

helped Tom L. Johnson to do in Ohio, other men have come who are capable of taking Bigelow's place.

One can easily believe, what Bigelow's friends know to be true, that Johnson and his purposes, understood so well by Bigelow though as yet so vaguely by the public, must have filled a large measure of Bigelow's thoughts when he decided to withdraw from politics. A warmth of affection glowed within him as he considered that Johnson must struggle on in the maelstrom he himself was quitting for more exacting duties. No matter what the public may think of Johnson's political battles, at least Bigelow knows that he has never suffered defeat. In everything and in all circumstances, what Bigelow has seen in Johnson is what all who know him well have also seen, "the man in him victorious." It is easy to believe that the loyalty of such a supporter cannot falter, and that Bigelow's faith in Johnson's leadership is such that if the call were to come to-day to go down again into the political hells, Bigelow would be there before the set of sun, making the same devoted fight though it held forth no prospect but certainty of defeat. It is of his nature to help the more the greater the need. No light tribute was that of a clergyman, spontaneously offered while Bigelow was in the midst of his political work,—a clergyman in good, even in high standing in one of the most ecclesiastical of denominations, and whose personal relations with Bigelow were not intimate, but who judged him by his career. Said this clergyman to a clerical friend of the same denomination: "I regard Herbert S. Bigelow as a consecrated man."

As may be seen from the portrait of Mr. Bigelow accompanying this issue of *The Public*, his smooth-shaven face reveals a finely chiseled jaw, massive and firm; while all the face above is expressive of the gentleness, charity, and unaffected humility and good humor which are known to be as characteristic of the man as his strength. He speaks in public after careful preparation, but with extemporaneous delivery. Although his oratory often emits flashes of eloquence that

thrill, his rhetoric and elocution are so free from affectation that his speeches, lectures and sermons produce the effect of elevated and earnest conversation.

He is a man to whom the externals both of politics and religion are of little importance. Externalities concern him only as they present obstacles to be overcome in getting to the truth within. Along with Emerson he believes that "he who would gather immortal palms must not be hindered by the name of goodness but must explore if it be goodness," and with Michelet that "no consecrated absurdity would have stood its ground in this world if the man had not silenced the objections of the child."

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

COLORADO.

Micanite, Col., Sept. 12.—There were five of us bound for Colorado. We had long planned our trip to go by way of Colorado Springs on "The Short Line" to Cripple Creek. Some of us had seen this land of greed and gold; others had no notion of what the Rocky mountains were like. As we were about to purchase tickets a telegram came from Canon City advising us to avoid the Cripple Creek district as dangerous. To say we were nonplussed was putting it mildly. Had we been anticipating a trip to the Fiji islands, and it had become known to our government at Washington, D. C., that American citizens could not go there safely, there would have been "something doing" in the departments. The whole available navy would have been at our command. But here in these United States, "the land of the free"! we could not credit the report. However, the wire had the effect of intimidating the majority of the party, so the tickets were bought to Canon City.

Our destination was Micanite, Fremont county. When seated in the Pullman we made the acquaintance of two very beautiful women, both from Cripple Creek. We related the fact of the telegram as to Cripple Creek's being unsafe, whereupon the younger woman declared it false. She said that Cripple Creek district was perfectly safe. "But," we replied, "we are women of pronounced opinions. We believe in the spirit and letter of our Declaration of Independence. We believe in 'trial by jury,' 'free speech,' 'free press,' 'the right to organize,' etc. We believe Gov. Peabody has overstepped his authority." The young woman's eyes blazed fire, and in a very forceful manner she said we would not be safe if we thought that. She would guarantee that we should be "pinched" if we expressed "such views in Cripple Creek."

It transpired that she was the wife of one of the largest Cripple Creek mine owners.

After two weeks at Micanite, we decided to visit Cripple Creek at all hazards. As we approached the town we were impressed with the signs "For Rent" and "For Sale" everywhere conspicuous. We counted 19 in two blocks. As buildings are far apart, this is a large average.

During the day the streets were comparatively quiet; toward evening the people paraded the sidewalks in large numbers. It is a significant fact that nearly all of the stores, even the large ones, were presided over by the proprietor himself. As business no longer warranted the paying of clerks, the largest dry goods store had but two or three.

Yet, these short-sighted citizens are the only happy people in Teller county. One has but to visit the merchants of this district to verify the verdict of Mr. Steffens, the investigator of municipal affairs and writer for McClure's, and Mr. Woodruff, the president of the National Municipal league, of Philadelphia, who agree that the worst citizens we have are our business men. They seldom come out in the open and declare for a principle. They are seldom sufficiently unselfish and public-spirited to lend time, brains or money for a cause or for principle's sake. They seem indifferent to the weal or woe of those around them. Nothing appeals to them until their receipts fall off. When their own pocketbooks are affected they come to life and creep out from behind their counters with the one idea of bringing back trade or revenging themselves upon those who are responsible for its falling off. This is all true of Cripple Creek district business people. When the receipts dropped to actual loss, they came out into the open and formed a "Citizens' Alliance," which is nothing more nor less than a "vigilance committee," or organization of "white caps," backed up and encouraged by the military.

While few sympathized with the Federation of Labor methods, we found the "Citizens' Alliance" had discounted the Federation's acts of lawlessness and tyranny until no man could secure work in Cripple Creek district without a card from the vigilance committee. Even business men are boycotted unless they affiliate with this organized mob.

We met friends on the street and were cautioned to speak in whispers because everyone is a spy upon his neighbor. This vigilance committee, or "white cap" brigade, is breeding hypocrites, liars and bearers of false witness. The word of a member of the Citizens' Alliance has more effect and weight than the solemn oaths of 20 reputable citizens not members of it. Consequently any member of this organized mob, who has an enemy, can get him

deported with little trouble. No one is safe. When a man is "pinched," as they term it, he is put into the "sweat box" and silly questions asked him. If his answers are not satisfactory, he is given so many days to leave the State.

One prominent gentleman told us that there were already enough martyrs to the cause; that citizens were becoming satisfied to answer questions to suit their oppressors; that they were willing to denounce organized labor, to confess the Declaration of Independence a lie, willing to laud the acts of Peabody and Gen. Bell to the skies; willing to say anything or do anything to escape deportation.

There are two things which the Citizens' Alliance detest supremely. One is any mention of the Declaration of Independence and the other is an "agitator." To be an "agitator," or to be thought an "agitator," is to be considered as deserving a death sentence. The inflamed and drunken imaginations of the members of the Citizens' Alliance prevents their remembering that such men as Jefferson, Jackson, Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, Lincoln, and Jesus of Nazareth were agitators, and that the last was crucified by a "Citizens' Alliance."

Four years since it was predicted that our conduct towards the Filipinos would, if continued, be soon imitated in these United States. How true the prophecy! Who can tell how long before the "water cure" method of extorting "confessions" will be indulged in here? One pitiful result of the presence of the military is the fact that the youth of this locality looked with envious eyes upon these beardless soldier boys, with pockets full of pistols and belt loaded with ammunition, carrying a rifle and strutting about "lords of all they surveyed," drunk with power and importance.

Little effort is being made to find the real culprit or culprits of the explosion at Independence. Many think it very significant that as soon as the explosion occurred it was found that the "Citizens' Alliance" was instantly and thoroughly equipped with guns and ammunition, while the Federation of Labor was practically unarmed. So crazed and unjust have those in power become that any mention of the fact that every man is innocent under the law until he is proven guilty is sneered at as mere "rot." The most pathetic sight in Cripple Creek is to behold the efforts of the "Citizens' Alliance" to defend their position and to express their loyalty to their association to visitors who converse with them.

A prominent member of the Cripple Creek Woman's club declares the entire reign of tyranny and military despotism existing in Teller county is one of politics. If the sheriff in the begin-

ning of the trouble had sworn in deputies and stood up in his boots, and not have become intimidated, the people would have been rulers of the situation. The county clerk was asked to resign, and the same tactics of threatening him with hanging, etc., were used to secure his resignation that were so effective in the case of the sheriff; but he would not give up, and down to date he holds the fort. The politicians desire to control the county clerk's office even more than they desire the sheriff's office. That it is politics is seen from the fact that all those deported are Democrats, with the exception of Republicans who have declared their intentions of quitting the Republican ranks.

That Gen. Bell sincerely believes that the militia are for the purpose not of preserving rights, but of "breaking strikes," is apparent from his declaration at Victor during the meat packers' strike in Chicago, that if he could pick 200 of his men and go with them to Chicago, arriving in Chicago in the morning, he would break the strike and be ready to return by night.

The Portland mine, since its close by military authority, the directors of that company refusing to support their manager, Mr. Burns, in his suit for \$100,000 against Gov. Peabody, was started up again with 100 union men—picked men, artisans, high-class mechanics, engineers, men who are skilled workmen, residents for years, most of them. In Cripple Creek district, owning their own homes and having children to support, all-around good citizens, so Mr. Burns declares, men who are necessary to the success of "dividends." These men, with hundreds of nonunion men, were working peacefully side by side at the Portland mine when word was received from Denver that the 100 union men intended to "walk out" in a body. In this connection, it is somewhat of a conundrum how people in Denver keep tab upon the acts, and even the thoughts, of the working men in Cripple Creek district. This mere rumor was all sufficient to set on fire the already inflamed imaginations of the "Citizens' Alliance" and the military; and these 100 tried and true men, who were giving perfect satisfaction to their manager, were accused of the (so considered) criminal plot to "walk out," and their homes were invaded. Behold the spectacle of this "Citizens' Alliance" depriving citizens of the right to quit work and discounting any tyranny ever concocted by any labor organization on earth. These men denied that a walk-out was intended, but that rumor from Denver offset their solemn oaths. Their pay days are now cut off, to the detriment of all business interests.

Colorado will speedily reap what she has sown. The educated manly workmen of Cripple Creek are fast being deported; their places are being filled by Mexicans, Italians and what-not, incompetent and ignorant. Accidents and

loss of life are already numerous on account of the inexperience of these men.

The Labor day parade at Cripple Creek, headed by Sheriff Bell, was in reality a Republican or Peabody jollification—not a labor union man was in line; and that any workingmen would submit to march under such banners as "They Can't Come Back," "Down with Agitators," "We Still Own This District," "We Are Not Ashamed to March Behind Our Soldiers," etc., shows to what dependent men will resort in order to secure and hold one of those precious things called "jobs."

The Peabody deportation excursions continue, although Sheriff Bell, of Teller county, declares he will do all in his power to prevent further deportations. In this declaration Sheriff Bell is insincere, for he knows he cannot protect anyone who is in disfavor with mine owners and members of the "Citizens' Alliance." These people put him in office to do their bidding; should he refuse, it will result in his own undoing. He failed to assure Frank Hangs, counsel for the Western Federation of Miners, that he would be unmolested on his return to the gold camp, which shows plainly "where he is at." Sheriff Bell is holding his office to further the interests of one class only. No man can look to him for protection who is "persona non grata" to the mine owners. He cannot hold his position without violating the oath he took.

Preparations were made only last week for a meeting of the Woman's Democratic Club. It was arranged that Helen M. Gougar, of Lafayette, Ind., a woman of world-wide fame as an orator, should address the club; but the excitement incident to the deportation of many of Cripple Creek's most public spirited and progressive men had the effect of intimidating the members of the club. Fearing to excite the "Citizens' Alliance" and mine owners' union to take revenge upon them or their husbands, they voted to withdraw the invitation to Mrs. Gougar. So the cause of "free speech" received a black eye.

A canvass of the Staff reveals the fact that Peabody's un-American acts are condoned and even applauded by apparently intelligent people, who are greatly distressed by the attitude of the Eastern press, which so universally condemns the present lawlessness. If money can buy Peabody's election, he will be re-elected; the mine owners, bankers and railroads are all preparing to reward his services in behalf of plutocracy.

One word as to Peabody's personality. The impression has gone forth that he is a forceful man. Nothing could be farther from the fact. Gov. Peabody has a characterless face, a vacillating temperament, and is easily dominated by designing men.

MNONA S. FITTS.