

cious sheets had been thrown out, 141,000 signatures remained. From this number a large deduction was made as allowance for joke names, individual frauds, and errors, which reduced the unimpeachable list to 112,000. As the number required was 87,000, this made the petition complete. Afterwards additional sheets with over 60,000 signatures came in and these were not inspected, for it was unnecessary. At once there was a painful silence. It was that kind of silence after noise which awakens the heaviest sleeper. The "business" interests, the clubs, the newspapers, realized that public opinion is not confined to the "Loop." And the newspapers—especially the Tribune and the Lawson publications—learned a much needed lesson. They learned that by their hypocritically false news reporting they have at last forfeited the confidence of their readers.

* *

Marshall Field's Personal Property.

From the inventory of personal property of the late Marshall Field which has been filed in the probate court, it would seem that his personal property amounted to something more than \$40,000,000. But an examination of the inventory discloses the fact that an overwhelming proportion of this personality consists in fact of certificates of interests in real estate—railway stock, mining stock, railway bonds, etc.—and these are not truly personal property. Though the law so regards them, they are nothing economically but evidences of title. The property they represent is solid earth, and the value of the certificates depends upon the value of that earth. Yet we often hear it objected to the exemption of personal property from taxation, that it would allow great fortunes to escape.

* *

Professor Starr's Significant Discovery.

The "proud Caucasian" may find food for reflection, if he has any tenderness in his nature, in the remarkable statement by Prof. Frederick Starr implying a moral inferiority in the white race. Mr. Starr's papers on his recent sojourn in interior Africa among the natives, are of an exceedingly high order, both in point of interest as a story of travel in strange places, and for their value as a report upon original anthropological investigation. In one of these papers, appearing in the Chicago Tribune of the 2d, Prof. Starr says:

Returned from the Congo country and a year and more of contact with the dark natives, I find a curious and most disagreeable sensation has possession

of me. I had often read and heard that other peoples regularly find the faces of white men terrifying and cruel. The Chinese, the Japanese, other peoples of Asia, all tell the same story. The white man's face is fierce and terrible. His great and prominent nose suggests the tearing beak of some bird of prey. His fierce face causes babes to cry, children to run in terror, grown folk to tremble. I had always been inclined to think that this feeling was individual and trifling; that it was solely due to strangeness and lack of contact. To-day I know better. Contrasted with the other faces of the world the face of the fair white is terrible, fierce, and cruel. No doubt our intensity of purpose, our firmness and dislike of interference, our manner in walk and action, and in speech, all add to the effect. However that may be, both in Europe and our own land, after my visit to the blacks, I see the cruelty and fierceness of the white man's face as I never would have believed was possible. For the first time I can appreciate fully the feeling of the natives. The white man's dreadful face is a prediction; where the fair white goes he devastates, destroys, depopulates.

* *

The Black Man's Devotion.

In uncomplimentary contrast with the observation of Prof. Starr on the cruel expression of the white man's face as it appears to men of other races, is this tribute of a Canadian woman to the generosity of the blacks of Kingston, Jamaica, at the time of the earthquake. We copy it from the Toronto Daily Star of the 30th:

The black servants, for whom I have come to have the profoundest reverence in this hour of trial, crowded round apparently less frightened than the whites, and with only one desire—to be of aid, to run, fetch, and carry, saying comforting words of religion, for they seem to have naturally a deep faith, and doing all that love and devotion could conceive. What we would have done without these eager feet and hands, those unconfused heads, in those first moments I could not say.

It would do white men no harm to reflect upon the possibility of there being in the "inferior" races a human quality in comparison with which the domineering qualities of the all-conquering white man may be as those of beasts of prey. Ability to conquer is not necessarily evidence of superiority—not of human superiority.

* *

A Reductio ad Absurdum.

Secretary Shaw has "gone the limit" on the question of protection. He proposes the establishment of a "free port," into which materials may be imported free from all parts of the world, to be there manufactured into finished goods, and be thence exported to the world's markets. The "free ports" would be separated by tariff restrictions from the rest of the country, so that only