clock in the morning until 8 and 9

o'clock at night for her daily 8d., with the usual allotment of some cider." "She was too feeble to work more than four out of six days, so that her weekly labor would produce the sum of 2s. 8d., with which she kept body and soul together."

BLACKBOARD EXERCISE.

561,000 tenant farmers in Great Britain, 70 per cent hold less than 50 acres each, 12 per cent between 50 and 100 acres, 18 per cent more than 100 acres. 400 peers and peeresses own 5,728,900 acres, 1,288 great landowners own 8,497,600 acres, 2,529 squires own 4,319,700 acres.

4,500 persons own one-half of England and Wales.

710 persons own one-fourth of England and Wales.

523 persons own one-fifth of England and Wales.

280 persons own about one-sixth of England and Wales.

100 persons own 3,917,600 acres.

66 persons own 1,917,000 acres.

The cultivated land in each farm in Great Britain averages 56 acres.

"The rent of land is regulated by its position and its quality. Water meadows near Salisbury will let for seven pounds an acre; in the county districts for three or four pounds, while down land lets for five shillings, the farmer paying rates and tithes. If for £1,000 I buy 10 acres of land, it is reasonable to expect to get three pounds an acre free of expenses. If the £1,000 purchases 100 acres of down land, I could afford to let it at six shillings an acre."—*Nelson*.

Lefevre says that land in England is usually sold at about thirty times its rental value. Land is rented for from \$1.25 to \$35 per acre per year. This would make its value range from \$37.50 to \$1,050 per acre. Other estimates give the average value of English agricultural lands at about \$140 per acre. One estimate places rental value of all the land in England at about \$500,000,000.

PROBLEMS.

1. The average rent for agricultural lands is said to be \$15 per acre. What does the average farmer holding 56 acres pay?

2. What is his rent if he holds the best land and pays the highest price, \$35 per acre?

3. What is the average number of acres owned by each of the 400 peers and peeresses?

4. What is the annual amount of rent received at \$15 per acre?

5. What is the average amount owned by each of the 1,288 great landowners?

6. What is the annual amount of rent received at \$15 per acre?

QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.

1. It is an axiom in philosophy that like causes produce like effect. If the great estates of England have anything to do with the poverty of English workers, is there danger to the workers of America in the formation of similar estates in this country?

2. In studying English history do we find that parliament ever enacted laws for the benefit of the people which were not first demanded by the people?

3. Were the people's demand cordially granted at the first legislative opportunity, or were they frequently unheeded until the people rose in riots and insurrections?

4. Who obtains the most from the land, the farmer who does the work, or the landlord to whom he pays the rent?

5. Which class of people is the most useful to England—its workers or its idlers?

6. Which is the "privileged class?"

SELECTIONS TO BE READ—TENANT FARMERS.

Condition of affairs in 1863—a condition which in many respects is not much improved.

All the farmers at the present day hold their farms at the will of their landlords—or rather at the will of the agents of their landlords, for it is very seldom that a farmer is allowed to treat directly with his landlord. There are often as many as three and four sub-agents, with one of the latter of whom the farmer is often obliged to treat, and on whose will the farmer depends for the continuance of his possession.

"The agents are almost absolute; for they know

that nothing is easier than to let a farm when it falls vacant. There are always plenty of applicants, who will bid against one another, until one wonders how the last bidder can expect to make a profit from his bargain. Indeed, the agents are often obliged to choose a lower bidder rather than one of the higher, because they know that the highest bidder could not make it pay, and would soon be in the work-house, after having, most probably, defrauded his landlord of part of his rent."

Whenever one of the small estates is put up for sale, the great proprietors outbid the peasants, and purchase it at all costs. The smaller farms have been united, in order to form great farms out of them. So that not only is it becoming more and more difficult every day for a peasant to buy land in this part of the country, but it is also gradually becoming impossible for him to obtain even a leasehold farm. The consequence is that the peasant's position, instead of being what it once was, one of hope, is gradually becoming one of despair. Unless a peasant emigrates, there is now no chance for him. It is impossible for him to rise above the peasant class."—*Kay*.

1874—"The thatch roof is frequently saturated with wet, rotten, and in a state of decay, giving out malaria, as other decaying vegetable matter."

Somersetshire.—"The mud floors of many are much below the level of the road, and in wet seasons are little better than so much clay. In many of the cottages the beds stood on the ground-floor, which was damp three parts of the year. One had a single small pane of glass stuck in the mud wall as its only window, with a large heap of wet potatoes in one corner. Persons living in such cottages are generally very poor, very dirty, and usually in rags, living almost wholly on bread and potatoes, scarcely ever tasting animal food."

"A pig sty, where the inmates are capable of keeping a pig, is frequently attached to the dwelling, and in the heat of summer produces a stench quite intolerable; the want of space, however, prevents it being otherwise."

Dorsetshire.—"The upper part of one of the end walls was entirely away, exposing the crazy anatomy of the roof, and laying the whole of what used to form the sleeping apartment of the family bare to every tempest that swept around their miserable house. The family in this house consisted of seven. They had been obliged to sleep in the lower room, which was about sixteen feet square, and this was the sole and common dwelling place, for all purposes, of these seven persons. It had a moulder brick floor, and the rain trickled through the rotten beams of the bulging ceiling. They had lived two years in this place and under these circumstances."

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

"It is clear that something was required to rescue the agricultural laborers from their miserable and down-trodden condition. Everything was against them. Badly housed in most cases, living sometimes in miserable hovels unfit for the accommodation of cattle, and leading in consequence a life of semi-starvation, insufficiently clothed, and subjected frequently to the brutal ill-treatment of employers, how could they raise themselves from their unfortunate position? Even the law would not always afford them protection against injustice and oppression. The only remedy therefore, it is obvious, was union. No section of the working classes in this country was so helpless as our agricultural laborers, who have to walk to their work distances varying from three to seven miles. Every expedient to prevent the laborers from obtaining a settlement in the rural parishes is resorted to by the occupiers. In Wackton parish one of the modes of removing the paupers was to set a number of persons, principally weavers, who had some claim on the parish, and who in all probability had never had a spade in their hands before, to dig up a common in the middle of January, the snow at the time lying upon the ground several inches deep. The poor wretches were told that they must dig a certain portion of the common before they could obtain any relief."

ORIGIN OF THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LABORER'S UNION.

Three farm laborers near Leamington sent to a local newspaper a statement of their hardships and privations, and asked if the day's work of an able-bodied farm laborer was not worth 2s. and 6d.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

The laborers of Charlote read the letter, consulted together, formed a small club, and sent for Joseph Arch, a traveling laborer whom they knew well, and who sometimes preached—to come and address them. Their first public meeting was on the 14th of February 1872. The shepherds and carters were asked to quietly and secretly spread the news of the gathering. The room was filled to overflowing, and the laborers adjourned to the open air under a chestnut tree. "The rural police came on to the ground, waiting for an opportunity to protest against the meeting as an obstruction to the highway." But Arch shouted to the men to keep the road clear. The night was rainy and muddy, yet some fourteen hundred laborers were present. Next the village lamps were turned out, but a few lanterns were hung upon the tree, and the meeting continued in spite of the rain and the darkness. Arch impressed upon them the necessity of conducting their movement with moderation and forbearance, and suggested that their motto should be: "Defense, but not defiance." Other meetings followed. On the 29th of May, 1872, a national congress of laborer's delegates, eighty of whom, representing twenty-six counties, attended, was held at Leamington, and elected Joseph Arch president.

PRESENT CONDITIONS—WAGES.

The public are constantly being told that there are many counties in which the men do not earn more than 11s. a week. I do not know of a county in which their earnings average as little as 12s. in money, and I doubt whether there is one in which the average is as low as 13s. if payment in kind be included."—*W. E. Bear*, 1872.

"Our laborer pays as a general rule 1s. a week for his house and garden. It and his little allotment provide him with the year's potatoes. His garden half feeds his family, for potatoes are the staple of the children's diet."

"If he is a single man lodging with his parents, he lives in clover. He eats bread, potatoes, and cheese at all meals, with salt pork, very often for supper in the winter, and bacon in the summer. Occasionally he substitutes for the pork a piece of fresh meat."

But if he is married the difficulties of supporting a family on \$3 a week or less increase. His wife works in the field, and does washing when she can get it. His boys "scare rooks" or "mind pigs"; his girls "get a place." In case of sickness he falls back on charity—either the workhouse or help from his wealthy neighbors—charity in some form. In old age his refuge is the workhouse. No matter how hard he may have labored, or how frugal and saving he may have been, in most cases there is no other way. It is the workhouse or starvation very soon after he becomes unable to earn wages.

EXPENSES.

English writers say that the whole expense of living has not changed greatly during the last forty years. The rent of cottages and the price of fresh meat and butter has increased, but the price of bread, cheese, bacon, and clothing has been reduced. Many of the old cottages have been torn down and better ones built. Others have been repaired. The laborer to-day can obtain better lodgings than he could twenty years ago. Part of this improvement is due to legislation in the laborer's behalf; part to enlightened public opinion which declares that human beings need not inhabit dwellings unfit for pigs.

PRICES.

The price of agricultural products in England is in most cases higher than in America, but it does not vary so greatly as might be imagined. Poultry and eggs bring about twice as much. Butter and vegetables are higher than here, but meat and breadstuffs can not hold the market at prices much higher than ours, plus the freight or expenses of getting our produce there. In order to pay the rents required, English farmers are obliged to make every foot of land productive. They expend far more labor and attention upon an acre of ground than the American farmer finds necessary.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Lesson 7 will be: "In Darkest England" Review One.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND
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The publishers of this paper have given a bond in the sum of \$50,000 to the President of the Farmers and Laborers Union of America that they will faithfully carry out all subscriptions and other contracts.

The following is the resolution unanimously adopted at the annual meeting in St. Louis:

Resolved, "That the NATIONAL ECONOMIST, our adopted official national organ, has so boldly and fearlessly advocated our cause and defended our principles; therefore,

Be it resolved by this National body, That we heartily approve of the course it has pursued and recommend that every member of the Order should subscribe and read the paper as one of the best means of education in the way of industrial freedom.

Reaffirmed at Ocala as follows:

Resolved, "That this Supreme Council reiterates THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST and the action of its officers, members, and associates in said paper, and will do all we can to urge them onward in the good work of education.

Address all remittances or communications to

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N. R. P. A.**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

To all persons interested in the growth of the cause of right and justice:

THE ECONOMIST was started as a special champion of this cause and not as a money-making enterprise. It has up to date been put out to the people at cost, and will continue that policy. As a proof of which, note the following extraordinary offer:

THE ECONOMIST FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 1892 FOR FIFTY CENTS.

From February 15 to March 31 all 50 cent subscribers received will get the paper till November 1, provided as many as ten are in one club.

Secretaries are requested to bring this notice before the Alliance and make a special plea for as much as one club in each body. All friends are requested to get up a club.

Now is the time to renew. Now is the time to subscribe.

Eight months for fifty cents, in clubs of ten or more.

THE editor of the Emporia (Kans.) Gazette, one J. R. Graham, is so completely filled with his own plan of financial relief as to exclude fairness, ordinary courtesy, and even common editorial decency. For months past marked copies of his paper have been sent to this office filled with abuse and billingsgate.

This obscure reformer having galvanized over an old musty proposition of years ago, has the cheek and assumption to proclaim it as his own individual discovery. Because the people recognize the deception and refuse to give it even a passing notice this bright particular economic star becomes furious and begins a tirade of abuse upon all who are advocating any other economic proposition. If this Napoleon of financial reform

would spend the time in a careful study of a few elementary works on finance that he does writing editorials vilifying others, he would soon learn that economic education does not wait upon abuse and misrepresentation.

Perdue is an honest, earnest, energetic worker in the cause of reform, an old member of the Alliance and thoroughly reliable. With such qualifications the paper should thrive under his management. THE ECONOMIST sends greeting and wishes abundant success to the new venture.

The new national aid degree is meeting with grand success.

HON. E. T. STACKHOUSE, of South Carolina, is preparing with great care a graduated income tax bill which will soon be presented to Congress for consideration.

THE B. & O. train which left Washington, Friday, the 19th inst., loaded with Congressmen, required the protection of a thousand track walkers, but the one which followed it the very next day carrying Powderly, Hays, Wright, Davis, Kem, Kaehler, Bland, and Macune did not need any protection of that sort. The first was going to be wined and dined by Chicago, and the last was going to the St. Louis convention to do something for the people.

THE Alliance Aid Association of South Dakota has voted almost unanimously to transfer its membership to the New National Aid degree. The Kansas Mutual Aid has determined to do likewise. When these transfers are completed, the aid degree will stand square on its feet, and be able to pay losses in full at once. Applications are coming in by the hundred for agent's commissions, and everything points to a general success. Brother Wardall is now making a tour of the States, and meets with encouragement wherever he goes.

"FARMER FUNSTON," of Kansas, was foolish enough in a recent debate to cross swords with Independent Tom Watson, of Georgia. The contest was brief, but "the farmer" was badly worsted. It would appear from all indications that "Farmer Funston" had undertaken the task of demolishing the little band of independents in the House, and was in a hurry to do it. It is quite doubtful, however, if he will renew the attack at once, at least not until he has been thoroughly repaired. It will not be long before both the old party machines in either house of Congress will think twice before venturing too near this independent buzz saw. So far such attempts have simply afforded an opportunity to show the people some of the rotten records of the past which, of all things, these old machines avoid the most. In the course of this debate Mr. Watson

THE regular annual outflow of gold has already commenced. Over half a million was sent out a few days since, which "doubtless" means that much larger amounts will soon follow. The prophecies so freely made, that all the gold sent abroad last spring and summer would return during the fall and winter accompanied with a large addition of foreign coin, has proven inaccurate. Nearly \$50,000,000 of the amount sent is still there, and another season of export has begun. How much will go and what the result may be are questions of the utmost importance.

THE New York World gives utterance to the following, which coming from that source seems quite significant:

The proposal has been made to call an Alliance National Convention, and it is safe to say that the sentiment in favor of such a convention is ten times stronger to-day than it was before the stock market jumped up in response to the manipulations of the monopolists of the Reading deal. So long as such deals pass unrebuked and unnoticed by the sworn State officials, elected by the regular parties, it is not to be wondered at that the cause of the Alliance and similar organizations feel strengthened.

THE speech recently delivered by Hon. John Davis will be printed in the next issue of THE ECONOMIST.

BRO. J. M. PERDUE, State Lecturer of Texas, has assumed editorial and business control of the Alliance Courier of Mineola, Tex. Brother

Perdue is an honest, earnest, energetic worker in the cause of reform, an old member of the Alliance and thoroughly reliable. With such qualifications the paper should thrive under his management. THE ECONOMIST sends greeting and wishes abundant success to the new venture.

Mr. Chairman, I say that the national banks put their bonds in our government warehouses—taking our sub-treasury phrase—they put their bonds in our warehouses, built with our tax money and sustained thereby, and they drew interest on those bonds. They drew it and it was paid in advance very frequently. And in addition to the 90 per cent which the government issued to them at a cost of 1 per cent, they had free deposits, some years running as high as \$50,000,000, of the people's money, and they took that money and loaned it out to the people at from 8 to 30 per cent.

The trouble with the brilliant journalist about the "sub-treasury idea" is, that he has never read the bill which expresses it, and has believed as true, the fulminations of persons no better informed than himself, or of Shylocks who are bent upon perpetuating the present deplorable financial condition because they are profiting by it. The merit of the "idea" (as Mr. Watterson calls it) is that it will remedy the evil of contraction which he admits, without producing the expansion he dreads.

The statesman who draws his opposition to the plan from the failure of confederate money, is an unsafe guide. He does not know the difference between the money of a powerful nation, and that bottomed upon absolutely safe security, and money based upon the trembling foundations of a government tottering to its downfall. What would be thought of a man who would disparage the unimpeachable credit of a wealthy and solvent firm because another concern had failed?

Like other flippant writers, Mr. Watterson says the sub-treasury idea is "undemocratic." If he had remembered that the principle that the government should issue money directly to the people instead of through the medium of corporations, originated with Jefferson the founder of the Democratic party, and was supported by such orthodox Democrats as Jackson and Calhoun, he would not have ventured that opinion.

The suggestion that it is impossible is founded on the supposed majority against it. It is the weakest of all the objections, for the reason that the better it is understood the stronger it grows.

Tariff reform has no more hope of success with an opposition Senate and President than the sub-treasury, but would Mr. Watterson repudiate it, on that account?

Men are judged by their acts rather than their professions. Faith without works is dead. Mr. Watterson says he is anxious as any Farmers' Alliance man to increase the circulating medium.

Why then does he propose in his paper to send free silver coinage to the rear, a measure as repugnant to Wall street as the sub-treasury, on the pretence that it would also inflate the currency; and why, if he doesn't like the Alliance idea, does he not propose something which he considers better?

PUBLISH THE PENSION LISTS.

The following, taken from the New York World, is certainly well worth considering. It would no doubt reveal many cases of fraud, and lead to the elimination of many unworthy pensioners:

The farmers have asked for nothing but fairness and justice, and at every crisis in the life of the Republic they have fought your battles, fed your hungry millions, and borne patiently the ox's share of your burdens.

The pension lists ought to be published, as Congressman Fitch has proposed. About \$133,000,000 of the public money was paid out by the pension bureau last year, and more will be paid out this year. The country does not grudge a penny of the money to the honest old soldiers who receive it. On the contrary, it would rejoice to pay them more abundantly, that their lives might be made easy and comfortable and that self-sacrificing patriotism might be exalted in the minds of men. But the pension list has outgrown reasonable bounds.

It is not right that so great a sum should be disbursed by any bureau without accounting. The people have a right to know what is done with their money. It is currently believed, and there is ground for the conviction, that a large part of this money goes fraudulently to men not entitled to it—to men who were not soldiers, to men who have suffered no disabilities, to men whose claims have been fraudulently conceived and pressed to allowance by astyling pension agents. Every dollar so filched from the treasury is a dollar taken from the deserving old soldier whose pensions are thus kept smaller than it might be. The country which the old soldiers served is robbed by men masquerading in the character of veterans. Mr. Fitch proposes to have the names of all pensioners published, with their regiments and com-

panies, and to place the lists in the libraries of grand army posts and veteran associations, so that the old soldiers may be able to detect frauds and to drive out of their honorable company all rascals who may have secured by false pretense the pension money that rightfully belongs to themselves. When the lists are published they can be purged of all pretenders, and will then constitute a roll of honor in which men will be proud to be included.

RUSSIAN AMERICA.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Feb. 19.—Congressional train No. 2 passed here at 7:40 p.m. in good order. Everyone was enjoying himself save Major Kirby, of the New York Journal of Commerce, who sustained a slight fracture of the ankle as he was leaving Washington. For the protection of the travelers an extra force of 1,000 track-walkers has been put on duty, who will patrol that portion of the road traversed in darkness.

The above, taken from the press dispatches, disclose a startling condition of affairs. Let every liberty-loving, true American citizen read this paragraph carefully and ponder well upon its import. When the

Czar of Russia, the most hated of all rulers, travels among his oppressed and distressed subjects, the line over

which he rides is guarded by a detail of soldiers to prevent summary vengeance from being meted out to him. Will it not be an astonishing sight to the people of the United States as well as to the entire world to know that American lawmakers travel under similar conditions in their own country?

What is the difference between a patrol of Russian soldiers and one of American track-walkers? Their methods are similar and their purposes are identical. Both are made use of to protect the lawmakers from real or financial dangers that are supposed to lurk among the people.

The scriptures declare that "the wicked flee when no man pursueth," also that "a guilty conscience needs no accuser." Can these declarations be applied to present conditions?

Are the lawmakers of this country so alive to their own iniquity, their own sense of guilt, their own neglect of the rights of the people, as to fear retribution at their hands? What else than the fear of an outraged people would drive a railroad with guards in the manner indicated in this extract? Absolutely nothing.

An excursion train of double or quadruple the number of ordinary citizens might pass over this route at similar periods and not a track-walker would be seen, nor the necessity for one apprehended, but, when a train filled with lawmakers appears, a guard of a thousand men is at once demanded.

Precautions of this character point clearly to the widening chasm between the classes in this country, and is positive evidence of a want of common interests. Just why this suspicion should be cast upon the people can not be explained, save through an inner consciousness of having betrayed them to their enemies and shared in the ill-gotten spoils.

PRESIDENTIAL SKETCHES.

"Biography is the only history."

JAMES BUCHANAN,

The man who said, "If I know myself, I am a politician neither of the East nor of the West, nor of the North nor of the South. I therefore shall avoid any expressions, the direct tendency of which must be to create sectional jealousies and at length disunion, that worst and last of all political calamities," was born at "Stony Batter," at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghany in Pennsylvania, April 23, 1791. At fourteen he was ready to enter Dickinson College at Carlisle. He devoted himself to his study and graduated with the highest honors of his class. At eighteen he began his legal studies and at twenty-one, in the year 1812, was admitted to the bar. In 1820 he was elected to Congress, and retained his seat in the House for ten years. It was then he gave utterance to the foregoing words which are interesting in the light of future events.

In 1832 he was appointed minister to Russia. With the fresh laurels he had won in Russia he returned to America to enter the Senate. When Polk became President Buchanan was made Secretary of State. On the election of Franklin Pierce to the Presidency he was appointed minister to England. In 1856 he accepted the nation's highest gift. His presidential career closed in gloom and the rumblings of war. He retired to his country residence, "Wheatland," near Lancaster, Penn., united with the Presbyterian church according to his promise to Dr. Gorley, then of the New York Avenue Presbyterian church. At the age of seventy-seven years, on June 1, 1868, he died of rheumatic gout, and lies buried at Wheatland.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The story of Abraham Lincoln's life and death is familiar to all. On February 12, 1809, he was born in a log cabin in the State of Kentucky. When he was eight years old, his father determined to try his fortune in Indiana. When he was ten his mother died, his father married again, and to his stepmother he owed much. In 1830 his father removed to Illinois. At this time Abraham Lincoln's feet were on the lowest rung, but the next two decades had brought him to the topmost height. He studied law, became a member of the State legislature, and in 1847 the Sangamon district sent him to Congress, and at fifty-three was President of the United States. At Ford's theatre, in Washington city, he was shot on the night of February 14, 1865, was borne across the street where he expired next morning. His body lay in state at the Capitol and was borne through the country in mournful procession back to Springfield, his former home, where his dust reposes in the mausoleum erected for that purpose.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

On the morning of April 15, 1865, Andrew Johnson became President of the United States. He had been Vice-President only six weeks. His beginning in life was very strait and humble. Born in 1809 in Raleigh of poor parents, fatherless at five, his widowed mother, however, managed to keep soul and body of both together by her labor. At ten he was unable to read or write. He was ap-

prenticed to a tailor and worked at his trade until he was sixteen, by which time he had learned his letters. At eighteen he removed with his mother to Greenville, Tenn. He made a wise and happy marriage. His wife is said to have been very attractive and with educational advantages superior to his own. With tact and devotion she taught her young husband. She read to him while he worked, and in the evenings he was her eager and intent pupil. He soon acquired the rudiments of an education. He possessed native ability and had a rare memory. At twenty-two he was mayor of Greenville. At twenty-seven he was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives, and afterward he went to the State Senate. In 1853 he went to Congress, and by succeeding elections he held the office for ten years. In 1853 he was Governor of Tennessee, and re-elected when his first term expired. In 1857 he went to the Senate. In 1861 he was nominated for the Vice-Presidency; six years after he retired from the presidency Tennessee sent him to the Senate. When Congress closed he returned to Tennessee. At the residence of his daughter July 31, 1875, he died from a stroke of paralysis at the age of sixty-seven. He rests beside his wife in a remote spot near the Greenville home selected by himself years before, and where his children have erected over the graves of their parents a splendid monument.

Micawberism as a Party Policy. BY M. G. ELLZEV.

The celebrated Mr. Wilkins Micawber died as he lived—waiting for something to turn up. From the present aspect of affairs it might be imagined that he had bequeathed his famous policy to the Democratic party. In order to regalvanize that old corpse, the tariff, into a semblance of vitality, the chairman of the ways and means committee comes plumping into the ring with a promptness that takes away his breath, with his bill to put wool on the free list, with the absolute certainty staring him in the face that such a bill can not pass the Senate. This is one of the worst features of that other corpse, the Mills bill, and is the very feature which carried the agricultural vote against Mr. Cleveland in the last election in western New York and defeated him in the pivotal State. We are told, moreover, that the balance of the free raw-material features of Mr. Mills' dead pet are to follow in order. That the Senate will with due and becoming dignity turn them down in the order in which they arrive is a known fact. And then farmers are to be asked to help the Democrats to "reform the tariff," which the Republicans are evidently determined not to do. Seeing, however, that this "free raw material" is merely another name for staple products of American agriculture, the response of the farmers is going to be very feeble. Notwithstanding that these corpses have been dead four years, as everybody else knows, these aspirants to leadership fondly believe them to be yet alive. They can not tear themselves away from the dead past, nor leave it to bury its dead. They can not learn to act in the living present. They are joined unto their idols. Let them alone. There is a cloud, as yet no bigger than a man's

hand, coming up over this dead sea of Democracy; it is the people's party. It is going to spread over the whole land. The treasury of the United States is bankrupt. The expenses of the government exceed its revenues; the people of the country are bowed down beneath an unbearable incubus of debt and taxation. How are these things to be remedied? That any manipulation of tariff schedules is possible which will meet the case is a thing which the people can not be made to believe. The situation is not merely serious; it is alarming. Something has got to be done. The demand of the people is that legal tender money be increased in proportion to the astonishing increase of the products of modern labor; that the taxes of an overburdened people be reduced, and that millionaires and trusts and combines and corporations be made to bear a share of this tax burden proportionate to their gains. A mock Democracy has arisen in late years which affects to answer these demands by verbal trash and idle babble about "tariff reform" and "honest money" and "light-weight dollars." They are waiting, they say, for a favorable opportunity to re-establish bimetallic money on a sound basis by an international agreement. Waiting a favorable opportunity to do right! The people will not hear of it. We remind you, gentlemen, that justice delayed is justice denied. If there is no Democracy less able to combine the West and South to answer the demand of the people, what is left of it will have to stand aside and let some other party which is able to do it have the right of way. Look the facts in the face. The treasury can not command legal tender sufficient to pay the help in its own offices. Accumulating millions of silver bullion encumber its vaults, its mints stand idle, while ruin and dismay spread far and wide among the people and the expenses of the government daily exceed its income. Thus the facts stand. Look them in the face, gentlemen, and answer the demand of the people: What are you going to do?

Out of the Depths.
BY HARRY HINTON.

Out of the depths of iniquity we will proceed to drag up a few black chunks of political depravity. Why is it—we ask in all candor—why is it that the people are hounded on all sides by corruption and oppression and the foremost men in the nation, the foremost writers and journalists in the nation, are silent? Is it because we have magnified these evils to an undue proportion, or is it because they are satisfied that all is well? But perhaps they are in league with the people's oppressors and in full sympathy with the corruption and venality of the times. This would be one of the greatest calamities to the American republic at all, if we would make the charge and be able to establish it. We will not make such a charge, nor will we attempt to establish such a disgrace upon our nation.

When Louis the XVI of France and his courtiers were told of the oppressive taxation upon the people and their wants and distress, that kind-hearted monarch could do nothing. A proposition was made to tax the large estates of the clergy and nobility. Even the king seconded the proposition, but this powerful class so leaguered the throne that Louis

felt for his personal security. To-day the peasantry of America who own only one-fourth of the property and pay over three-fourths of the tax ask relief. The millionaire Senate turns a deaf ear; the capitalistic members of the House turn a deaf ear, and the whole plutocratic press turns a deaf ear. But perhaps the assertion that the millions who own only one-fourth of the property, and pays over three-fourths of the taxes, is not true. For the last two years this assertion has been published broadcast throughout the length and breadth of this land, and no public medium has been brave enough to deny it. The New York Herald has never denied it. The New York Tribune and Times have never denied it. In fact, no prominent city journal has ever denied the assertion in the face of the fact that they have denied everything else it was possible for them to deny with possibility. Therefore, the assertion must be true. Add to this the fact that our millionaire Senate has never had a member to deny it, and the plutocratic House has never had a member to deny it, while everything else was impracticable, unconstitutional or false, and we have proof positive that the assertion that the peasantry who own only one-fourth of the property pays three-fourths of the taxes, is absolutely true.

Why have they not denied it? Because the bare discussion of the question would unfold other iniquities which they were desirous to keep concealed. Let us view this question from another standpoint. W. G. Sherman makes 31,000 men own three-fifths of the wealth of the nation. In order to make the numbers round and sound put 94,000 men as owning another fifth. This will make 125,000 men own four-fifths of the nation's wealth. The nation collects \$500,000,000 annually. This 125,000 don't necessarily pay any more tariff nor internal revenue tax than any other 125,000 men. The number of taxpayers is over 12,500,000. One hundred and twenty-five thousand in 12,500,000 goes 100 times. What is your conclusion? It is this: that the 12,375,000 taxpayers, owning only one-fifth of the wealth, pay one hundred times more taxes than the 125,000 taxpayers owning over four-fifths of the wealth of the nation. This is not the bottom yet. This four-fifths ought to pay four-fifths of the taxes. This is just; this is right, which no one will deny. Then the 12,375,000 taxpayers owning one-fifth of the wealth pay four hundred times more taxes than justice and right demands. What do we learn by this? The first thing we learn is the reason why the assertion that those owning only one-fourth of the property paid over three-fourths of the taxes, was never denied or discussed by any great statesman or journal. Why? Because the fact was those who owned only one-fifth of the property paid a hundred times as much taxes as those owning four-fifths.

These figures of Sherman's may not be exactly correct, but they have been standing over two years without proof to the contrary. It matters not, they are sufficiently true to show the depths of iniquities in our public affairs.

Now comes the question, what difference is there between the peasantry of America in 1892 and the peasantry of France just before 1789? We assert that the burdens upon the com-

mon people are as grinding and oppressive as were the burdens upon the people of France under Louis the XVI. If there be a great statesman, a college professor, or city journalist, who does not think so, let him accord me equal space in the New York Tribune, or the World, or any noted public journal, and I will bring what proof I have to establish it; and he may bring what he has to the contrary and let the public judge. I am not afraid to make such a proposition, for no man with sense enough to discuss it dare to accept it. However, for caution's sake, we will bring no further proof now.

Out of the depths of iniquity a nation frequently springs to a newness of life. The French, after ages of oppression, the most heartless and cruel ever born by that people, burst their fetters in 1789, after dipping the nation in blood, and smoke, and desolation; and the haughty aristocracy and the bigoted clergy who had influence enough with the king to exempt themselves from taxation, either bowed their necks to the guillotine or were made homeless renegades on a foreign soil.

Did they believe this oppression was right? Did the administration believe it was right? Certainly they did. Do the beneficiaries of the national agreement. Waiting a favorable opportunity to do right! The people will not hear of it. We remind you, gentlemen, that justice delayed is justice denied. If there is no Democracy less able to combine the West and South to answer the demand of the people, what is left of it will have to stand aside and let some other party which is able to do it have the right of way.

Resolved, That the so-called conflict between the railroads and the farmers be settled on the principles of justice to each and not at the dictation of corporate greed; that this conflict does not extend to railway employees; that we sympathize with them as victims to this same form of avarice, and that we advocate no measure that will lessen the compensation they now receive.

Resolved, That actuated by the spirit of human brotherhood, and protesting against the unnecessary sacrifice of human life, we demand that Congress enact a law requiring all railway companies, doing business in this country, to attach automatic couplers to all cars used in freight traffic.

Mr. S. McLaughlan, of Hamilton, North Dakota, writes:

It is with much pleasure I renew my subscription to our national organ. The older it grows the better it becomes.

The issue of December 26 is certainly rich in solid reform meat. There is, it seems to me, in that issue sufficient food, if well digested, to carry the great reform army to victory. And let me say through THE ECONOMIST to all our brethren, that if John Sherman's bill forbidding the use of the national flag by political parties is intended to interfere with the progress of the reform army in the great national campaign of '92, we will lose nothing. It is not sentiment in flags that feeds the hungry or clothes the naked. Too long the great army of toilers have followed the flag in the hands of a few men whose politics are but plunder, and whose principles are but the spoilage of their fellow men; a class of politicians who wave the flag, shouting for one candidate while voting for another. The great agricultural department of the reform army is denied, by John Sherman's bill, the use of the national flag at their gathering, can march to victory with THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST nailed to a long-handled pitchfork. I also enclose you sufficient names to take advantage of your very liberal holiday offer of five for 50 cents each. We all ought to take a hand in extending the circulation of so excellent an exponent of reform principles. Wishing our leaders all the compliments of the season, together with every blessing heaven can give and earth afford; hoping that through our united efforts, the tillers of the soil will be enabled to retain more of the fruits of their labor.

Brother N. B. Chrisman, of Neola, Ga., writes, inclosing resolutions adopted by Independent Alliance, No. 360:

I inclose resolutions of our sub-Alliance—would like to have you publish them. We have been organized three months, and have 24 members. We have had a steady growth from the start. I would like to make a brief commentary on an address made by A. B. Cummins at the railway employees' banquet at Des Moines. Mr. Cummins said the Iowa railroad legislation of 1888 was caused by prejudice and not by the sober second thought of the people of the State. In forgetting the well-known fact that the roads of this State increased their revenues several millions per annum since, and on account of the legislation in question, Mr. Cummins simply emphasizes the great truth, that selfishness blinds human nature to its true interests. The charge might be answered like an acute Illinois attorney once answered the same charge against a prisoner he was prosecuting. He said the people of this county are not prejudiced against the prisoner at the bar, but against the crime of murder. The people of Iowa are not prejudiced against the business of transportation, but against the crime of rob-

bery under the present system. The beneficiaries of the government have possession of the government. The people may complain and even go so far as to say what measures will relieve them. Government don't see them, don't discuss them, don't hear them, for the same reason in all sincerity and honesty that the Jews crucified Christ, that the French nobility and clergy would not assist in an extravagant government, that the English nobility upheld Charles the First.

There is a revolution in America needed to day. It must come, or the republic will be destroyed. It must be peaceable, strong, powerful, and efficient. It must come through the ballot-box as our only hope. If it comes this way, it will prove that the people are capable of self-government. If it should come by physical force, that question would be still in doubt. The crisis in the life of the republic is on, is at hand, brought about by a systematic course of tyrannical law. Will the people meet the issue and save the republic? That is the question.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. S. McLaughlan, of Hamilton, North Dakota, writes:

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bery; money is the great circulating medium of exchange of commodities; wealth is the source of individual temporal happiness; money is the representative of wealth; money is power; the concentration of money is the concentration of power; all history teaches that power lodged in the hands of a few is more dangerous, more tyrannical, than when in the hands of the many—the people. I have stated that we should pension every Union soldier. I will give you my reason for this. This is one of the hobbies of the Republican party to hold the vote of the old soldiers. I was a Southern sympathizer during the war, and believed in the Democratic doctrines, and still believe in them, but not as our leaders teach them now. I think my plan would divide the old parties North, and unite the South with the new party. I did not write this for publication, but if you think there is any part of it worthy of publication, you can put it in shape and print it. I subscribe for your paper at our State union. I think it one of the best reform papers printed, and wish it could be in the hands of every farmer and laborer in the United States. Our union voted on the sub-treasury plan; there were 11 members present, they all voted for it, and that is the sentiment of all our members; out of 40 but three are against it; our county union voted solid for it. I will close, hoping that your paper may find a home in every farmer and laborer in the United States.

A brother from Gurley, Texas, writes:

I have been a subscriber to THE ECONOMIST since its first, and will take it as long as I can raise the money to do so, because I believe it is honest, and that is more than I can say for few others.

There is a good many agricultural papers in the county claiming to be the farmer's friend and always advising him, but you can seldom pick up one but what you can see scattered over its pages slurs, ridicule, every effort, save one, hard work, to throw off the yoke of oppression put on them by corporations through class legislation. I do not believe they are friends to the farmers, but enemies to his best interest, and if I was not afraid of taking up too much of your valuable space I could prove it. I have for a few years read a good deal about calamity howler and the harm he was doing. He has baffled the best of the Pinkertons, but, Mr. Editor, I have spotted him. Tell the farmers if they will read his epistles carefully they will not be deceived any longer. In Texas Farm and Ranch, January 15, 1892, is one of his sayings: "Looking the fact squarely in the face," and signed Uncle Snort. No man, Mr. Editor, who is a sympathizer of or with farmers, will write in any such style; he can't do it. He says, the fact is the farmer has been told so often that every man's hand is against him, and he is actually bearing all the burdens of life, while all the rest of the world are floating up to wealth and happiness on flower beds of ease. That thousands of people that there are thousands of people that would join our Order that will not. I see your address to all citizens of the United States concerning the third party movement. I am for the third party, and believe that is the only thing through which we can get our demands. I will make one suggestion to the delegates to the St. Louis convention. If they think it proper to inaugurate a third party, I think they ought to nominate some Western man for President that has been a Republican, but now an Alliance man, and some Southern man for Vice-President that has been a Democrat, but now an Alliance man. My reason for this is that both the old parties take their men from New York and Indiana. We, as a people, are tired of Wall street dictating our financial policy; we are tired of banks of issue, and want our money issued by the government. And another reason why we want a Western man and a Southern man is it is time that sectional strife was ended. The war is over, and there is no North, no South, no East, no West. We should be as one band of brothers fighting one cause for the good of the whole people. I will suggest to the delegates of the St. Louis convention that they endorse all of the Ocala demands and the sub-treasury plan, and a graduate income tax, and let that go to pay pensioners, and pension every Union soldier that served in the late war; and issue non-interest bearing legal tenders in sufficient quantity to pay off all the government bonds, and all the government indebtedness. Money is the life-blood of the nation. If it does not flow freely back and forth in the channels of trade. The industries of the nation languish, sicken, and die. Laws that operate to concentrate the wealth of a nation produce congestion and stagnation of

the

resolutions were unanimously adopted.

"1. That we most heartily indorse the action of our great National Council held at Indianapolis, Ind., in November last, and the demands that they made in behalf of debt-ridden people of this once free, happy, and independent nation.

"2. Whereas, viewing, as we do, the necessity of more money to effect exchanges and pay debts; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we request the Hon. Marshall Arnold to introduce a measure or to give his support to a measure that will give the people an increase of the circulating medium; said circulating medium to be free from the control of corporate power and influence; and that the said medium shall be flexible and adapted to the requirements of the republic; and further, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Journal of Agriculture, and one to THE NATIONAL ECONOMIST with a request that they be published.

Tariff Howlers vs. Calamity Howlers.
Midland Journal, Rising Sun, Md.

It has puzzled some honest folks, no doubt, to account for the hostility of the politicians to take up any other question than the tariff as a party measure. But there is nothing in this to be surprised at. The very moment any other question is taken up the old parties will split in two and rapidly fall to pieces. When the question of reforming the financial systems of the country seizes the first place, the position it is entitled to, that moment the work of disintegration in the old parties will begin. The monopoly and money aristocracy element which controls both old parties will take a solid stand shoulder to shoulder, in opposition to any change from the British system under which the producing and laboring class now groan, while all the latter class will rally themselves in opposition to the class of wealth aristocracy. The disintegration will be as complete as that in 1860 among the then old parties. And this is why tariff is howled for so madly by every politician in the country. Tariff is the name which ought to be applied to the old partisans till they become the laughing stock of the public. Pass the word along the line.

THE ST. LOUIS MEETING.

The dispatches from St. Louis up to the time of going to press indicate a large and enthusiastic meeting. Fully ten thousand people will be there in attendance, it is believed. Besides the regular organizations named in the call, nearly every other is present, from Miss Frances E. Willard, representing the Women's Christian Temperance Union, to W. H. Carsey, representing nothing but his well-known and monumental cheek. The meeting is held in the large music hall, and is filled to overflowing.

Ben Terrell, president of the confederated organizations, called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m. Prayer offered by Rev. S. H. Basker, of Ill.

There was a stirring scene when Miss Alice Mitchell, of Chicago, a gray-haired lady, with a powerful voice, was introduced to sing the "Star Spangled Banner."

The delegates, young and old, took up the refrain and sang it with a vigor that made the roof echo, the conclusion of each verse being punctuated with a salvo of applause. Before the singer had time to bow herself from the stage the Southern delegates set up a vociferous demand for the "Suwanee River," and the old plantation song was rendered with a pathos that brought tears to hundreds of eyes.

The musical portion of the ceremonies ended, C. P. Walbridge, president of the city council of St. Louis, welcomed the convention to St. Louis in an eloquent address.

President Polk, of the National Farmers Alliance, was introduced by Mr. Terrell, and the announcement was made that Mr. Polk's address would be followed by one from Mr. Powderly, and another from Ignatius Donnelly. At the mention of these three possible Presidential candidates, the convention manifested much interest, and for the time being forgot that they were yet without even a temporary organization, and were still in the hands of Mr. Terrell.

He compared the gain in wealth of the New England States as compared with the producing States of the West and South, saying that the gain of the New England States was 5 to 1 against the South and West. He entered a solemn protest against these unequal conditions. The time has come when the great Northwest, great South, and great West shall lock their hearts and hands together and take possession and run the government in the interest of the people. [Tremendous applause.] In closing, Mr. Polk said:

"We want relief, we demand that we have relief, and we will have relief, and I repeat now what I have repeated from Maine to California, we must have relief if we have to wipe the two old parties from the face of the earth."

Mr. Powderly was now introduced and a delegate in the Massachusetts quarter called for three cheers for him, which were given with a tiger. Mr. Powderly began by referring to the big bridge which he termed a big hole through which visitors to St. Louis had to pass, and which was owned by a man to whom every one who wished to enter St. Louis had to pay a tax. He said that the time had come when the people would surmount these difficulties. It was not a Powderly nor a Polk that would bring this about, but the people would remedy this when the proper time came.

Ignatius Donnelly succeeded Mr. Powderly on the rostrum. Mr. Donnelly was greeted with stunning applause. He declared that the coming gatherings of the Democracy and Republicans at Chicago and Minneapolis compared with this convention would be simply congratulations of unprincipled politicians to divide the plunder of the republic. He predicted a wedding soon to occur—that old Democracy and the Republican party. The ceremony will be performed at the altar of plutocracy. Grover Cleveland and Ben Harrison would act as bridesmaids, the devil himself would give away the bride, and Jay Gould would pronounce the benediction. "We propose," the speaker continued, "to wipe the Mason and Dixon line out of the geography, to wipe the color line out of politics; to give Americans prosperity; that the man who creates shall own what he creates; to take the robber classes from the throat of industry; to take possession of the government of the United States, and to put our nominees in the white house."

Great cheering cries for "Jerry Simpson" went up till the roof shook, but the Kansas statesman proved modest or absent, and the band filled in the interim. Gen. Weaver, of Iowa, moved that the convention elect a temporary organization immediately. He nominated Marion Cannon, of California, for temporary chairman. The motion carried with a whoop. John P. Steele, of Illinois, and John W. Haines, of Pennsylvania, were speedily selected as temporary secretaries. Three credentials committees were appointed from the various organizations mentioned in the call for the convention, as follows:

National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union—W. A. Householder, Kansas; J. L. Gilbert, California; and H. P. Bone, Alabama. Farmers Mutual Benefit Association—F. J. Claypool, Indiana; Chas. Palmer, Illinois, and G. W. Davis, Iowa.

Knights of Labor—Henry A. Hicks, New York; A. P. Stevens, Ohio, and H. J. Allen, Michigan. National Citizens' Industrial Alliance—C. H. Ellington, Georgia; E. G. Brown, Massachusetts, and J. A. Johnston, Colorado.

Patrons of Industry—C. D. Wooster, Aaron Broughton, and James Cleland.

National Citizens' Alliance—J. D. Holdien, Kansas; D. L. Siedecker, Kansas, and Robert Vlissert, New York.

National Colored Alliance and Cooperative Union—R. M. Humphrey, Texas; W. A. Patille, North Carolina, and W. H. Warwick, Virginia.

National Farmers Alliance—Obadiah Hull, Nebraska; A. Hull, Iowa, and Andrew Stevenson, Minnesota.

Ignatius Donnelly urged the immediate appointment of a platform committee to be composed of one member from each State delegation, but was headed off by Congressman Livingston, of Georgia, with a point of order that it could not be done till the credentials committee reported. A disposition to continue the proceedings through a night session was noticeable, and a motion by Washbourne, of Massachusetts, to adjourn till 10 a.m. met with prompt defeat. A statement by Mr. Powderly that the Knights in the convention were figuring on holding a meeting during the evening altered matters some-

what, and, after compromising on 9 a.m. as the hour for reassembling, the convention adjourned till tomorrow.

TUESDAY MORNING, February 23.

The delegates were slow in getting together, and to make matters worse, it was announced that, after pretty well an all-night session, the committee on credentials was unable to make its report. This was explained by the fact that a number of delegates, representing organizations not included in the official call, had been knocking at the door for recognition. They include the Women's Alliance, the National Anti-Monopolists, the Alliance assemblies of the Industrial Union, the Union Reform Association, and the Central Nationalists, and a lot of other organizations, the existence of which none of the old delegates had ever heard of before.

There seemed to be a very strong suspicion in the committee that these concerns were of a mushroom growth, and that in some of them at least the handiwork of the political striker, with an eye toward a possible barter sale after the opening of the national campaign, could be discerned.

Nevertheless it was agreed to give all of the elements that sought open sesame a chance to tell about themselves and their movements, but this was such a task that when the members of the committee separated, well on toward daylight, their work was still incomplete.

At 10.15 the convention was formally called to order by President Cannon, who asked the delegates to receive the report in the spirit it was offered.

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A statement by Mr. Powderly that the Knights in the convention were

CONGRESS.**SENATE.**

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 1892.

Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D.

The journal of yesterday's proceedings was read.

Mr. Sherman, from the committee on foreign relations, reported back favorably the joint resolution introduced by Mr. Perkins, requesting the President to return to the republic of Mexico twenty-one flags now in the United States Military Academy, captured by the army of the United States during the war with Mexico. He said there was an act of Congress, a field of power, and the committee thought it a generous and proper thing to do. Passed.

Mr. Palmer gave notice that he would address the Senate to-morrow upon his constitutional amendment to have Senators elected by direct vote; and Mr. Peffer gave notice he would tomorrow introduce a resolution to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the relief of the colored people of the late Senator Plumb.

Mr. Morrill, from the finance committee, reported a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty the wreckage of the ships Trenton and Vandalia presented by the United States government to the king of Samoa, and to appropriate \$7,000,000 for the same.

Mr. Morgan offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for a report on the subject of land grants to the Mobile and Grand Railroad Company. Agreed to.

The Idaho contested election case was again taken up, and Mr. Gray addressed the Senate in favor of a bill to declare the election invalid.

Mr. Palmer contended for the view of the majority of the committee in favor of Mr. Dubois, and in conclusion said he trusted the time would soon come when such questions could not arise, and the people speak their choice directly in choice of Senators.

Without disposing of the matter, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. Prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D.

The journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

Mr. Stump, Md., asked unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of Senate concurrent resolution providing for an investigating committee on immigration, of laws relative to the facts attending the admission of typhus-stricken Russians at New York. Mr. Geary, Cal., objected, and the resolution was referred.

Mr. Livingston, Ga., got unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the following resolution:

"In view of the almost, and extremely depressed condition of the masses of people of this country, and their eager inquiry as to the policy of this House toward the people, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the House do all in its power to relieve the condition of the people of this country, and to provide for the improvement of their treatment under the law."

Mr. Chairman, in 1890 we made 6,025,000 bales of cotton. That cotton brought 10 cents a pound.

In 1890 we made not half a million bales more, as the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. Funston] said, but less than 400,000 more; we made only 7,313,000 bales. It brought 10 cents a pound, and the year before 9 cents per pound. Gentlemen will see that in the past, comparing year with year, there are numbers of years in the catalogue when the increase of the cotton crop over the preceding year was a great deal larger, and when the price, instead of going up, either held its place or went higher.

In 1890 we made only 5,000,000 bales of cotton.

In 1883 we made nearly 7,000,000 bales.

Yet the price in 1883 was greater than in 1890.

Going further, Mr. Chairman, I want to say this.

The increase of the cotton crop over the preceding year was 8,625,000 bales of cotton, brought 9 cents per pound.

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Gentlemen will see that in the past, comparing year with year, there are numbers of years in the catalogue when the increase of the cotton crop over the preceding year was a great deal larger, and when the price, instead of going up, either held its place or went higher.

In 1890 we made only 5,000,000 bales of cotton.

In 1883 we made nearly 7,000,000 bales.

Yet the price in 1883 was greater than in 1890.

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of dollars, to be raised by taxation from the people of this country, that I have no doubt that I should be compelled, for a moment, to that view of this question. And in that connection, Mr. Chairman, I desire to send to the clerk's desk and have read a circular bearing upon the question of the money to be raised to pay these bills.

The clerk read as follows:

"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,

"WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19, which will,

"Sir: A movement is now on foot which will,

"raise money in favor of the veteran soldiers of the

"United States, than all other influences which can

"ever be marshaled or brought together.

"I allude to the proposition to give to 37½

"grains of silver a legal-tender value of 100 cents.

"It is called free coinage. This amount of silver

"bullion is worth to-day less than 70 cents,

"and owing to the rapid increase of the production of

"silver, it is unlikely to fall until the value of

"37½ grains of silver will be less than 60 cents.

"This simply means that if a free silver bill be

"comes law, a veteran who now gets a pension

"worth to him \$4 per month, would receive only

"but \$2.80, with a chance of it going down to

"as little as \$2.60, and a soldier

"who is physically weak and utterly unable

"to do for himself. Such a man gets \$72 per month.

"If a free silver bill passes, while he would nominally get the same, he would really get but \$5.40,

"with the strong probability that in the early future

"his \$2 of monthly pension would be worth not

"over \$3.20.

"In a free coinage act, if reports of the re-

"markable richness of the mines at Creede, Colo.,

"can be accepted as true, the mine owner at Creede

"would get for, say \$1, enough silver dollars to

"equal what the receiver of a pension has to pay \$2 for.

"You personally may not be receiving a pension; but there are many worthy veterans

"who have a right to be a duty which you owe to them and to the cause of humanity and justice, that you should write or telegraph at once to your member of Congress, and to the Senators who represent you here to oppose this scandalous measure of class legislation. It will be no waste of time or money if you both telegraph and write, not only to your own representative, but to others who would suggest that you personally telegraph and write first, and that you call a meeting of the post and take prompt action.

"Respectfully,

"MICHAEL D. HARTER,

"Fifteenth Ohio District.

"Grand Army of the Republic."

Mr. Chairman, I will ask to have the rest printed.

I have seen a single telegram in this House from

a post of the Grand Army in answer to that circular, and I am informed, Mr. Chairman, that that bulldozing circular has been sent to every Grand Army post in this country. So far as I know, in my section of the country, in my acquaintance with members of the Grand Army, they have not yet received the free coinage of silver. They believe that when we raise \$50,000,000 to pay the expenditures of this government, there ought to be some provisions as to where the money is to come from and how they are to get it. They understand full well, Mr. Chairman, that the poor man who pays the taxes to support his pension, and that they are to him this bounty must be the penalty to Powder it with the tax which would come from the free coinage. Donors, however, and the better circulating medium they three, pay more largely by this than the balance of their pension.

I understand a gentleman who sits near me, the author of that circular, the promoter of the circular, is rich far into millions. He is banker, a national banker holding the bonds of the country, and the question involves probably the mortgages that he holds upon these pensioners and the poor taxpayers that have to pay the pensions, and he is more interested and his personal welfare is more concerned in it than he is in any of the pensioners of this country or in the welfare of the poor taxpayer. The pensioners and the poor people, who are looking to depress prices and the price paid, to them in order to accumulate for himself, and to add to the untold wealth still further untold wealth, exacted by those who control the finances of this country and resist the restoration of silver to its par with gold in the circulation of the country. [Applause.]

Mr. Chairman, if we are to meet this sort of tactics on this floor, if gentlemen stay in their seats and undertake to put their colleagues at a disadvantage before their constituencies, I think it is but proper to call the attention of the House, and of the country to the bulldozing and attempting to cover up the fact that are brought to bear against the poor man's silver. I stand here to denounce it as an attempt to intimidate and bulldoze members of this House by this circular in sending it to Grand Army posts. [Applause.]

We pay the printer to give you good advice about health and to lead you to careful living.

Our reason is that Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil is so often a part of careful living.

If you would go to your doctor whenever you need his advice, we might save our money. He knows what you need.

Let us send you a book on CAREFUL LIVING, free.

Scott & Bowes, Chemists, 125 Sixth Avenue, New York.

Your druggist keeps Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil—drugs everywhere.

Do You Depend

Upon your own exertions for a living? If you do you can not afford to be sick. Good blood means good health. Take ten robust men accustomed to hard work, either mental or manual, and nine of them will enter the season of spring with blood loaded with broken down tissues and other impurities, the result of a large amount of carbon expended by the system during the winter. As a consequence there are neuralgia and rheumatic pains, dyspepsia, headache, general weakness, impaired appetite, loss of sleep, boils, abscesses, skin diseases, erysipelas, and many other similar disorders. Sometimes one of these symptoms is present and sometimes several. For diseased blood, no matter how it may manifest itself the Capital Blood Purifier is a most efficient remedy.

Washington, D. C., September 25, 1891.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed are proceedings of Friday, February 19, 1892, as read and voted.

Among the bills reported and placed on calendar were the following:

For the examination and promotion of enlisted men of the army to the grade of second Lieutenant.

To ratify agreements with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma.

To amend the act incorporating the volunteers army.

The fact of our doing business in Clarksville, the greatest of the renowned Clarksville tobacco district, will give you assurance that our shipments consist of nothing but the famous Clarksville type of tobacco. Our life has been spent in the cultivation as well as in the handling and sorting of tobacco, and we claim to be able to cater to the taste of all lovers of a good and unadulterated chew or smoke.

On application for all orders will be promptly filled and guaranteed to be delivered and repackaged.

The calendar was then taken up.

House joint resolution concerning mining debris in California. Passed.

Senate bill appropriating \$100,000 for a public building in New Haven, Vt. Passed.

Senate bill appropriating \$5,000 for a girls' reform school in the District of Columbia—one-half cost to be borne by the District. Passed.

To fix the compensation of keepers and crews of life-saving stations. Keepers of life-saving stations, except stations known as houses of refuge, are entitled to \$100 per month, and members of crews of stations \$65 per month during such time as stations are manned. Passed.

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Author of "The Philosophy of Price," "History of the United States Dollar," and Associate Editor of "The National Economist," official organ of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

It will contain 800 pages, 48 elegant photo engravings. It will be the greatest book of the period. Price: Cloth, \$2.50; Half-Russia, \$3.50. Send for terms and circulars to

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We speak from personal knowledge, as we have dealt with this firm.—[Ed.]

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