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EDITORIAL

## PALACE ATROCITIES.

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**T**HE *Chronicles of the "Oeil de Boeuf"* (Ox-Eye) is the name given to certain records of the courts of Louis XV{.} and Louis XVI. The *Congressional Records*, containing the speeches now being delivered in the Senate and the House of Representatives{,} are in the nature of an "Oeil de Boeuf" chronicles. Like the latter, the former are not intended for general information; like the latter, the former constitute a damaging indictment drawn up by the members of the ruling class against one another. There is only one difference between the two chronicles. The participants in the old one had sense enough to know that their mutually revealed scandals concerned themselves alone, and that there was no sense in one of the participants claiming that his revelations would entitle him to the love and affection of the people; whereas the participants in the present struggle hurl their denunciations at one another as arguments why the denounced should make room for the denouncer.

The iniquities of the Tin Trust against the concerns not in the Trust, and against certain stockholders, certainly are scandalous; but in what way does such mutual throat-cutting concern the real people, the real public, the Working Class?

The chicaneries of bank presidents against one another are fetid enough to call for disinfectants; but in what way does the mutual throat-cutting concern the workers?

The rascalities of the Steel Trust, in collusion with high Government officials, against stockholders and other property-holders read like the records of the inmates of penitentiaries; but in what way would the workers profit if the rascalities were to cease being committed by the denounced, and the denouncers enjoyed a free field?

The conduct of the majority stockholders of the capitalist papers, who by commission and omission furnished false information to the minority stockholders

regarding the crisis, and thereby caused these heavy damages, is certainly immoral; but for what reason should the stock-less workers grow hot in the collar at the “wrong done” to the small stockholders, who, had they the chance, would have treated the majority holders to a similar dose?

Somewhere in his *History of England*, Macaulay observes that the atrocities committed in the palaces of the Tudors left the people unconcerned. Henry VIII., for example, Macaulay observes, was left unmolested if he wished to send Buckingham and Surrey, Anne Boleyn and Lady Salisbury, to the scaffold. The people looked upon that as a case of swine rend swine, and left the swine to do their rending. Such is the nature of the atrocities that the political representatives of capitalism are now mutually complaining about. So little as it concerned the English people whether Henry sent Buckingham to the scaffold, or Buckingham stabbed Henry to death, just so little is the Working Class of the land concerned whether one capitalist swine rends the other, or the other rend the one. The sooner they rend one another to shreds the better. The only thing that concerns the workers is to put a stop to the plunder that both sets of swine are practicing upon Labor.

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