

against the robbery of the citizens by favored corporations, wonder is expressed that a man of such wealth and business capacity can be willing to give so much of his time to the work of defending the public rights of his fellow citizens. The very expression of the wonderment thus excited is proof of the fact that we have degenerated as a nation and that we need a revival of true citizenship and a better comprehension of its duties. The very fact that men wonder at the labor of Mayor Johnson, of Cleveland, for a salary which is no importance to him is of itself alarming proof of the degeneracy of the times. It is indication that we have come to look upon official position as means to personal ends. The simple truth is that Tom L. Johnson stands for a happily growing class in the state. He has convictions as to the real functions of government. He has the courage of those convictions and believes that he can attain the best ideal of American citizenship by so conducting a municipal office as to illustrate them to the world. How far such an ideal is above mere fads for the impossible purification of politics by enlisting men of wealth in the degrading and demoralizing work of alienating public rights and further increasing the power of plutocracy is becoming better understood by men of intelligence.—Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat.

#### THE DEATH RATE IN THE RECONCENTRATED CAMPS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

At the end of July the total number of people in different camps in the Transvaal was 62,479; of whom some 10,000 were men, over 23,000 women, and over 28,000 children of from one to twelve years of age. The total number of deaths in July was 1,067, of which 860 were children. In the Middelburg camp alone there were 342 deaths, mostly from measles. At Potchefstroom, where there is also a very large camp, there were over 133 deaths, including 109 children.—The Standard, of London, Eng.

The annual death rate among the children in the Transvaal camps is about 370 per 1,000. In less than three years, if the war goes on and the camps remain as deadly to their inmates, everyone of these babies, our prisoners, will be dead. The death rate for men, women and children in these Transvaal camps was at the annual rate of about 210 per 1,000. That is to say, if the present arrangements

were maintained for five years, every Boer inmate of the camps, man, woman and child, would be dead. There is no parallel in history, as far as we know, to this process of extermination, steadily continued month after month, in which the enemy's casualties in the field seem likely to be completely eclipsed by the holocaust of women and infants.—The Manchester Guardian.

#### AN AMERICAN REMEDY FOR ANARCHY.

Remarks made by Judge Amidon, in the United States court in Minneapolis, prior to granting a motion of adjournment on account of the death of President McKinley, as reported by the press.

The first impulse upon hearing of the terrible crime has been one, apparently, of vengeance; and that spirit seems still to prevail in many minds and many circles. One thing, however, is very certain; and that is that we shall not find a remedy for anarchy in lawlessness. It would be difficult to estimate how much the evil spirit of lynch law found lodgment in the brain of the man who slew the president. It is one of the features of our recent history that makes every patriotic American considerate if not humiliated, that over wide districts of this country there has been a suspension of the ordinary course of justice, and in place of it lynch law has been substituted. Now, lynch law is the very essence of anarchy, and the expressions that we hear in the north now, in the large cities, and that we read in this morning's papers, of laying aside all the ordinary forces of justice and resorting to lynch violence do not speak creditably for the sobriety and reserve judgment of those who share in these sentiments.

If history teaches anything, it teaches that the opinions and beliefs of men, however erroneous or wicked they may appear to be, cannot be cured by the sheriff or jailer, or by criminal punishment. We have the record of 1800 years of persecutions for belief to teach us that belief cannot be changed by violence or by blood. The safety of the country in regard to such matters was voiced by one of the great commoners of England, John Milton, when he said in defense of freedom of speech:

Let truth and error grapple. Who ever knew truth to be worsted in an open fight?

And when we come to deal with the evil that has led to this sad termination, as I said at the outset, our remedy will have to be an American remedy, a remedy consistent with those founda-

mental principles of civil liberty, of freedom of thought and freedom of speech, upon which this government is founded.

We shall not find our remedy in the despotic countries which have given rise to this very class of people who have come here now to trouble us. If drastic measures, if the eternal presence of the police, the dungeon and banishment were a remedy for anarchy, there would be no anarchists in the old world; but we all know that notwithstanding the exceedingly drastic remedies that have obtained there, the class has grown under it.

When we speak of freedom of speech and freedom of thought we, of course, do not mean to justify that speech which incites directly to the commission of crime. That is criminal itself, and ought to be punished. But that is a very different thing from freedom of speech, for example, which consists in criticism of the government. That is a very different thing, I say, which incites directly to the murder and assassination of public officers, from the criticism of governmental measures.

If our laws are insufficient now to deal with such matters, as they seem to be, they will have to be amended or new laws adopted. But those laws, when they are framed, will be laws consistent with the principles of civil liberty upon which our country is founded. We shall find our remedy for anarchy to be an American remedy, and not a foreign remedy. We certainly shall not find it in any method of violence.

#### IMPRESSIONS OF AN ENGLISH SPECTATOR AT THE FUNERAL OF PRESIDENT M'KINLEY.

From a Private Letter.

My conclusions, after my day in Canton, are that the people I saw had not been rightly trained in either a noble cultivation of emotion, nor—what is of perhaps less importance, but still, to me, a matter of very great interest—in the artistic expression of the same. For, to refer to the latter first, I do not hold that the democratic necessarily means the plain, the inartistic, the commonplace. To my mind ceremonial and pageant are by no means the monopoly of aristocracy and superstition. Splendor and magnificence, especially in public matters, are perfectly consistent with democracy, so they express democratic principles, and are the outpouring of a catholic spirit. You can see trades processions in Manchester which breathe independence, not to say defiance, from start to finish, which are also most interesting and enjoyable spectacles.