

less driver clawed his ears off. As the hot trunk dipped for a cooling draught, our Elephant saw, mirrored on the surface of the water, what manner of mahout had led him this wild chase. In a flash the dripping trunk had the now yelping Pup in its grasp, and a swift backward toss landed him in the nearest ditch.

Sane but sad the Elephant turned from that fountain. A wave of repentance, as when the big river flows its muddy banks, swept over him. Slowly, with downcast head, he retraced his steps; and the naked little children from the keddah led Dharmadas home.

One should not presume to speak of beasts and men in the same breath. Yet, brother, when I see a good man, or a party of men, for that matter, driven by some cheap demagogue into disgraceful paths, I recall how an Elephant once flung a Bull Pup into a ditch, and I take heart of grace.—Alonzo Rothschild, in City and State, of Philadelphia.

#### WHAT THE CITY OF CLEVELAND MIGHT ASPIRE TO.

The following letter of acceptance was read by ex-Congressman Tom L. Johnson, of Ohio, to the Committee of Fifty, Harry Payer, chairman, which waited upon him on the 6th of February, with a petition signed by 15,682 democratic voters of Cleveland, requesting him to allow his name to go before the primaries of that city as a candidate for the democratic nomination for mayor.

To the Committee:

Knowing of your intended visit and its object I have prepared the following:

I have, up to the last, hoped that this situation would not arise. I much prefer my original plan of being active in politics without running for office. At the same time, I feel deeply sensible of the honor of being asked to stand as a candidate for mayor of this city.

If elected I would endeavor to give to the people as much of a business administration of public affairs as is possible under existing statutes. I believe the greatest good can be accomplished by some fundamental changes in the laws governing the city. The people of Cleveland should have local option on the subject of raising their revenues, and more freedom in the control of their expenditures.

The principle of home rule should prevail in purely local questions. We should have the right to exempt some classes of property from taxation, with a view to stimulating manufacturing enterprises and encour-

aging the building of homes. We should be at liberty to supplement the expenditures of the national government in our harbor improvements, and engage in other public works which will greatly promote our material prosperity. Generally, we should pursue a progressive policy in keeping with our wonderful growth.

The most important business question ever before the people of this city is that involved in the efforts of the street railroad companies to secure renewals of their existing franchises.

In dealing with this question, the city, while recognizing in the fullest the franchise and property rights of the present owners, should not hastily decide all doubtful questions against the people.

The best way to secure reasonable rates of fare is by inviting competition as the statutes now provide, the ordinance requiring as a condition precedent the payment by the successful bidder to the owners of the full and fair value of all property and unexpired franchises.

Under no circumstances should a renewal be granted that would permit a greater charge than three cents cash fares, with universal transfers. Low rates of fare, rather than revenue, should be the aim.

Personally, I advocate municipal ownership of street railroads and some other public utilities, in their nature monopolies; and believe in the philosophy of Henry George as the best rule of conduct in governmental affairs, whether local, state, or national. Taxes should be so levied as not to retard the production of wealth, but should be made a charge on monopoly and privilege.

I am willing to become the democratic nominee if the primaries so decide. If elected, I will serve the best interests of all the people. Yours truly,

TOM L. JOHNSON.

#### ECHOES FROM THE COLUMBUS BANQUET.

Extracts from speeches delivered at the banquet of the Jefferson-Jackson-Lincoln club, Columbus, O., on the evening of the anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, February 12.

MR. BRYAN SPEAKS TO JEFFERSON.

Never has this nation been more in need than it is to-day of an earnest and thorough revival of Jeffersonian principles. While other statesmen, appearing at different crises and meeting the responsibilities of their respective times, have made partial

application of democratic principles, Jefferson is the only one who formulated a democratic code applicable to all times, all situations and all people.

Though the champion of the common people, he was born among the aristocrats and was as intimately acquainted with the members of the House of Have as with those who struggled to meet by daily work their daily wants. He was called a demagogue by his enemies, and yet he exhibited a moral courage which none of his detractors has ever possessed, and in behalf of a righteous principle he would oppose the world.

At this time, when the money changers are in absolute control of the government and are shaping the government's financial policy in their own interests, without regard to the welfare of the people at large, we need to recall Jefferson's scathing arraignment of those who demand the surrender into their hands of the sovereign functions of government.

At this time, when corporate monopoly is fast extinguishing industrial independence, we need a revival of the Jeffersonian spirit which demands a government administered according to the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none.

At this time, when commercialism is searing the conscience of the nation, when the worship of mammon is leading the people to ignore inalienable rights, when the ideals bought with blood and sacrifice are to be bartered away for the specious and delusive promises of empire—at this time, I repeat, we need to have our faith in man as man and our love for man as brother rekindled by the memory of this mighty patriot, philosopher and democrat, whose brain comprehended the height and depth and breadth of government and whose heart embraced the human race.

MR. ALTGELD SPEAKS TO JACKSON.

There is a fact, my friends, that should give us hope. Everything in this universe is governed by laws, laws that are immutable. There are laws of disintegration that never sleep, that never rest, that never tire. The world long ago discovered that thieves fall out, and I say to you this law of disintegration will, in its own time, and in its own way, tear to pieces that combination of vulgar exploiters that is to-day controlling the American government.

In all serious situations there are comic incidents, and amid the disaster to republican principles in the late