

THE GREAT CRIME

WHICH HAS FOLLOWED THE CENTURIES SINCE TIME WAS YOUNG

And Still Exists in all Lands and Climes, Regardless of Constitution, Statute and Ballot.

What has been the crime, the chief crime of the ages? Who perpetrated it when Time was young? Who perpetrates it now? Who have been its victims along the track of all the centuries? Why have the victims of the crime permitted it to continue?

We are not unmindful of the adage, that "Fools may ask questions which wise men cannot answer," but the questions which we have propounded are not to be classed as idiotic—the spawns of feeble minds, or the product of men afflicted with wheels in their heads. They are not the product of delusions or of "illusions; they are not suggested by dreams, or visions, nor are they the product of overwrought imagination.

The chief crime of the ages, subsequent to the deluge, was the enslavement of the many by the few—the stealing of their liberty, their earnings, their lives, their brains, their muscle and their skill; the debasement of those who wore the badge of labor.

We challenge legend, tradition, fable and history, from Ararat, where the ark rested, to Calvary, where Christ was crucified. We challenge all history, sacred and profane of all ages and of all lands and climes, from Nineveh to Rome, and find that history ceaselessly repeats itself in that the crime of the ages was the robbery, the enslavement of the masses by the few.

It does not matter where the explorer delves for facts, he finds them engraved upon brass or granite—pictured in hieroglyphics, or written upon paper, parchment or papyrus, bearing the same irrefutable testimony that the crime of the ages was man's inhumanity to man—a crime that has been written with an "iron pen and lead in the rock forever."

It is an impossibility with pen or brush to paint the picture in colors too dark, or in characters too repulsive. It is always and everywhere a picture representing the triumph of the devil in human affairs; a picture of toil, degradation, despair and death—of criminals on the throne and innocents on the scaffold. The few, by inscrutable processes, subjecting the many to degradations which no words could fitly characterize—building their palaces of the skulls of their victims, and in vaulted halls, amidst luxuries and splendor purchased by piracies, neither fearing God nor regarding man, blotched the ages with their crimes.

History repeating history. We do not deal in hyperbole—exaggeration sits dumb amidst the wrecks and ruins of the past, and equally silent amidst the monuments of "progress and poverty" of the present. History is repeating history, parallels are maintained—divergencies there are, but those who care to truthfully chronicle events, will find, however numerous the modifications, the trend has been the same along all the centuries; the many have been "dumb, driven cattle"—the beasts of burden—and the few have reveled in the spoils stolen from the toiling, enslaved masses.

From the words of Christ, "For ye have the poor always with you," the inference is drawn that the poor, like the rocks, are bound fast in their condition by the decrees of heaven, from which emancipation is a preordained impossibility.

To accept the language of the Master—the Nazarine, the carpenter's son, the prophesied Christ—as a warrant for oppressing, enslaving and robbing men, women and children, is in itself sufficient to create doubts of the existence of an infinite, justice-loving God, and would justify a rebellion against heaven, from the center to the circumference of the earth. Nevertheless, as if by heaven's decree, and certainly by heaven's permission, the crime of the ages proceeds, and the masses, still subjects of the few, kneel like camels to receive their burdens, stretch forth their limbs to receive their shackles, strip themselves to receive the lash of their masters—aye, more, offer themselves a sacrifice upon the altar of human greed, while those who rob them, with pharisaical faces sufficiently long to eat oats out of a churn, exclaim, in the language of Paul: "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters." "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh." "Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things, not answering again."

It may not be popular to quote St. Paul in support of the crime of the ages, nor yet St. Peter, who said: "Servants, be subject to your masters with fear." "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether it be to the king as supreme or unto gov-

ernors." Again, said St. Peter: "Fear God, honor the king."

THE UNANSWERABLE.

What influence such teachings have had in perpetuating the crime of the ages is one of the unanswerable questions in human affairs.

That they have had any elevating, redeeming, emancipating influence no one in his senses believes; but that they have been utilized for slavery, oppression, degradation and all the brood of infamies hatched in the dens of power is a foregone conclusion, and in the nature of things, could have had no other effect.

THE WAR FOR FREEDOM.

It is against such teachings that the masses have been required to war for two thousand years—as they had warred for two thousand years before the dawn of the Christian era. The war is still being waged. Men cry peace! but there is no peace. Power, with its standing armies, commands submission, not peace. Every nihilistic shot in Russia; every socialistic movement in Germany; every stab of an anarchist in France or Italy; every protest thundered in the British parliament, demonstrates that the crime of the ages still proceeds; that power, with beak and claw and fang, guns, powder and ball, is the same as when Christ denounced it, and in some measure defeated by using his Godlike power to free a few thousand of its victims.

THE BATTLE IS STILL ON.

The masses are still fighting an unequal battle, but they are fighting. To give up the struggle is to sink to fathomless depths of degradation, while their oppressors, pointing to the full-orbed sun of our civilization, to our poverty and progress, take courage, increase their armies, equip them with long range guns, prerequisites for continuing the perpetration of the crime of the ages.

THE OPPOSING FORCES.

Against all such theories and devices concocted by the rich, the powerful and the devil in alliance, Americans are in active hostility, and this opposition is the one sign of the times which betokens the ultimate emancipation of the great body of American toilers.

For more than two hundred years America perpetrated the crime of the ages. Wealth and power and hell, combined to make the fairest land baptized by the light of the sun a slave pen—a covenant with hell and the league with death; that made every star upon the blue field of the national ensign a flaming lie. Millions of men fought and bled and died to perpetuate the crime of the ages, while other millions, with a sublimer motive in view, fought to overthrow it, and it finally disappeared as did the cities of the plain; pelted to oblivion by a storm of fire, such as the ages had never witnessed.

True, the slave-pen, the slave-block and the slave-ship have disappeared from America, but as if fate had decreed that America should be the final battle-field between Right and Wrong, Truth and Error, Liberty and Slavery, the despots of the money power, having triumphed over the church and the judiciary; having debauched the press and contaminated every law-making body; having captured presidents and cabinets, fling the gage of battle in the face of the masses, and chuckle as they see multiplied thousands of workmen of America, tagged and numbered, bought and delivered, using their ballots to perpetuate the crime of the ages, and accept the bondage of wage slavery.

NOT ALL OF THEM.

There are other multiplied thousands of wage-earners who will not "honor the king;" will not down at his bidding; will not worship the images he sets up. They are sons of sovereigns, and sovereign Americans by the right of inheritance and by a higher law than the constitutions and statutes. They adopt the shibboleth of Patrick Henry—"Give me liberty, or give me death." They are the elect of destiny, the high priests of liberty to keep forever burning its sacred fires.

They constitute, individually and collectively, object lessons for the study and the admiration of the world. They are the Jobs of the world, whose integrity cannot be debauched. They are the "Hebrew children" who laugh to scorn the fiery furnaces of labor's oppressors. They are more than Greeks at Marathon, or Spartans at Thermopylae. They are the minute men at all the Lexingtons, heroes at all the Bunker Hills, patriot soldiers at all the Valley Forges—more, they are union men in the Wilderness, at the Gettysburgs and Chickamaugas of labor, when battles are fought for its emancipation. Aye, they are A. R. U. men who laugh at prisons, and defying injunctions, suffer privations and persecutions with defiant courage, and who, rallying to every bugle call, are ready to lead any hope however forlorn, believing that ultimate victory will crown their efforts, and that with their ballots they will enthrone the right, and on American soil dig the grave of the crime of the ages.

Agitation secured for 2,000 workmen in Boston the benefits of the eight hour day.

THE COLOSSAL HOG

PHIL D. ARMOUR SQUEALS AND THE U. S. COURT COMES

To His Rescue in Kansas City with an Injunction that Upholds Capital, Crushes Labor, and Seeks to Bindgeon Free Speech to Death

THE CASE.

Phil D. Armour—never mind about his partners and pals, who do not amount to a pinch of snuff—runs a Kansas City joint of his Chicago concern.

A number of firemen who were working twelve hours a day at \$2.25 a day proposed to the Armour Packing Company of Kansas City, to work eight hours a day for \$2.00 a day.

This proposition being refused, the firemen, as they had a right to do, left the employment of the Packing Company, and appealing to their fellow workmen of Kansas City for justification of their course, were fully and unequivocally endorsed. That is the case in a nutshell.

BRINGING THE PACKING CO. TO TERMS.

There were no displays of violence. The workmen of Kansas City, simply determined to withdraw all patronage from the Armour Packing Company. To let it kill cattle and hogs, hang up the product or pack it, but as for themselves they would not touch the beef, pork, mutton, veal or lard produced by the Armour Packing Company. In a word, it was a boycott with a big B, and was designed to reduce the sale of such products, not only in Kansas City, but elsewhere throughout the United States.

This boycott, entirely legitimate, was having its effect. Organized labor was giving it to the Packing Company where the chicken got the axe, and as a result, Phil D. Armour, the colossal hog, began to squeal.

TO THE RESCUE.

Under such conditions what was the remedy? An appeal to a United States judge. Phil D. Armour is rated as worth \$100,000,000 and can buy a judge or a dozen of them if required. He knows their market price as he knows the price of a steer, or any other animal he desires to slaughter. As a result, an injunction was forthcoming—"directed against the forty-two strikers and also the heads of all the labor unions of Kansas City," including also; J. Harry Lewis, the editor of the *Midland Mechanic*.

The writ reads as follows: "It is ordered that a writ of injunction issue out of and under the seal of this court, commanding the said defendants, and all other persons combining and conspiring with them, and all other persons whomsoever not named herein who are acting under or in concert with the named defendants, absolutely to desist and refrain from in any way or manner interfering with or hindering, or placing any boycott upon the products or business of the said Armour Packing company, or upon the business of any person selling, or desiring to sell, such products, and from in any way making, promulgating or issuing any notice or proclamation attempting to put any such boycott into force or effect. And it is further ordered that this injunction shall be binding upon said defendants, and upon all such other persons whatsoever who are not named herein, acting under or in concert with said defendants, from and after the time when they shall severally have knowledge of the entry of said order and the existence of said injunction. And the said defendants, or other persons, shall have the right, within three days after receiving knowledge thereof, to show cause, if any they have, why this order should not be further continued.

STRIKING DOWN FREE SPEECH.

The Constitution of the United States declares that "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press," and yet, the injunction from which we have quoted does both, and the *Midland Mechanic* is the victim of the nefarious outrage in the interest of a bloated butcher, who, not content with slaughtering dumb animals, seeks to render workmen as dumb as a Texas steer, and to perpetrate such a nefarious outrage, calls upon the U. S. Courts for aid, which, regardless of Constitution, is promptly remedied.

DESPOTISM.

In issuing such injunctions, we have despotism, pure and simple, equal to anything known to the autocrat-cursed lands of Europe, Asia or Africa. If in the opinion of a subsidized judge who wears a No. 4 hat, and No. 15 shoes, the injunction, which violates the Constitution, is infringed, the culprit goes to prison, and there is no power under heaven to rescue him from the paws of the beast, who has deprived him of his liberty.

THE OUTCOME.

Fortunately the boycott has been declared, and still more fortunately no injunction can arrest its effect upon the business interests of Phil D. Armour. Organized labor has taken up the cause of the Kansas City strikers, and if throughout the country organized labor is true to itself, not a pound of Phil D. Armour's meat will ever again enter the homes of workmen until the

bloated millionaire butcher comes to terms.

THE MIDLAND MECHANIC.

In the meantime J. Harry Lewis, the editor of the *Midland Mechanic*, has resolved to fight the case; to find if the freedom of the press can be abridged with impunity by a U. S. Judge in the employment of a millionaire butcher—a case that the labor press of the country should make its own and fight it to the bitter end, since, if a U. S. Judge can strike dumb the voice of the labor press of the country in the interest of organized capital and its cutthroat policy, why longer talk of a free country? Anarchy is the absence of law, and when a court strikes down the fundamental law of the land, what is it if not anarchy in its worst form?

ENGLISH ROYALTY.

A writer in *The Clarion*, published at London, England, refers to the royal family of that country in a style of irony indicative of a growing disregard of crown, scepter, and a' that. It appears that already there are three candidates in the field for the crown—the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and Prince Edward of York, son of the Duke of York—son, grandson and great grandson of Victoria, the Queen. Prince Edward, of York, is No. 3, still an infant, who has been provided with a brother baby, and these two sprigs of royalty may be seen most any day out for a drive in the neighborhood of Landingham in a royal carriage, drawn by two fine stepping horses, with coachman and footman on the box. Prince Edward, No. 3, has pink-and-white cheeks, pretty hair, and has been taught to shake his hand and make infantile bows to any passer-by. "So you see," says the writer, "the very future king has nearly completed his education before he is out of his cradle; a graceful manner of bowing and smiling at his grateful subjects being about all an English king is expected to know." Reference is also made to the fact that the Prince of Wales contemplates another raid upon the English exchequer, because the family of Prince Edward of York gives promise of a progeny of alarming proportions. The contention is that the royal family must be maintained royally, and as England now has three candidates for the crown, and as coming events are constantly casting their shadows before, Lord Saulesbury must provide the wherewith to maintain the ancient style.

If royalty in England was not so hedged about with antiquated ideas of exclusiveness, the right thing to do would for to betroth Prince Edward of York to a baby daughter of some one of our cod fish, coal oil, or cattle ranch millionaires, with stipulations that certain annuities shall be paid, right along, from the date of betrothal. There are Goulds, Vanderbilts, Rockefellers, Morgans, Astors, and others who would willingly pay a cool million a year to marry into England's royal family, and when the knot was finally tied, hand over any amount from five millions to fifty, thereby relieving the English taxpayers of a mighty burden.

If England will send a royal Commission to the United States to find a baby as the future wife of Prince Edward of York, our word for it, a hundred or more heirs to millions will be offered from which selections could be made, and the financial future of the Prince assured beyond a peradventure. Already from five millions to twenty millions are paid for titles, but should royalty, the real, simon-pure article, be offered on the market, America would shell out the shekels in a way to astonish the natives.

The Prince of Wales could, doubtless, arrange with Chauncey M. Depew to negotiate with the Vanderbilts, Astors, Huntingtons, Morgans, Rockefellers and Armours for a future girl baby for Prince Edward of York. To have a king or queen of England with American blood, "alf and alf," would bind the two English speaking nations in indissoluble bonds, more valuable than Cleveland's gold bonds, and this done, from orient to occident, from Greenland's icy mountains to Cape Town, the earth and the fullness thereof would be ours, and don't you forget it.

Walter Wellman writes from Washington that Cleveland is red hot for his gold standard theory of finance, and ready to become a third term candidate for president if it is necessary to maintain his theory. Let Democrats trot out Rothschild's pal, and then feel for his political pulse after the November election, when he will be as dead as a prehistoric mummy.

A. R. U. has gained a foothold in Connecticut.—Manitoba railroaders are getting in line.—A lodge of trainmen at Kansas City joined.—Western Union telegraphers in large numbers are joining, as well as many Southern railroaders.—Cleveland Citizen.

A Huntington, Ind., inventor has produced a glass coffin, which he avers will preserve a corpse and costume intact till the dawn of resurrection day.

THE BALLOT

DESIGNED TO PERPETUATE LIBERTY, HAS BECOME CORRUPTED

By Designing Men, and is Made the Instrument of Oppression, Spoilation and Degradation.

Every effort now being made to remind the masses of the value of the ballot, is in the right direction and eminently opportune. In the May issue of the *American Federationist*, Frank A. Myers writes of the ballot and says: "The word ballot is a lineal descendant of the Greek word 'ballain,' a commoner, which primarily signified 'to throw, or cast.' It comes to us, however, more directly from the French and Italian. Whatever its route to us down through the ages its meaning is not altered in the least.

AS WE UNDERSTAND THE WORD BALLOT TODAY,

it means a written or printed bit of paper, cast by electors at elections for officials who are chosen for public offices, in distinction from the viva voce vote, or the lifting of the hand, or other methods of signifying assent or dissent. Primarily, the ballot was a ball or a pebble thrown or cast by the voter to indicate his wishes or preference, then it became a bean, a white one for agreement to a proposition and a black one for disagreement; but now in the United States the ballot is generally a printed form, on which are the names of the candidates to be voted for, the suffragist stamping a sign in front of each name which he desires to be counted in the election returns. But what does the ballot in the

HANDS OF A FREEMAN MEAN?

What does it represent? What ideas are in it? It means much, for it is a power; it is a rank that commands respect; it is a kingship that alters public opinion; it is a force that legislates; it is a power that puts men in or out of office; it is the power behind the throne. It represents the voter's principles; it stands for the questions at issue before the people; it means the form of government we voluntarily obey; it, properly used, guarantees our prosperous future; it indicates all that we are and all that we hope to be; it is our birthright; it is our happiness or our misery—all depending on how we use it. To enlarge upon all these points would transcend the limits of this article; therefore, the reader must take these hints as themes for thought, and amplify them, supplying his own illustrations and reading a volume from his own mind.

THAT THE BALLOT HAS DEGENERATED

and become corrupt through bribery and other methods—implying corrupter and a corrupted—is patent to everyone who pauses a moment in reflection. The corrupt practices act in England, enacted under the Gladstone ministry, marks what the statesmen (not the demagogues) of to-day think of its degeneracy and the evil effects on government and communities and men—on both public and private affairs. So at this time, good men in all civilized countries are interested in the purification of the ballot. Civil service is a measure for redress from the pollution of the ballot; the Australian law, now in use in some form or other in thirty-six states of the union, is an effort at reform; election leagues are a protest against the evil and a movement to stem the tide of public filth and disease and palsy; and all other agencies and committees of "good men" are a yellow flag signal on the government door of the vile contagion within and a proclamation against the crying, dogged evil that taxes our best powers to resist, and enlists our highest energies to carry the nation through the maelstrom of damnation.

WE ARE DRIFTING,

and when that is said very much is indicated. It means that there is no hand guiding, that there is no rudder, or compass by which to steer the old "ship of state," which is in danger of swamping in the turbulent waves, into the haven of honest politics, and that there is no "life line" thrown out to rescue the perishing. The base managers of politics—men who think all is fair in war and partyism, men whose scruples of public affairs are not as nice and critical and deep as of religious affairs—will degrade the ballot (and also the voter, you and me) for reasons entirely selfish. They find both occupation and booty—which they are pleased to call salary for services—in corrupt election methods.

THEY FIND MEN WHO ARE DOCILE,

if not silly, enough to be hoodwinked, deceived and led to do their bidding at the polls, not for the voter's good, but for their own selfish advantage—make horses of voters and ride them, so to speak. They find money in it, or the hope of money, or the promise of money, or of place, or of preferment, or of popularity or publicity, which is about the same thing to a man lacking moral

scutleness. The very marrow in some unprincipled men's bones burrs for notoriety, for a name—good or bad—and will do anything for it. Their name on the public tongue is sweeter than honey in the honeycomb. They never stop to think—

What's in a name? That which we call a rose By any other name would smell as sweet. No; with them the breathing of their name is glory.

THERE IS A WAY TO REFORM ALL THIS.

To an intelligent man a vote means principle, means better government, means better conditions around himself, means better laws, means help for his neighbors and friends and co-laborers. An intelligent ballot is a power, and stands for all that is good in a good government; an ignorant ballot usually is regarded as a synonym for corruption and the obstruction of wise efforts to reform and readjust.

The only way, let us say swiftly in conclusion, to real, not misnamed, reform is to educate the voter. In this country it is universal male suffrage—in every man's hands—and it is a power that establishes or overthrows a power that changes or continues the old, a power that elevates or unmakes men, and through it alone is consent secured, or authority delegated to effect reforms, enact new laws, and consider the welfare of the common people.

Then, let us, in a body, use the power we have to a good purpose. Let us vote, and cease prophesying. Let us act, instead of theorizing.

ORIGIN AND LANGUAGE OF THE BOERS.

Since the Boers of South Africa have won the respect of the world by their courage in defending their country, there is great interest felt in knowing more about them. This information is supplied by the *Irish Standard*, of Minneapolis. It appears that the *Minneapolis Tribune*, in trying to set the *St. Jo Herald* right upon the subject, said:

The *St. Jo Herald* calls on its German readers to give it some information about Dutch nomenclature, having gotten into a tangle as to whether it is "Oom Paul Kruger" or "Paul Kruger Oom." No wonder the *Herald* is mixed when it confuses German with Dutch. The two languages are as different as Latin and Greek.

To this the *Standard* replies, by saying that "the editor of the *Tribune* must also be mixed when he intimates that the language of the Boers is the Dutch language of Holland. The Boers are not Hollanders. Some of them are descendants of that country, but the greater number are descended from the Portuguese and French Huguenots. Many of them are descendants of different countries of Europe. They have a language of their own which differs widely from any European language. The Dutch descendants would find it difficult to pass an examination in the language of their forefathers. It would be so with the descendants of other countries. The Boers are a conglomerated people and look upon themselves as distinct from all other nationalities. They have no especial love for any other country. Those who are descendants of Dutch stock have no memories to cause them to cherish the land of their ancestors. Centuries ago, when rough soldiers and sailors made their homes in South Africa, there was a scarcity of women there and the men sent up complaints of this condition of affairs, as they were unable to provide themselves with wives. From the orphan asylums in Holland, women were sent to South Africa and were at once taken as wives by the men who inhabited the country. These women knew nothing of their own country, its history, traditions, poetry, music or song. They, themselves, were the flotsam and jetsam of their own nation, and of course had nothing to impart to their own children to instill into their minds and hearts a love of country. In this way the country gave birth to a new race. The original language was forgotten and, in the case of the French, even forbidden, and the Taal, the language of the Boers, took its place. When these women—the future mothers of the Boers—landed in South Africa and were made the wives of the soldiers and sailors, it was the first time in their lives that they knew what was meant by the word home. Previous to that their existence in life was designated by a number on the list of the asylums. They, perhaps, never had a name, so that their practical lives and their very existence as a race began when they set their feet on African soil, and their love for country began when they first entered their own homes, and that country was South Africa. The Boers are the same whether they live in Natal, the Free Orange State or in the Transvaal, and in no other portion of the world is there a language in any way similar to theirs. There is no confusion with German or Dutch. The distinctive quality of the Boer is that he is a descendant of some European country and speaks the Taal language.

It is shown that long hours of work in factories are productive of a species of stupefaction, which makes men careless, and as a result, most of the accidents occur during the last two hours of work.

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STRIKES.

It is deemed unwise to strike. Why? God strikes, the lightning strikes, the cyclone strikes, the earthquake strikes, the waves strike. If it is unwise to strike, why does infinite wisdom permit the elements to be ceaselessly striking? No one can answer.

But men strike. Why? God created them to strike, and they have been striking since the time they were created, or evolved from molecules, or what not.

No one can furnish a reason why a thunderbolt strikes, or why a cyclone strikes, or why an earthquake strikes, or why the billows strike. We simply say they are an "act of God" and dismiss the subject, since no one "by searching" can "find out God."

But when a railroad general manager strikes his employes, robs them of their wages, blacklists them and degrades them, the purpose is not involved in mystery, it is not in the realm of the occult. The purpose is fully understood. There is no mystery about it. It is as simple as a, b, c, and as easily demonstrated as a problem in simple multiplication or addition.

The purpose is to rob, that the robber may increase his wealth by robbery.

On the other hand, why do employes strike? There is nothing abstruse about it, no mysteries are involved. They strike because they believe they have been wronged, robbed, degraded and impoverished. They strike for wages, and hence, for food, clothing and shelter; for better conditions; for home, family, friends—wives and children.

Men are opposed to strikes—certainly. Strikes involve sacrifices, privation, and so on to the end of the chapter. The strike is a matter of public concern because it involves, sometimes, public inconvenience. The same is true when a cyclone, an earthquake, a thunderbolt or a tidal wave strikes—the public don't like it—and strikes against oppression, robbery, starvation and degradation, until man is enslaved and chained and the last grain of independence is eliminated. Strikes are as inevitable as volcanic eruptions, when men will no longer strike for their rights, for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the time will have come for another deluge, for man will not be worth a coffin, nor a hole in the ground.

The theory now is, for workmen to strike with their ballots, to emancipate themselves from oppression.

The ballot wielded by honest, independent, self-respecting, liberty-loving men achieves much, and it would be a delightful reflection to credit it with being beyond the reach of men who purchase ballots as they purchase judges, jute, jackasses, or any meretricious commodity on the market.

The ballot can do much in the way of striking, chiefly, however, if history may be credited, in preparing for a strike. Two hundred years of voting made the Revolutionary strike possible, and at least fifty years of voting made the war of the rebellion possible.

It is understood, that behind the ballot, to make it effective, must stand a man; not a cadaver, a scab, a Judas, a weak-kneed, spineless creature, whose acts extort the exclamation:

"O for a tongue to curse the slave, When treason like a deadly blight, Comes o'er the councils of the brave, And blasts them in their hour of might, May life's unblest cup for him, Be filled with treacheries to the brim."

If behind such a creature, called "a man," there stands a corrupt millionaire to direct his ballot, then, in that case, the ballot, instead of executing the will of freedmen executes the will of the most pronounced enemy of freedom the world has known, and the ballot becomes an excavating tool to dig the graves of freedmen. Everything depends upon how the ballot is used.

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE LAW.

"Set a thief to catch a thief." —Old Maxim.

The history of the interstate commerce law, if it were written with a proper regard for truth, would be, without doubt, one of the most interesting and startling chapters in the chronicles of legislation known to this or any other enlightened land.

As a preliminary proposition, whatever may be said to the contrary, the enactment of the interstate commerce law was "class legislation." It was enacted to guard the public against the rapacity of railroad corporations. It was found that these corporations were conducting their business in a way which

demand a penal statute to inaugurate reform, the penalties being fine and imprisonment the same as for burglary, embezzlement, highway robbery and other grades of crime known to the penal code.

To fully comprehend the astounding significance of the interstate commerce law, it should be stated that those whom it was designed to punish as criminals, were regarded as honest when, in fact, they were scoundrels; that they were esteemed pious when, in fact, they were hypocrites; as good citizens when, in fact, they were, as a class, those who disregarded all law, human and divine, that stood in the way to restrain their ungodly greed. They were the Vanderbilts, the Goulds, the Huntingtons, et al., whose name is legion, all levying piratical tribute upon the public, which neither a sense of honor or of obligation could repress, and carried on so continuously that it became a matter of national infamy and alarm.

The truth of such allegation was never questioned. It stands out on every page of the interstate commerce law legislation, which continued for eleven years in congress, confronted at every step by a lobby that was fabulously rich, and as corrupt as it was rich.

It was a case in which party politics was eliminated, because men of all parties, and entire communities were the victims of railroad corporation piracy. But the corporations were, nevertheless, able to postpone the final passage of the bill for eleven years and continue their robberies. There have been always a corrupt few in congress who could be bought, and as is always the case with such traitors, they recompensed their purchasers by treason to their oaths and the people. But it was freedom's battle, and was bequeathed by one congress to another, until, finally, the law was enacted, and placed upon the statute books of the nation. This done, the corporations at once attacked the law, and it was found to be so vulnerable that amendments were demanded to make it effective.

The corporations found that by the employment of criminals they could defeat the purpose of the law, which was to punish criminals.

The plain provisions of the law were daily, and a hundred times a day violated, but to prove the violations in court required witnesses. These were found in the persons of corporation employes and shippers, and these refused to testify because they were parties to the crime, and were protected by a constitutional provision that a man shall not be required to incriminate himself. Under this provision the corporations continued their robberies so bold, flagrant and defiant as to constitute them the most hardened and unblushing villains known in the land.

To overcome such schemes of robbery, the interstate commerce law, in spite of corporation influence, was so amended as to provide that when one thief testified against another thief, in a case in which the catcher and the caught were partners in the crime, the thief whose testimony incriminated himself should not be held liable for that particular crime, and when wanted, should be made to testify.

This amendment was fought in the lower courts upon constitutional grounds, and finally went to the supreme court of the United States, where, to the astonishment of the corporations, the amendment was sustained, and now a pal of railroad corporations can be made to testify against his employer, whereby the principal rascal can be fined and sent to the penitentiary.

The interstate commerce commission believes that it is now armed and equipped to punish railroad officials, regardless of their money power, and the hope is expressed that distinguished and opulent rascals, such as constitute a General Managers' Association, may be occasionally fined and sent to the penitentiary.

CONDITIONS.

The term, "condition," meaning a "state or situation with regard to external circumstances," is, at the present time, more frequently used than any other word in the language when any department of human endeavor is under discussion, and especially is this true in labor affairs.

The condition of labor, that is to say, of laboring people, is ever the topic. It is discussed in churches and universities, in congresses and in legislatures, in cabinets, in boards of trade, in banks and on 'change. It has become a universal theme. Ghostlike, it will not down. It is the evil genius of the nation. It is endowed with ubiquity. It is everywhere present, and everywhere demands a hearing. It is as aggressive as a cyclone and as tumultuous as ocean billows in a storm. The reason why? is the question. It is because the condition of labor is a condition of widespread poverty. It is because labor is oppressed, robbed, degraded, humiliated, scorned, by those who dominate it.

The simple proposition is, "better conditions." How to secure them is the problem of problems, and yet, "it is the simplest problem that was ever submitted to the world. For its solution it requires neither Greek nor Latin—the mastery of higher mathematics or of the sciences. A man with a diploma from the University of Common Sense is equal to any demand. He need not

be an orator, a lawyer, a professional teacher. He requires only one language, of which he may not fully understand its grammar, its etymology or its syntax, and may not be up to date in its orthography, but if he is possessed of common sense, of manhood, self-respect, independence, powers of thought, will power—and scorns those who would tag him, number him and brand him; in a word, if he is a man who values his citizenship and values his ballot, he is in a position to solve the labor problem and secure better conditions. Such men, unified, can have better conditions.

There need be neither striking nor fighting nor violence—simply unification—standing together, solid, for better conditions.

While men continue to inaugurate faction instead of solidarity, they can mean conditions—to unite is to have better conditions. Present conditions impose terrible penalties upon labor, but, if labor is willing to pay the penalties, it can maintain present conditions from now till the sun is as cold as an iceberg and the books of the judgment day are unfolded. Labor unified as one man, workmen can command better conditions, and with their ballots secure them. See!

PERSONAL LIBERTY AND GOVERNMENT.

Personal liberty is not only misunderstood, but the term as used now-a-days, involves many vicious theories of government. In discussing the subject, *East and West* remarks that personal liberty means the natural right a man has to freedom of thought, expression and action, provided he does not in the practice of these rights infringe upon what the law has laid down as the rights of mankind in general.

There are many things that men are wont to regard as their rights. For instance a man claims protection for his life, the right to own property, the right to free speech, the right to choose his own religion, the right to regulate his own morals, the right to form his own tastes, the right to regulate his household arrangements, the right to choose his own education.

Many of these rights the civil law recognizes as legal rights, and protects a man in the enjoyment of them; other rights the moral law of the community recognizes and is left to regulate; others of these rights are the creation merely of public sentiment, public opinion, and are left to the regulation of public opinion.

In other words the law does not take cognizance of all matters. It embraces only so many. And leaves matters of a personal or private nature to the regulation of moral law and the dictates of public and individual opinion.

It is a much mooted question among men how far the civil law shall be allowed to go in the regulation of our lives. Some think civil law should confine itself to as few things as possible—the preservation of life, limb and property, and certain other inalienable rights guaranteed the American people under our constitution. Other people think our law, our system of government, should be as paternalistic as possible—should do for children all that their parents should do for them; should prescribe how people shall think, what forms of religion they shall embrace, how they shall dress, how spend their mornings and how spend their evenings, what they shall eat for breakfast and what for supper—in short, crush out individual liberty, all originality of thought, all independence of action.

Be the merits of this controversy as they may, the fact is that to day the provisions of the civil law do not extend in their operations to the daily habits and tastes of the people. It is a maxim in the study of the law, "that the law does not attempt to enter the whole field of morality or to regulate the thoughts and habits of life of the people; that some things are best left to the regulation of recognized moral laws and the guidance of public opinion."

Thus our lives are subject to the checks and dictates of three forms of law—regularly enacted governmental law, recognized laws of morality and the laws of public opinion. And thus it is that people so jealously resent any attempted encroachments by the civil law upon their right of personal liberty.

A GREAT DEAD SEA ENTERPRISE.

It is believed that the cities of Sodom, Gomorrah, Zeboim and Admah, once cities of "the Plain," are at the bottom of the Dead Sea. These cities it is believed are exceedingly rich in gold and silver, and it is rumored that an American syndicate, in which Jno. D. Rockefeller, Geo. M. Pullman, J. Pierpont Morgan and Grover Cleveland will figure conspicuously, is being formed to hunt for Sodom gold at the bottom of the Sodom sea. The Sultan of Turkey favors the enterprise, stipulating that 10 per cent. of the findings be turned over to him. The diving apparatus will be perfect, and Edison will furnish electric lamps with millions of candle power, and make the bottom of the sea as bright as a midday sun. It is rumored that Dead Sea exploring bonds will soon be on the market to furnish the necessary funds to equip the expedition.

It is understood that Rockefeller, while he believes in finding gold, silver, precious stones, brimstone, asphalt and petroleum, is chiefly animated by

archeological ambition. He holds, it is said, that Sodom and the other cities went down intact, and will be found with their houses, temples and monuments standing, practically in the condition they were when the bottom gave way and they went down. He believes the people of Sodom have been preserved by Sodom sea brine, and Phil. D. Armour takes the same view of the subject. Rockefeller believes that the house that Lot built and occupied, can be found, and if found, he will raise it at any expense and have it brought to Chicago. If he succeeds in finding Lot's house and a few salted Sodomites, he will be known to the world as the "Dead Sea Scientist" or the "Sodom Savant," and thus forever link his name with one of the most terrible evidences of God's vengeance the world has known. 'Rah for Rockefeller.

CARL SCHURZ'S VIEW OF WAR.

Quite recently Carl Schurz made a speech at the conference of arbitrators held in Washington, in which he indicated the serious aspects of war. Mr. Schurz knows all about war; he has taken a hand in it, and is satisfied that that element of the American people which clamors for war know little of the woes war entails. "I know, however," said Mr. Schurz, "from personal acquaintance, of some otherwise honorable and sensible men who wish for war on sentimental—aye, on high moral ground. One of them, whom I much esteem, confessed to me that he longed for a war, if not with England, then with Spain or some other power, as he said, 'to lift the American people out of their materialism and to awaken once more that heroic spirit which moved young Cushing to risk his life in blowing up the Confederate steamer *Albatross*.' This, when I heard it, fairly took my breath away. And yet, we must admit, such fanciful confusion of ideas is not without charm to some of our high-spirited young men. But what a mocking delusion it is! To lift a people out of materialism by war! Has not war always excited the spirit of reckless and unscrupulous speculation, not only while it was going on, but also afterwards, by the economic disorders accompanying and outlasting it? Has it not always stimulated the rapid and often dishonest accumulation of riches on one side, while spreading and intensifying want and misery on the other? Has it not thus always had a tendency to plunge a people still deeper into materialism? Has not every great war left a dark streak of demoralization behind? Has it not thus always proved dangerous to the purity of republican governments? Is not this our own experience? And as to awakening the heroic spirit—does it not, while stirring noble impulses in some, excite the base passions in others? And do not the young Cushings among us find opportunities for heroism in the life of peace, too? Would it be wise in the economy of the universe to bring on a war with its bloodshed and devastation, its distress and mourning, merely for the purpose of accommodating our young braves with chances for blowing up ships? The old Roman poet tells us that it is sweet and glorious to die for one's country. It is noble, indeed. But to die on the battlefield is not the highest achievement of heroism. To live for a good cause, honestly, earnestly, unselfishly, laboriously, is at least as noble and heroic as to die for it, and usually far more difficult.

I have seen war; I have seen it with its glories and its horrors; with its noble emotions and its bestialities; with its exaltations and triumphs and its unspeakable miseries and baneful corruptions; and I say to you, I feel my blood tingle with indignation when I hear the flippant talk of war as if it were only a holiday pastime or an athletic sport. We are often told that there are things worse than war. Yes, but not many. He deserves the curse of mankind who in the exercise of power forgets that war should be only the very last resort even in contending for a just and beneficent end, after all the resources of peaceful methods are thoroughly exhausted. As an American, proud of his country and anxious that this republic should prove itself equal to the most glorious of its opportunities, I cannot but denounce as a wretched fatuity that so-called patriotism which will not remember that we are the envy of the whole world, for the priceless privilege of being exempt from the oppressive burden of warlike preparations; which, when it sees other nations groaning under that load, tauntingly asks, 'Why do you not disarm?' and then insists that the American people, too, shall put the incubus of heavy armament on their backs; and which would drag this republic down from its high degree of the championship of peace among nations, and degrade it to the vulgar level of the bully ready and eager for a fight."

The mineral productions of the United States comparing 1894 and 1895, show large gains. In 1894 the total was \$78,470,058; in 1895 \$673,881,505, a gain of \$595,411,447. Take for instance the products of anthracite and bituminous coal—in 1894, it amounted to 169,875,581 tons; in 1895, 184,052,473 tons, a gain of 14,176,892 tons, and yet, notwithstanding this showing, complaints are everywhere heard that business is not prosperous, for which goldbugism is responsible.

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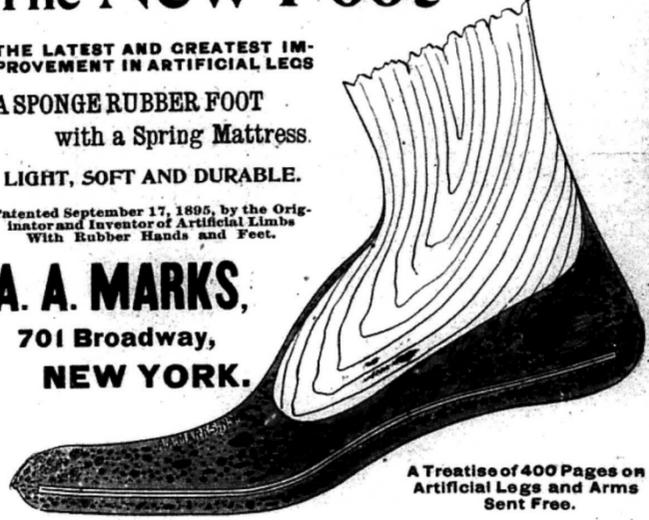
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PAPERS.

A. R. U. RONDEAU. From the center to the border, Heigh-ho! Behold the banners of our order, Heigh-ho! See the winds career 'em, As if to say, "God bless 'em," Heigh-ho!

Thoughts From the Workshop.

J. R. ARMSTRONG.

Did it ever occur to you, dear reader, what a vast amount of usefulness you have omitted from your life hood because you have failed to improve the spare moments at your command? Every day in my pedestrian trips up and down town, I see great clusters and groups of idle men sitting and lounging on door steps and on street corners, absolutely breathing their time away without entertaining a single idea and giving it a place within the thick walls of their empty mentality.

Science tells us that the brain depends upon a certain kind of nutriment for its vitality and strength, and if human beings are not properly fed the functions of the cerebral matter do not operate perfectly. This one cause alone accounts for the great mass of human torpidity, that we see littered about, from day to day, and shame on the system that causes it.

Fancy what kind of a warm sentient brain a man must have who diets on such coarse food as soup and potatoes? No easier way in the world to enslave a people than to starve their brains. What ambition do we usually see in a poor haggard and limping tramp? If he has any it is to die, to flee from his misery.

I have interviewed many of these mournful creatures of late and I have discovered in them all an utter incapacity to think. They seem to have a sort of dazed idea of their environment, and their incoherent ideas and language emphasize the fact of the starved condition of their brains. I once attended a monster mass meeting of laboring men in New York City, and during the evening one of the speakers asked all the men in the audience who had ever "tramped it" to stand up. To my utter surprise nearly two-thirds of that vast throng arose to their feet.

So you see, dear reader, how easy it is for a few well-fed men, who are cunning and heartless, to control the destinies of a great mass of imperfectly and unfed people. By their superior mentality arising from perfect nutrition, and the inducements of wealth and honor consequent on the use of such cerebral equipment, it is not difficult to perceive what a Sherman or a Cleveland can do or has done in their public careers.

Well-fed and well clothed human beings with but mediocre talent can achieve wonders in any sphere of life, but the brainiest people in the world sink into inertia if they are not properly nourished and clothed. Potatoes and soup and bootleg coffee are very poor material to build up a great thought evolving people. Hence the great mental death we see demonstrated by the hosts of listless, vacant minded idlers who dream away their lives on doorsteps and street corners.

One of my shop mates who was a musical prodigy a few years ago, has by frequent starvation periods entirely lost his talent and cannot at this interval touch anything into tune. He could at one time thrill a host of his friends by fingering artistically the flute and violin, but alas there is not now any music in his soul. This is by no means an exception, as I can relate numbers of just such cases.

A bright young man who worked with me on a newspaper back East about seven years ago, has too, been completely dulled by hardship and privation to such an extent that the pen is useless in his hand. I have seen his pen write a hundred lines of fairly good rhyme in very short order, but all the rhythm has been jostled out of him of late by long spells of enforced idleness and starvation.

When I look into these pale and shrunken faces I am ever reminded of their missing counterpart and its whereabouts—in bursting granaries and loaded shelves. Nature is not to blame, but the system founded on misguided opinions and imperfect knowledge, is. Nature provides bountifully for all her children, but outrageous misconceptions of brutal men have thwarted our fond mother and untold suffering is the result. The moth and the maggot are at work now, devouring the substance she intended to build

up a grand, thought-building, progressive and happy people. The earth is the people's heritage and the people are the workers; drones are not heirs to the fruits of the earth only by legal enactment and that is founded on usurpation. This statement may sound like anarchy but it is true, and all the sophistries of hell cannot refute it.

Starvation on the one hand and moulding and mildew on the other and beyond, human hogishness and injustice in between! Fine picture of nineteenth century of Christian evolution! Nice kind of "golden rule" sort of practice! No wonder the efforts of reformers are exhausting and discouraging, when the people's brains are starved beyond the capacity to think. If such a thing as a wave of prosperity ever does strike it is gold-cursed land again, and the industrial masses can be fed up to a thinking point, I trust the reform work will be redoubled in exertion to save the people ere they relapse again into mental inertia. But I look for no such wave in the immediate future; no! nothing but another round of oppression, greed, and competitive strife. Nothing save national ownership of public utilities will rescue the people from modern brigandage; but that is liable to be deferred for some time to come.

Our national constitution is large enough now to contain national ownership of railways, telegraphs, telephones, issue of money direct to the people and the redemption of alien ownership of vast areas of land, but some wise men want the people to drop these vital issues until our national instrument is enlarged. What does this mean, any way? Only two thirds vote of all the people or at least of the various state legislatures. This will require perhaps ten years of hard up-hill educational work, and during that time the people will sink down never to rise again. The man who sees nothing but "16 to 1," I'm afraid is nearly blind. It is good in its way, but a mighty fimsy thing to build a new civilization upon alone. Direct legislation is sound policy, but it is a measure that cannot be incubated in an instant, nor in a wide stretch of time, unless conditions are extremely favorable.

We have a great heterogeneous mass of tongues and people in this country, who, for several reasons, cannot think and act alike on scarcely any given proposition. Then think of the corporations who buy up whole legislatures, and see if it would be an easy matter to get the necessary and desired two-thirds majority to amend the constitution? Immediate relief to the agricultural interests by government ownership of railroads might save the people from utter destitution, but nothing short of that would break the exaction of all the traffic will bear. Starving millions ought to have some recognition by the new platform makers that meet on the 22nd at St. Louis. "Government employment of the unemployed" is a plank that ought to be inserted if human beings are worthy of consideration above the jingle of metallic wealth. Let us not forget the minds that are perishing on the doorsteps and street corners.

The People's party has a grand work to perform but it must not recede from any of its vital issues in a mistaken notion that victory at the expense of principle is sound policy. "You will get all you want through direct legislation," says a large philosopher from the silver belt. Yes, but if it takes a hundred years to get direct legislation, and only one year to get all we want, what advantage will there be in such fine theorizing? A true democracy cannot exist without direct legislation by the initiative referendum and imperative mandate, "but that system of government will have to be evolved into by degrees not by platforms. Let the public ownership idea prevail now, it has worked charmingly for several decades in many branches of the government, and it does not require a new system of administration to usher it into being. The great disinherited mob of United States citizens are hungry for more than the Omaha platform, and don't starve them more by giving them less.

How I See It.

MR. EDITOR:—There are a few of the 1894 boys left in this little city of ours, and we take a great interest in the TIMES, and the welfare of our noble President; and we are as strong to-day in our condemnation of corporate monopoly and the contemptible proceedings in placing E. V. Debs behind the bars, as we have ever been since "beating to arms in '94."

The TIMES furnishes us plenty of food to digest, and we are satisfied that it is making headway in the ranks of the thoughtless and those who heretofore have given but little attention to the condition of the laboring classes.

I believe, and am satisfied that the majority of the working classes, especially those that are out of employment, are becoming acquainted with the situation, and understand thoroughly that something is radically wrong, and that we must do something to relieve the present distress; but there is still plenty of room for more reading matter among us all and especially the "don't-care" and "let-well-enough-alone" class. If they would all devote a small amount of their time to reading such papers as the TIMES, we would soon have these wrongs righted, and be on our way to prosperity.

If, for a short while, could the laboring people of this country be made to experience what a great many of the "boys of '94" have had to contend with, they would readily understand the reasons for our intense interest in our country, and as I said before, I believe the majority do understand this, but we want them all, every one, so as to make our success the more complete, and those that do not take part with us will find that we will win anyhow.

When we think of the many wrongs inflicted, not only upon ourselves but upon the entire laboring world, it fairly makes our blood boil, and we can see no reason why these wrongs cannot be righted.

This agitation has not come upon us suddenly. It had its origin in the early '70s—about '73 or '74—and has gradually been increasing until now we have what? My answer is, wait and find out. But to prove that the people have not been satisfied, I call your attention to the old parties in 1876, when we know that something agitated the minds of this great people, as the Republicans had previously had the Government reins for four consecutive terms, and they made a struggle against it. Witness the Hayes and Tilden election in 1876. By the time 1894 came, they thought by placing one of our greatest statesmen upon the ticket, (J. G. Blaine)

they could again foist a Republican administration upon us, but the people made up their minds to a change and they got it, but the next four years, being as before under the Republicans, they thought perhaps they made a mistake, and so in 1888 they went to Republicanism, and so on. Upon the arrival of 1892 they unanimously placed the greatest monstrosity of modern times (Grover Cleveland) in the highest office within their gift. And now we have 1896, and the democratic party has gone republican, and what in the name of common sense are you going to do about it? You have had a government by Wall street the past four years under a Democrat, and now are you going to place in office a Wall street Republican, and be governed another four years by Wall street? Will you allow these money sharks, through their manipulators of the two old "parties" to so blind you that you will place yourselves in slavery another four years, and allow the "sharks" to chuckle in their sleeves, and say all you have got to do is, "push the button and the people do the rest," all you have to do is "pay your money and take what they give you? It looks very much as though McKinley is the man they will give us if we are all chumps enough to respond to the plutocratic enunciator. He can sell bonds "alleged same" Grover, and can assist the "Banker Syndicate" to get a corner on gold, and as he is backed by Wall street gold his headway toward the nomination is tremendous. Will the people assist the "sharks" once more, "just to make sure whether the Republicans are with the Plutocrats or not?" No! a thousand times no! We must unite and place our unified vote for a man that will assist us to place labor on an Abraham-Lincoln ideal standard with capital, and we must not allow a few little war scares, etc., to change our opinion. We must not allow these slippery eels to flounder themselves into the Presidential chair. No! for the love of your country, your families and your fellowmen you must place some man in office who has shown by his record that he is just, and desirous to see justice done; one whom gold can not buy.

I can mention one man, whose nomination would be hailed with delight by the usands—yes, and millions of work ingmen, but not satisfactory to Plutocrats. One whom thousands have followed before, and one whom millions are ready to follow. One whom we know to be true and loyal to labor and its interests. True to his every word. One whom we will never have occasion to denounce. One whom I can frankly and without reserve say can not be influenced by the glitter of gold. And that man is the most respected and the most loved of any that to-day advocate the cause of labor—that man is E. V. Debs, Labor's destined emancipator.

May his success be assured by the unified work of wage earners is the wish of an

EX MEMBER NO 48, A. R. U. TRINIDAD, COLO., May 10, 1896.

TEN DAYS IN JAIL.

The following letter received by the RAILWAY TIMES, from Huntville, Ala., written under date of May 3d, discloses special qualities of heroism worthy of the highest commendation, and of judicial infamy worthy of savages.

The writer, B. S. Garner, tells in simple phrase, of outrages which find a parallel only in some despot-cursed country, like Russia or Turkey or Persia. The writer says: "Please excuse the liberty I am taking, but as you (E. V. Debs) have had a large slice from the same cake that the Chauvetry court has just treated me to, I believe I can count on your sympathy. Besides, sir, every union labor man is looking to you as the ablest leader of our cause.

I am a machinist, and was employed at New Decatur, Ala., September, 1893. I had the honor to be chairman of the Executive Board, and during the two months struggle I had occasion to address the citizens, and by doing so, made our cause their own. I also delivered an address, by request to the trades of the two towns, in which I scored the infamous railroad detectives, show'd them up to the queen's taste and ended by marching before the shop gates, carrying all the men, worth having, from the shops with ours. The next morning I was served with an injunction forbidding me to speak in public, to march in a procession, to display a banner, or cause one to be displayed, to go to a public depot, or to tell any person or persons, whatsoever, that there was a strike on at Decatur.

You can well believe, I did not obey such an order as that. Well, I was summoned to Culman, Ala., to answer the charge of contempt. I went on the day set for trial, but met neither judge nor accuser.

To make this story short and take as little of your valuable time as possible, I state that being dead broke, I left for Memphis, where I was refused work on account of this strike; also at Vicksburg, Miss., in fact, I did not get any permanent employment until I arrived at San Louis Potosi, Mex. Now, after two years' stay, I return home, sick with fever, when I am taken with an attachment and carried to Morgan county, and landed in jail for five days for contempt. Those people well knew I could not stay there to wait their time for trial, so it was a foregone conclusion, when the case was called I was absent, trying to replenish my impoverished pocket. The cell I occupied had neither chair, stool nor bench to sit on, nor could I obtain either. The blankets were dirty, the cell ditto; the food served, corn bread and bull meat, with an occasional biscuit. This bill of fare I supplemented by buying something I could eat.

Yours truly, B. S. GARNER. It is to be hoped that work ingmen will read and ponder the foregoing letter. It might well be commented on by the labor press, particularly the sweep of the injunction, which made Mr. Garner as much of a slave as any negro who hoed cotton in old plantation times. "Oh, yes," say the St. Louis Evening Journal, "a silver dollar is worth only 50 cents, so they tell us. But how many can we buy for 99 cents in gold? A silver half dollar is worth only 25 cents, yet two of them will buy fifty two cent postage stamps. Can you buy any more than that with a gold dollar?"

PUBLIC OPINION

AS IT IS MANUFACTURED BY THE PLUTOCRATIC PRESS

For the Purpose of Strengthening the Backbone of Those Who Seem Determined to Fight the Fires of Hell in the United States.

Too little attention is being paid to the utterances of a plutocratic, subsidized press, to make the condition of the poor in the United States as wretched as human depravity can accomplish. It is manufacturing a public opinion in which every element of mercy toward the unfortunate poor of the country is eliminated. In support of the proposition, the RAILWAY TIMES invites its readers to read and digest the following expressions of the plutocratic press of the country. They are expressions which ought to set work ingmen to thinking. They bite like the fangs of asps. There is enough venom in them to produce a French revolution. They display an intensity of malice and hatred that beggars description. Read them:

"The people be damned."—Vanderbilt (rep.) "The best meal to give a tramp is a leaden one."—N. Y. Herald (ind.) "The capital of this country is organized at last."—N. Y. Tribune (rep.) "The battle with socialism will be brief, but it will be hot."—Rev. Dr. Huchcock. "There is too much freedom in this country rather than too little."—Indianapolis Journal (rep.) "If the work ingmen had no vote they might be made more amenable to the hard times."—Indianapolis News (dem.) "Give them a rifle diet for a few days and see how they like that kind of bread."—Tom Scott (railroad king.)

"The old English system of imprisonment for debt would be preferable to our present bankrupt law."—Chicago Times (dem.) "The capitalists have bought and are buying largely the associated press, and are controlling the avenues of intelligence."—William Windon (rep.) "These brutal creatures (strikers) can understand no other reasoning than that of force. What they need is force, and enough of it to be remembered among them for generations."—N. Y. Tribune.

"The simplest plan, probably, when one is not a member of the humane society, is to put a little strychnine or arsenic in the meat or other supplies furnished tramps."—Chicago Tribune (rep.) "Hand grenades should be thrown among those who are striving to obtain higher wages, as by such treatment they would be taught a valuable lesson, and other strikers would take warning by their fate."—Chicago Times (dem.)

"There seems to be no other remedy and it must come—a change of ownership of land owners on one hand and of tenant farmers on the other, something similar to what has existed in the old countries of Europe."—N. Y. Times (ind.)

Scribner's Monthly said of the man who is compelled to travel in search of work: "He has no rights but those which society may see fit to bestow. He has no more right than the sow that wallows in the gutter, or the lost dogs that hover around the city squares."

We should recommend the farmers to take the laws into their own hands and organize themselves into vigilance committees and turn sharpshooters, and bring down at least one of these Bread-or-Blood gentry with every fire."—N. Y. Independent.

The American laborer must make up his mind henceforth not to be so much better off than the European laborer. Men must be contented to work for less wages. In this way the work ingman will be nearer to that station of life to which he has pleased God to call him."—N. Y. World (dem.)

Is not a dollar a day enough to buy bread? Water costs nothing, and a man who cannot live on bread is not fit to live. A family may live, laugh, love and be happy that eats bread in the morning with good water, and water and good bread at noon, and water and bread at night.—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

There are defects in our institutions which can only be remedied by irregular means, and the most defective portion of the machinery of our government is the elective. The best most govern in every state, and will, regardless of any attempt to deprive them of that right.—Richmond, (Va.) State.

The time is near when they (the banks) will feel themselves compelled to act strongly. Meanwhile a very good thing has been done. The machinery is now furnished by which, in any emergency, the financial corporations of the east can act together at a single day's notice with such power that no act of congress can overcome or resist their decisions."—N. Y. Tribune.

We need a stronger government. The wealth of the of the country demands protection. Its rights are as sacred as the rights of the paupers who are continually prattling of the encroachments of capital. Without blood, and rivers of it, there will be no political change of administration. To avert fearful bloodshed a strong central government should be established as soon as possible.—Senator Sharon (dem.)

I say, come on with your schemes of confiscation, and graduated income taxes, and irredeemable currency under universal suffrage, and to you who are sufficiently rank proclaiming the doctrine of the ring leaders then under military necessity, and even here in the United States we must get rid of universal suffrage, and we shall. Rather than allow these things, we will have one of the fiercest civil wars.—Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston (rep.)

THAT NOLLE PROSEQUI.

The Birmingham, Ala., Labor Advocate, commenting upon government methods of fighting the battles of corporations against labor, remarks, that "after the indignity of arrest, dragging men over the whole country at their—the men's—cost, putting upon the victims the necessity of paying lawyers fees, traveling expenses—in fact wrecking them financially—the District Court of the United States, sitting at Chicago, has entered a nolle prosequi in the cases against Eugene V. Debs and seven directors of the American Railway Union."

There never was shown in the trial that failed by reason of a juror taking severely ill—at the right time for the Manager's Association—even the sketchy notion of a prima facie case against these men. The prosecution was begun during the strike, in which the managers, badly beaten, called in the aid of a pliant court. The purpose of the arrest was the same as that of the

BOYCOTT THE SWEAT SHOP OF J. W. LOSSE!

SIXTH STREET BETWEEN MORGAN STREET AND FRANKLIN AVENUE.

The "Shylock" of the Progressive Tailoring Company of St. Louis, Missouri.



they travel all over the South and West. You should insist on having a Union Label on all your garments.

All union men, look out for his agents, as

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Government in sending in the regular soldiers against the protest of the Mayor of Chicago and the Governor of Illinois. That purpose was to break the strike; the whole machinery of the country prostituted to beat down labor. If it occurred again to-morrow, the same forces would again be put in operation. As it stands, labor has no recourse inside the lines of peaceful contest. The conspiracy cases at Chicago fixed that. The corporation lawyer in high office and the soldier have rung the death knell of strikes, and one side alone does the shooting.

Debs and his associates have been done a grievous wrong. Imprisoned, put to immense cost, outraged; what's their remedy? Does the government propose to right it? Will it refund even the monies these men were forced to expend by its tyranny and corruption of its officers?

Not on your life. That's not our kind of government; vested right to rob, and ill-gotten wealth have not been touched. Had it been a railroad or bank, the front door of the Treasury would be thrown open, Congress would vote them—the usual per cent—vindictive damages. But the dollars of the A. R. U.? Served them right, why didn't they stick to their old-time Brotherhood, ride in palace cars at the company's expense and dish their earnings into the pockets of three hundred-dollar-a-year men, drawing three thousand dollars a year salary. It is all in a life time, or may, perchance, stretch out into several:

"For freedoms battle once begun, Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son, Though sometimes lost is ever won."

Debs is now vindicated. But that vindication is not followed by reparation; by restitution of the means filched from him by the machinery of law.

The report is that Woods, the chief agent, has become insane. The fact does him credit, shows that national obliquity has touched a conscience not altogether calloused. The corporation drivers are too steeped in iniquity to be reached by any sense of justice—Hogs and wolves never go crazy. Labor's present anathema will ring down through the history of the evil time when dollars triumphed for these creatures and covered them with everlasting damnation. Let them be damned wherever the name of Debs and his brethren are held up for the approbation of all in the coming Brotherhood of Man. It is to posterity that they must look for justice.

WHAT THE CHATTEL SLAVE WANTED MOST.

In old plantation days, after two and a half centuries, the masters had their slaves just where they wanted them. They had no aspirations, no ambitions; they lived, worked and died. Pen, whip and block had done the work. To illustrate conditions, a writer in the New York Sun vouches for the truth of the following incident. He says:

The following anecdote well illustrates the spirit of contentment prevalent with the negro in the south before the war:— Jack was once asked by his young master to make three wishes. He was told to take plenty of time and think well before he spoke.

After deliberating several minutes he said: "Well, Mars Joe, I want a pair of boots." "Jack," said his master, "when you consider all the number of good things in this world, can't you think of something better? Try again. Be careful!"

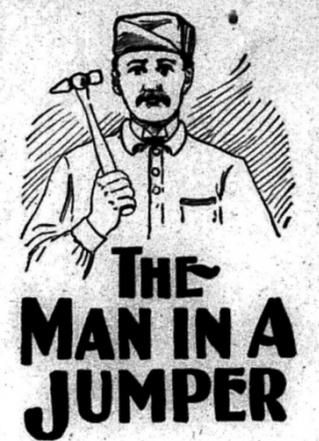
"Well, Mars Joe, I always want to have a plenty of fat meat." "Now, Jack, you have only one more wish. Can't you think of something better than a pair of boots and fat meat?"

After thinking awhile, he gave it up, saying: "Mars Joe, if I had a pair of boots and plenty of fat meat, I don't want nothin' mo'." This happy negro I knew personally. He was born a slave and has always lived in Virginia.

Wage slavery is mapping out lines of degradation in many respects worse than chattel slavery. Already thousands of white men have no aspirations above "a pair of boots and a plenty of fat meat." Indeed, an old pair of shoes and a shin bone suffices. They live in dens, amidst filth and squalor defying adequate description. Millions of them are not even wage slaves, for they have no wages. In all of our great cities they constitute an element of wretched pariahs without food, clothing or shelter—gleaners of garbage. In sweat shop, and factory and slum, their aspirations do not rise to the level of "a pair of boots" or a chunk of "fat meat," and day by day conditions grow worse and wage slaves descend to lower depths.

Still, wage slaves have the ballot, and the question is, will they continue to use them as spades to dig their own graves.

The Cleveland Citizen remarks that "since Debs' great meeting in Chicago under the auspices of the woodworkers, on which occasion over 600 men joined the unions of that craft, the latter organization has been experiencing a great boom. Secretary Kidd is about to start on a trip through Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota to organize the trade."



can now wear a collar as spotless as that of the man in a dress coat. However dirty his work, the workman can have a clean collar every day—without cost—if he wears the



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LABOR PAPER SCORED

FOR WRITING OF THE ENEMIES OF LABOR WITH MOLASSES

Instead of Dipping His Pen in Gall, or Some Other Liquid that Will Bite and Remove the Hair

The Leadville, Col., Pay Streak, quotes the following from the Anaconda Courier: "The man who dips his pen in gall and strives to widen the breach between capital and labor is no friend to either, and an enemy to our national progress."

What a glorious outlook for labor in the light of the history of the past! What a bright condition for labor that it must be a suppliant at the throne of monopoly, when it should thunder its demands at the citadel of this great power and be itself commander and king!

Now listen, men, ye who produce the riches of the earth—who build the palaces of the rich—who toil year in and year out! We aim to breed no hatred against individuals for their wealth.

THE RAILWAY TIMES.

Is eminently worthy of the support of A. R. U. men.

It not only advocates their cause, but the cause of labor.

It advocates unification because it sees that faction must forever defeat the aspirations of labor for better conditions.

It recognizes the value of money, and wants labor to have its full share of the wealth.

It advocates unification, because the plutocratic oppressors of labor are opposed to it.

It is opposed to capitalists, only when they combine to oppress, rob and degrade labor.

It is fearless as a champion of the oppressed, and does not examine badges to determine its friendship.

It would banish huts and dens and lairs, where the poor are forced to dwell, and give workingmen homes worthy of American citizens.

The RAILWAY TIMES advocates the minimum of dues for organization, and the maximum of benefits to be derived from organization.

If the members of the American Railway Union give the RAILWAY TIMES their united support, it will become one of the most potent factors of reform the country has seen.

BREVITIES.

The onion can speak for itself.

Three deuces will beat a pair of kings.

Poverty, like universities, confers degrees.

Vicious lives are recorded with indelible ink.

Some people are dubbed frogs, because they croak.

Rothschild's snout resembles a bursard's beak.

Germany has 100,000 men and women on a strike.

Will power cannot be measured by horse power.

Sixteen to one that free silver ultimately wins.

The devil don't like the truth—plutocrats all same.

The oyster is a philosopher—he knows when to shut up.

Potatoes have eyes for shooting and they shoot. See?

There is a deal of piety in this world that is simply piracy.

The gospel of the gun was never more popular than at present.

Labor's shibboleth: "Take your nose from the plutocratic grindstone."

Base ball teams are regarded as borse because they have diamond drills.

The road to poverty is down hill all the way—from a dollar a day to nothing.

"Keep your good resolutions to yourself"—to, sow them and stick to them.

One concern in the United States has sold 113,000 copies of "Merrie England."

There is a class of men whose growth is always downward, like the tails of cattle.

What is the use of putting your hands in your pocket when the last nickel is gone?

A labor leader with a cabbage head and a turnip nose is, after all, only a squash.

Dallas, Texas, by a vote of 6 to 1, owns its electric light plant—secured by Populists.

Chauncey M. Depew is the yaller dog under the Vanderbilt cart—he must bark or get out.

The Baptists alone, in New York city, have brought out 10,000 Christian butchers in one review.

The Dollar says, "God loves the poor," and then drops the subject. To prove it would be difficult.

Base ball and foot ball are American games, but the three-ball game is peculiar to the Jews.

The way the rich grow richer is by paying 50 cents for a dollar-and-a-half's worth of labor. See?

Workingmen are the rich men's camels, who kneel down to receive burdens that are grievous to be borne.

The union man receives high wages and the non-union man takes what he can get.—Cleveland Citizen.

Saw logs going down stream represent workingmen going to the polls to vote for either of the old parties.

"A man never gets as much as he expects," says a philosopher. Jackson, of Pearl Bryan fame, got more.

Republicans say, that since Ben Harrison gave up politics for petticoats, he must stick to the petticoats.

"Up and at 'em" is what the cyclone says, and labor might play cyclone sometimes with good results.

The exploiting rich sometimes build hospitals but they create the poor to occupy them.—Coming Nation.

Chauncey M. Depew, Carnegie, et al., have got the great order of B. of L. E. where they want it. It is said.

The Los Angeles Labor World remarks that the membership of the A. R. U. is "increasing at the rate of 600 a day."

If you want to be remembered, build your own monuments, not in a graveyard, but in the hearts of your fellow men.

Geo. M. Pullman is building an asbestos palace car for his underground trip to hades. He proposes to cheat the devil.

Missionaries in tropical regions have introduced refrigerators to indicate the condition of the natives after death if they remain incorrigible.

The South Africa republic, under President Kruger, demands \$7,500,000 of England for invading his country. He too has a Monroe doctrine.

Gladstone's doctor has told him not to make any more speeches. That sort of a doctor is wanted in the American congress to stop the braying of asses.

A Hindu, who was recently hung in Bombay for murdering his wife, made a speech from the scaffold in which he said that "the present age was full of falsehood and fraud, and it was only the liars, scandal-mongers and deceitful who could command honors, riches and abundance."

It was thought that the Hindu had resided some years in the United States; in New York or Chicago.

"Madam," said a tramp, "I am hunting for something to eat!" Were you once a workingman? Did you once belong to an organization?" queried Madam. "Yes," replied the tramp—"and you voted for one or the other of the old parties, didn't you?" "Yes," You swallowed your convictions and played coward, didn't you?" "Yes, madam."

"Well you are not worth feeding."

John D. Rockefeller has proposed to contribute \$1,000,000 to the Republican corruption fund. If politics chafe right John can steal that much in one day.

Cleveland has had his secretary of agriculture engaged in crossing the gold-bug with the boodle-bug, and has succeeded in producing the Carlisle tumble-bug.

Thomas Jefferson said that "the liberties of the people are more in danger from the aggression of the courts than from mobs and riots." And he told the truth.

The rich riot in luxuries—but that is not the reason why the masses complain—but rather, because the money which purchases the luxuries is stolen from labor.

In the city of New York, there are not less than 150,000 people on the ragged edge of starvation, and yet, it is said that New York farmers are selling potatoes at 2 1/2 cents a bushel.

The Democratic administration is engaged in contracting the currency, which is a quiet way of producing industrial death. In two years it has contracted the currency \$280,000,000.

The song of the old parties when trying to raise campaign corruption funds, is: "If at first you don't succeed, Fry, fry again."

It is asserted as a universal truth, that "man is a religious animal;" that he will worship some sort of a god, as Rockefeller puts it, "if it is nothing more than a hole in the ground."

We now hear that Swift's comet is coming, and that it may collide with the earth. We do not doubt, if Swift's comet strikes the earth, the earth will strike back. Its built that way.

Victor Hugo had a poetic vision of a time coming when "cannon will be exhibited in public museums, just as instruments of torture are now, and the people will be astonished that such a thing could have been."

Chauncey M. Depew has been required by the Legislature, and the supreme court to call a bicycle a "trunk." He thinks the legislative and judicial departments of the government of the Empire state have wheels in their heads.

Abraham Lincoln who made headway in spite of poverty, in a speech delivered in 1860 said, "Thank God we have a system of labor where there can be a strike. Whatever the pressure there is a point at which the workingman may stop."

The cottage near New York City, in which the immortal poet, Poe, lived his last four years, and where he wrote the "Bells" and "Annabel Lee," is to be purchased and preserved as a monument of one of the most gifted men the country has produced.

The New York Voice says that 278,183 men and 11,221 women find employment through the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. Now, then, let us have, approximately, the number of idlers in the country made such by intoxicating liquors.

George Gould and Russel Sage are ready to expend \$25,000,000 on the Manhattan elevated railroad, extend it to Yonkers, double deck the entire system and increase its carrying capacity four fold. And if the improvement is made electric motors will be used.

The American Railway Union is gaining members by the tens of thousands. Every railway employe should get in. Secret membership can be had that the General Managers association cannot discover. It is the strongest order in America.—Appeal to Reason.

John McBride, recently president of the American Federation of Labor, and one of the most brainy men in the ranks of organized labor, has purchased the Columbus, Ohio, Record, and selected journalism for his life work. The RAILWAY TIMES congratulates him and wishes the Record success.

ALL THE SAME. New York World.—Newels—I'm in doubt whether to send my boy to college. Hartley—Oh, don't bother. Just get him a tennis suit, a football, a rowing machine, a college cry and a box of cigarettes, and ten to one nobody will ever know the difference, or he either.

Training the young idea how "to shoot" is one of the religious developments of our christian civilization. According to East and West "Chicago has six full regiments of boy soldiers between 11 and 21 years of age. Thirteen such regiments in the state. These boy regiments throughout the country, nearly 100,000 of the legal murderers, are armed and drilled.

English railway statistics show that in England railroad employes work their men long hours and pay them low wages. A recent official report shows that there are in the English railway service about 400,000 men. Of these 10,000 get \$3 a week or less; 160,000 get \$4.80 a week or less; and so on up to the highest class, who aggregate 26,000 and receive \$9 or more a week. More than 200,000 of the 400,000 railroad men of that country receive less than 9 cents a day for a long day's work, and the best of them receive less than \$2 a day.

The Labor News is of the opinion that it would be a great blessing to the country to close and padlock all the legislative halls of the country for ten years, and that "the people would be far better off than under the present rule of corporation-bought law makers and men who know not honor and faithfulness to those who trust them."

How about congress, which by general consent is made up of bunco steers, "green goods" speculators and boodlers? A section of the new constitution of South Carolina, Senator Tillman's state, declares that: "No armed police force or representative of a detective agency shall be brought into this state for the suppression of domestic violence, nor shall any other armed or unarmed body of men be brought in for that purpose, except upon the application of the general assembly or of the executive of the state when the general assembly is not in session, as provided by the constitution of the United States."

Illinois ought to have that sort of a constitution, and see to it that Grover Cleveland don't violate it.

"A man," says the San Francisco Chronicle, "is to a large extent the creature of circumstances," and it should be added, that in these latter days the few, as in the past, create the circumstances. A movement is now being made for the many to create circumstances. Workingmen, if they will, can change the order of things. No matter how deep the river, they can bridge it; no matter how dark the way, they can light it; no matter how high and crazy the mountain they can hew a pathway to its sublimate elevation, and be on top if they will. They have got the ballot.

The Emperor of China has signed a decree for building a railroad from Peking to Han Kow. At present, China has one railroad, and the indications are that the country is waking up, and once fully aroused, no one can tell the strides the great country will make in machine progress. At present, China has no conception of the power of the labor saving machine, and it wouldn't take a great while, if the empire was as well supplied with them as the United States to place at least 50,000,000 of her 400,000,000 population on the road as tramps. The civilizing power of the machine is the wonder of the age.

Centuries ago, a movement was set on foot to abolish war, and predictions were made of a time coming, when swords would be changed to plowshares and spears to pruning hooks, and oxen and lions would banquet together on straw. But that good time has not come. Still, the New York Bar Association and the National Peace Society, plucky to the last, propose a conference to be held in Washington to "abolish war," and this is done, while Gen. Miles demands more soldiers, Congress more battleships and big guns, and the churches are training little boys in the arts of military murder.

John C. Calhoun may have had crude ideas about the Union of the States, but his head was level when he said: "Place the money power in the hands of a combination of a few individuals and they, by expanding or contracting the currency, may raise or sink prices at pleasure, and by purchasing when at the greatest depression, and selling at the greatest elevation, may command the whole property and industry of the community. The banking system concentrates and places this power in the hands of those who control it. Never was an engine invented better calculated to place the destinies of the many in the hands of the few."

It seems that the common toilers have come to hate the churches. One evening in Chicago, some hoodlums some way got a spite at a church, and began to raise a row while services were in progress in the auditorium. A watchman undertook to stop them, and the crowd were beating him. Suddenly thirty-five beardless cadets filed up to the basement, fixed bayonets and to the bugle call charged the crowd. One man was slightly bayoneted. Christ said that if a man smote you on one cheek to turn the other, and to do good to those that despitefully used you. But then this is the modern version—"Be ye handy with the bayonet."

The London Clarion remarks that the amount of waste caused by our present railway system is almost incalculable. Here is one little fact which helps us to realize it. Taking an average of a day's running on almost any line, it is found that the unoccupied seats are ten times more numerous than the occupied seats. In other words, for every person carried, the companies provide unused accommodation for ten others. In the London local traffic alone the distance travelled by the unoccupied seats, all added together, is two hundred million miles a day." What is true of England, is true of the United States. Reduce rates and travel would be indefinitely increased. If the government owned the railroads, a new era of happiness and prosperity would dawn at once.

BY AND BY, SHEOL. Cleveland rules from the president's chair, John Sherman rules in the senate; Wall street Shylocks rule the pair, And the people are not "in it."

Cleveland buys votes with patronage pie Sherman takes care of the boodle; The banks and trusts are living "high" In the house of Yankee Doodle.

But tolling millions with wrath are blue And their anger is deep and real; "Some time" they will give the bendit crew A taste of genuine—Sheol.

—Texas Signal.

We hold that Solidarity, Unification, Get together, Each for All, All for each, Stickability, Courage, Sand, Pluck, are self-evidently divine prerogatives, and possessions of all A. R. U. men. That workingmen with curvature of the spine, With weak knees, With white livers; That workingmen who wear Tag, Numbers, Bands and Collars; That workingmen With hearts in their boots, With their mouths in the dust, Boot lickers, General Manager's fleas In the hair of General Managers' dogs, Sycophants, Parasites, are not the right sort of material for A. R. U. men, nor any other order of workingmen.

That they Do not, Can not, Will not advance the cause of labor a millioneth of a hair's breadth to better conditions. That the A. R. U. applauds Courage that does, Courage that dares, Courage that challenges the wrong, Courage that stands by the right, Courage in storm, Courage in calm, Courage in the morning, Courage at noonday, Courage at night.

A courage That stands for a principle, That stands by a principle, In prision, In hunger, In cold, In prosperity, In the battle's van, where A. R. U. men may be heard shouting: The grandest place for man to fight is where he fights for man.

It is a platform that Captivates, Inspires, Makes men Invincible, True to themselves, True to others, And is destined to capture the labor world.

THE STRIKE OF THE EMPLOYES OF THE ELECTRIC STREET CAR COMPANY OF MILWAUKEE.

Early in May, the employes of the electric railway system of Milwaukee struck, and set forth their grievances as follows:

1. That the motormen and conductors be paid 20 cents an hour.

2. That the running time of cars be equally divided among the day and night crews, and the men in the continuous employ of the company the longest shall receive the preference to run.

3. That extra men shall be placed according to their continuous time of service for the company in regard to their work, and receiving of regular runs.

4. That all motormen and conductors working two hours or less in any one day shall be paid at the rate of 25 cents an hour.

5. That the time of all men shall commence from the required reporting time, and when the men are detailed to run the sweeper or salt cars they shall receive a full day's pay for the same.

6. That eight hours shall constitute a day's work in all departments of the power houses, and that wages shall remain the same.

7. That ten hours shall constitute a day's work in all the departments of the repair shops and the wages shall remain the same, and time and a half for overtime.

8. That in all cases of grievances or complaints our committees shall be received and matters discussed.

9. That all employes shall be entitled to free transportation over all lines owned or operated by the company.

10. That in regard to uniforms, the men shall have the right to procure them where they desire, providing they are regulation uniforms of the company.

11. Should any differences arise which cannot be settled by the voluntary agreement of both parties, they shall be submitted to an arbitration board of disinterested persons.

The Corporat on flatly refused to increase the wages of the men, and as defiantly refused to arbitrate when disagreements demanded settlement in that way. Hence the strike.

Speaking of prayer, the London Clarion remarks that "prayer is all very well, of course; but there is a farmer in the neighborhood of Leith who has an unguarded well in his garden, and his wife prays every morning that no one may fall into it. The farmer has been advised by a clergyman to let his wife continue praying, but to put a lid over the well. This seems like extravagance. If the praying is effectual, let the lady continue, and never mind a lid. If it is not, put on a lid and never mind the praying. Why waste a good lid if it's not wanted, and why waste good prayers if they are no use? I fear no quantity of praying would prevent some people from falling into a well if there was one handy, and that the whole bench of bishops would be powerless to pray 'em out again when they were in. The farmer has more confidence, however; any way, he acts on the old adage, which says, "Let well alone."

Let subscriptions roll in by the ten thousand.

AN A. R. U. PLATFORM.

We hold that Solidarity, Unification, Get together, Each for All, All for each, Stickability, Courage, Sand, Pluck,

are self-evidently divine prerogatives, and possessions of all A. R. U. men. That workingmen with curvature of the spine,

With weak knees, With white livers; That workingmen who wear Tag,

Numbers, Bands and Collars; That workingmen With hearts in their boots,

With their mouths in the dust, Boot lickers, General Manager's fleas

In the hair of General Managers' dogs, Sycophants, Parasites,

are not the right sort of material for A. R. U. men, nor any other order of workingmen.

That they Do not, Can not, Will not

advance the cause of labor a millioneth of a hair's breadth to better conditions.

That the A. R. U. applauds Courage that does, Courage that dares,

Courage that challenges the wrong, Courage that stands by the right, Courage in storm,

Courage in calm, Courage in the morning, Courage at noonday, Courage at night.

A courage That stands for a principle, That stands by a principle,

In prision, In hunger, In cold, In prosperity,

In the battle's van, where A. R. U. men may be heard shouting: The grandest place for man to fight is where he fights for man.

It is a platform that Captivates, Inspires, Makes men

Invincible, True to themselves, True to others, And is destined to capture the labor world.

THE STRIKE OF THE EMPLOYES OF THE ELECTRIC STREET CAR COMPANY OF MILWAUKEE.

Early in May, the employes of the electric railway system of Milwaukee struck, and set forth their grievances as follows:

1. That the motormen and conductors be paid 20 cents an hour.

2. That the running time of cars be equally divided among the day and night crews, and the men in the continuous employ of the company the longest shall receive the preference to run.

3. That extra men shall be placed according to their continuous time of service for the company in regard to their work, and receiving of regular runs.

4. That all motormen and conductors working two hours or less in any one day shall be paid at the rate of 25 cents an hour.

5. That the time of all men shall commence from the required reporting time, and when the men are detailed to run the sweeper or salt cars they shall receive a full day's pay for the same.

6. That eight hours shall constitute a day's work in all departments of the power houses, and that wages shall remain the same.

7. That ten hours shall constitute a day's work in all the departments of the repair shops and the wages shall remain the same, and time and a half for overtime.

8. That in all cases of grievances or complaints our committees shall be received and matters discussed.

9. That all employes shall be entitled to free transportation over all lines owned or operated by the company.

10. That in regard to uniforms, the men shall have the right to procure them where they desire, providing they are regulation uniforms of the company.

11. Should any differences arise which cannot be settled by the voluntary agreement of both parties, they shall be submitted to an arbitration board of disinterested persons.

The Corporat on flatly refused to increase the wages of the men, and as defiantly refused to arbitrate when disagreements demanded settlement in that way. Hence the strike.

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A. R. U. ISMS.

Books are cheaper than beer.

He who is always on time never gets left.

The people are going to be the General Managers.

The time is coming when the black list will change its color.

The man that rises with the sun is always ready for business.

"Thoughts that breathe" have life in them, and "words that burn" set the world on fire.

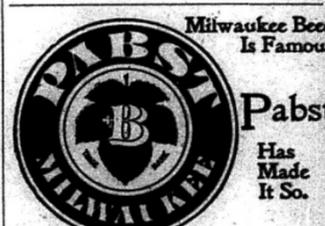
After federation, the people demand a "more perfect union," and the American Railway Union came to meet the demand.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly falling to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

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