

The Congress of Mothers of the State of Illinois (endorsed Municipal Suffrage in Chicago).

The State Federation of Labor of Iowa.

The State Federation of Labor of Minnesota.

The Boston Cigar Makers' Union of Massachusetts.

The State Federation of Labor of Maine.

The State Letter Carriers' Association of New York and the New York State Grange.

The State Letter Carriers' Association of Ohio.

The State Federation of Labor of West Virginia.

The State Letter Carriers' Associations, in endorsing woman suffrage, are following the example of the National Letter Carriers' Association, which adopted strong resolutions at their annual meeting in Portland, Oregon, last fall. The State Federations of Labor are in line with the American Federation of Labor, which at each successive annual meeting re-affirms its adherence to the principles of "equal rights to all," including women.

ELIZABETH J. HAUSER.

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## ABUSES WHICH WE TOLERATE.

For The Public.

In a speech in Congress about 1843, Calhoun referred to the increased cost of government, and showed by the civil miscellaneous list the enormous and needless growth of items and of sums appropriated. One item was for stationery, etc., for congressmen, originally about \$160, grown to over \$900. And so on! "You will overturn this government in this way," he exclaimed. But just think to what frightful amounts these abuses have run to-day! The one referred to is thousands for each member, while all the items have swollen pro rata. But who cares? Who looks back to contrast was with is?

Another and more fearful abuse is in that violation of the Constitution in the creation of new crimes by Congress, to add to its overgrown power. In Elliott's Debates on the Constitution, Vol. Virginia, Patrick Henry objected to a clause in the Constitution giving power to Congress to punish offenses, although it limits the power to but four or five classes—such as treason, felony on high seas, counterfeiting the coin, etc., and offenses in territory and grounds of the U. S. He said that owing to some looseness of expression Congress might at some time assume power to punish other offenses, from petit larceny up. Madison replied that that was impossible, as Congress had no power except as specially granted. Henry insisted on amendment, and the amendment was made, to-wit: "All powers not granted to Congress are reserved to States or people."

But as if to add light to the sun in case any one could ever doubt, some few years later, in spite of Constitution and the Amendment, Congress dared under that abominable old Federal influence, to try to create two new crimes, and give to itself power to punish—namely, the Alien and Sedition Act, and an Act to Punish Frauds against the U. S. Bank, etc. A great excitement arose. Madison drew up the Virginia Resolution, and Jefferson the Kentucky Resolution. In these it is clearly declared that the United States has no power over any offenses, except in the four or five cases specified in the Constitution. Jefferson was elected President on the issue, and Congress receded from its lawless stand.

And yet to-day Congress is punishing hundreds of new offenses created by it.

In the same debates Mr. Holmes of Massachusetts (see Vol. Mass.) said as to this power of Congress whereby citizens could be dragged from their own counties on criminal charges: "May Almighty God forever defend our country from such awful tyranny as this." When the government of Great Britain once tried to drag accused persons from their counties to London, the people began such a resistance as compelled it to yield.

But from Land's End to London is nothing. From Behring Straits to Key West, from Northern Maine to California—such are the distances our people are dragged whenever it is to the interest of our rulers to suppress any of them. During the past 40 years thousands of our citizens have been ruined by charges of having violated some act of Congress, the act itself being the greatest of all crimes—a bold, direct infraction of the supreme law of the land. Accused of violating some postal order, one may be dragged a prisoner to some court a thousand miles away; and to defend, must at his own cost bring witnesses, books, papers, etc. Costs swell in a week to thousands of dollars.

Glorious Republic!

CLARKE IRVINE.

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## A SEASONABLE FABLE.

Mr. Jimplecute, the eminent defender of national honor and proponent of the "Greater America" policy, had just finished his pleasant task of assisting his children in their Fourth of July fireworks exhibition. Mr. Jimplecute was very warm, very patriotic and very happy. Had he not assisted in celebrating the natal day of the great republic that was dedicated to human freedom, equal rights and representative government?

Mr. Jimplecute walked down to the gate which adorned the fence surrounding his fine mansion, thinking to catch a breath of fresh air before retiring to his slumbers. To his surprise he noted a small, dark-complexioned man peering through the ornamental iron bars of the fence.

"What are you doing there?" sharply queried Mr. Jimplecute.

"I was merely watching the exhibition," replied the stranger. "It was very fine."

"Ah, you enjoyed it, did you?" asked the gratified Mr. Jimplecute.

"Very much, sir," replied the stranger. "But might I make bold to ask you the occasion for such a demonstration?"

"W-h-a-t," stuttered the surprised Mr. Jimplecute. "You don't mean to say that you do not know that this is the glorious Fourth of July?"

"I am well aware of the date," replied the stranger courteously, "but what has that to do with this great display of fireworks?"

Mr. Jimplecute was so astonished that for a few moments he was speechless. When he recovered the use of his tongue he proceeded to explain.

"This is the anniversary of our nation's birth; the natal day of this free and glorious republic; conceived in liberty and brought forth by the blood of our revolutionary sires. It marks the striking of