

ies to be located on Gull lake, Yorkville P. O., Michigan, where a "Golden Rule park," comprising 50 acres, is to be laid out under the management of E. D. Wheelock, of Chicago; N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, and Mayor Jones, of Toledo. Building lots in the park are not to be sold, but are to be leased upon ground rents to be used for common purposes. The summer school will be under the direction of Prof. George D. Herron, aided by Franklin D. Wentworth, of Chicago, as financial agent; and with this school as his educational base of operations, Prof. Herron, under Mr. Wentworth's management, will devote his time when the school is not in session, to lecturing throughout the country. He will begin his lecture work early in the year.

## MISCELLANY

### HARPER'S FERRY—1900.

For The Public.

Old Loudon stands titanic in repose,  
Unbonneted to every passing breeze,  
While at his feet the Shenandoah flows  
To join her sister stream unto the seas.

Fearless, those rocks looked down when  
Brown was here;

No stone more rugged in that lofty pile  
Than he, who also never knew a fear;  
Steadfast, whom servileness did ne'er de-  
file.

Convulsion's riving throes to both gave  
birth.

Secure they stand undaunted to the end;  
Prophets of Freedom in a slavish earth,  
Their mighty rest shall ruthless time not  
rend.

JULIAN A. DUBOIS.

### WHEN STOCKS FALL, THE REPUB- LICAN HEAVENS FALL.

E. L. Godkin, in a letter to the New York Evening Post of Oct. 3.

There is no denying that McKinley has committed a class of faults unknown to former presidents. He has disregarded the constitution by annexing foreign provinces without the authority of law. He has employed 65,000 Americans to massacre foreigners who had done him no injury and to destroy their homes. He has declared war, without notice, upon a friendly people, to whom he had first promised peace and cooperation. He has allowed his subordinate officers to denounce the organic law which created them as worn-out and of no effect. He has, in fact, done all the things which usually precede a coup d'etat, whether under Julius Caesar or Louis Napoleon, and, what is unheard of in history, he has secured a congress in connivance with him.

To tell me that such a man as McKinley is fit for the presidency because his nonelection will cause a fall of stocks strikes me as ludicrous. This might be

considered a sufficient answer for a broker. Among free and self-governing people it ought to excite a smile. It is the old argument by which Napoleon III. justified his coup d'etat. What he said was that he must be emperor, must kill those who opposed him and must put an end to the republic or stocks would fall heavily.

This is exactly the McKinley argument. There is not one unconstitutional act committed by McKinley the omission of which would have imperiled the happiness of a single American citizen. If he had court-martialed Otis and Merritt, who have been abusing the constitution and justifying his own violation of it, it would have secured us the respect of foreign nations and continued the stability of our power, without the loss of a single life. The permission accorded to his military officers to decry the form of government to which they owe their existence strikes me as one of the silliest things in his career. The proposal to give a man who is elected to the highest office in the state once in four years authority to decide when he will obey the constitution and when he will not; to annex provinces when he pleases by simple proclamation, and to make treaties of peace through his creatures seems to me one of the craziest propositions in history. To decide upon the propriety of this one does not need to prefer either McKinley or Bryan. Great nations do not compose their state papers while hanging over a stock exchange ticker.

### WHY ITALY IS RESTLESS.

What are the particular grounds of complaint in Italy? It is a country with 30,000,000 of people in which only 2,000,000 have the right to vote and where the most outrageous liberties are taken with the ballot. The senate is strong for the interest of the crown, which is its own interest, and the chamber of deputies is for the most part dominated by the crown, so that there is nothing like free government under the so-called constitutional monarchy. The socialist and republican parties elect members regularly and their number is steadily increasing, but they are too much in the minority as yet to produce any real results. Mazzini was elected to the chamber of deputies, but he would never take a seat; and just a few weeks ago, Dr. Nicola Gigliotti, one of the triumvirs of the Federazione Pensiero ed Azione, of this country, was elected, but he declined to return and serve under the monarchy. Such things occur in spite of the corrupt electoral system.

On the surface of things there is a brave show. All things governmental have the appearance of affluence and stability. The king and his family get 28,000,000 francs a year—more than \$5,000,000. Then there is a vast army and navy establishment, and a great higher educational organization to support, and they are supported at monstrous cost, and to the glory and benefit of the privileged class.

As for the fiscal reports of the Italian government, they are a masterly array of confused matters. They are as comprehensible to the masses as is Herbert Spencer's definition of evolution: "An integration of matter and concomitant dissipation of motion; during which the matter passes from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity to a definite, coherent heterogeneity, and during which the retained motion undergoes a parallel transformation." For many years successive governments (what we should call cabinets) have brought into parliament budgets, which have juggled with the word "equilibrium," making it appear to have some potency to raise revenue and meet wild extravagance. But the word was like so much sand thrown into the people's eyes; it blinded them, so that they could not see what was really going on. But the day of reckoning is at hand. H. R. Whitehouse, at one time secretary of the American legation at Rome, in the current number of the Forum Magazine explains this situation:

The reasons for this are obvious. Economies alone, however sweeping, could not accomplish this much-heralded equilibrium; it was necessary to devise fresh taxes or to increase the burden of those in force. Italians now enjoy the unenviable distinction of being the most heavily taxed nation in Europe. The interest on the perpetual debts alone amounts to 490,000,000 lire. Sig. Fortinato, the deputy, estimates the budget at 1,600,000,000 lire, out of which 800,000,000 lire are devoured by the interest on the public debt in its various forms, including pensions. Deduct another 160,000,000 reserved for the payment of redemptions, and but 600,000,000 remain for the expenses of the government, including the army, navy, public works, prisons, public security, etc. This is not only meager, but absolutely insufficient.

Rotten with debt, the Italian monarchy seems ready to topple. And if this is the condition of the head-piece of the state, what of the people—the body and limbs of the state? Three words sum up that condition: 1, taxes; 2, taxes; 3, taxes. These taxes fall not in proportion to privileges enjoyed, nor even in proportion to wealth possessed. In the first place they fall with exceeding weight upon the common necessities of life,

such as grain, salt and petroleum, of which the poor man consumes as much as, if not more than, the rich man; and then they are supposed to fall upon revenue, the rich, however, as is usual with such a tax, managing to get exemptions that relieve them of a very large proportion of what they would bear under this tax if it were justly administered. The truth is that in Italy the poor pay 50 per cent. of the taxes—taxes for a revenue spent by the monarchy in wasteful pride; among other things to keep up a great standing army to repress the people at home and subjugate peoples abroad, and to keep up a large, useless navy, or, if useful, then only to do the devil's work.

The Italians are naturally a happy, joyous people. We who have so many of them among us can see that. In Italy no Roman is too mean, no mountain cottage too poor to have its banjo or guitar or mandolin. The fascination of the people for music in the years not so long ago, when Rossini and the group of great composers made all Italy a land of song and sunshine, is illustrated in the story of a conversation between two Milanese gentlemen who chanced to meet in the street. "Where are you going?" "To the Scala, to be sure!" "How! Your father lies at the point of death." "Yes! yes! I know, but Velluti sings to-night."

"Dolce far niente" ("doing nothing; sweet idleness") expresses what a large part of these poetical, music-loving people might find it most easy to give themselves up to in their picturesque country, with its seas and mountains and lakes; its mild, golden sunshine, and its transparent blue sky. A monarchy that would not be oppressive, and that outwardly would show a care for the people, even if only a superficial care, might float along for years and years until some outside political and social convulsion would arouse this quick, sensitive, high-natured nation to throw off dreaming, become self-assertive and advance as a nation to active things. But ever since the House of Savoy at the palace of the Quirinal assumed the crown of Italy there has been nothing but oppression of the people. What must follow when a good carpenter can be had in Italy for 30 cents a day? When that same carpenter out of his scant wages must pay heavy taxes to be squandered by men who call themselves God-ordained rulers of the people? Through many years

we have seen the consequence. The youth of Italy has to great extent emigrated to other parts of the world—to Africa, to South America, but mostly to the United States. Here they have been absorbed into our nationality and become industrious, sturdy American citizens.

But with the finding of better social and political conditions in other countries Italians have yearned for the establishment of better things in the mother—their native—country. And the principles of free American political institutions have asserted themselves in the steady effort of the Italian American citizen to bring about the establishment of a republic in Italy, where the people shall by their votes govern and tax themselves. In such movements there have been in the past, and must be in the future, individuals with distinct ideas and acting alone or practically alone, and such a person we may call this man Angelo Bresci, who, filled with the wrongs of the Italian people, and seeing no recourse but to destroy the headpiece of the governmental despotism, took his own life in his hands and killed King Humbert.

I do not for a moment justify this murder, nor do I believe that good can come to Italy from such an act. I am merely endeavoring to show the forces at work in that country, which, if not relieved in some way, must soon break into a vast political and social eruption.

That anarchism, teaching the abolition of government of man by man and the constitution of society without government, involves the abolition of monarchy is as true as that the principle of a democratic republic gives monarchy no place; but the recognized teachers of the doctrine of anarchy—such men as the celebrated scientist Prince Krapotkin and the famous French geographer, Jacques Elisee Reclus—do not for a moment recognize that their principles are to be advanced by the murder of anyone. So that the great amount of talk about a vast Italian conspiracy of assassination and bloody revolution has no foundation. It is precisely the kind of statement that the Italian despotism might give out to the world in order to hide its own acts of oppression and to bind its chains tighter upon the people.—Henry George, Jr., in *Philadelphia North American* of Aug. 13.

Give me neither poverty nor riches, lest I be poor and steal, or lest I be rich and say "there is nothing to arbitrate."—Wilmington (Del.) Justice.

## AN OPEN LETTER FROM RABBI SALE.

Rabbi Samuel Sale, of St. Louis, has written an open letter to George A. Schilling, of this city, in which he rebukes the statement recently made by an eminent Jewish ecclesiastic, that the Jews should hang together and vote as one man at the coming election. Dr. Sale's position is the Jews cannot and should not be led to the polls like sheep, to cast their vote for William McKinley. Rabbi Sale has always been an earnest republican, and in 1896 was chaplain of the republican national convention at St. Louis. He disclaims any intention of making his letter an encyclical to the Jews, but simply writes as an American citizen. He says in part:

You know as well as I do, that a Jewish minister has no other influence over his coreligionists than that of reason and moral suasion, and that they are not a flock of sheep, to be led by a bell-wether. So far as any political capital to be gained thereby is concerned, such letters might just as well remain unwritten, but the injury which may be done to the Jews is incalculable.

The very fact that a rabbi writes to a Jew, giving him information and advice on the political situation, carries with it to an outsider the inference that his fellow believers are politically a separate and distinct class, a foreign body in the state, and this inference is to-day the very life of all so-called anti-semitism, the world over. Let Mr. Blumenthal or any other Jew, who cannot advise himself in the present political crisis, get his information at the same sources to which all Americans, Jew and Christian alike, are wont to go; but let him not turn to the rabbi, who is not his father confessor. I am not an alarmist, and I can prove that my reasoning is based on a solid foundation by pointing to the fact that the national republican committee are now actually circulating Hirsch's letter as a campaign document intended especially for the Jews.

If, as I am inclined to believe, Dr. Hirsch's letter was written at the suggestion of some political fire worker in the national republican committee, and Dr. Hirsch is now aware of its perversion, then he should recall it at once.

Mark you, I would not have the letter recalled for fear of any good it may do the republican party, for I assure you, it will neither make or unmake a single vote; but I fear the evil consequences that may spring from its spreading, if, which God forefend, at any future time, the dragon seed of Jew-baiting should be sown in the soil of our beloved land. If