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The least destructive of all the elements of our war with Spain proves to have been the Spanish army and navy, and the most destructive our own war department.

The plea that we were unprepared for war might, in a measure, excuse the bungling at Tampa last spring, but it cannot excuse the murderous management at Chickamauga throughout the war, and at Montauk Point after the war was over. Regiments that were never within a thousand miles of the enemy's fire, have come home in a worse condition than if they had passed through a long and arduous campaign, some of them with ranks depleted as if they had carried a forlorn hope. Soldiers who survived shot and shell, and even the fever scourge at Santiago, have languished and many have died of fever and starvation in a camp designed especially for their reception and comfort within 50 miles of the metropolis. Starvation, needless exposure, and epidemics of typhoid fever are not to be excused by the plea that the nation was unprepared for war. An administration which could not at least furnish returning soldiers with wholesome food, after four months of war and when peace had come, could not do it with a thousand years of preparation. Something more vital than preparation was lacking.

Nor is the unnecessary suffering of our troops to be palliated by the successful outcome of the war. Success could be no palliation for murderous mismanagement under any circum-

stances. But our success, as is every day more evident, was a bit of unadulterated good luck. It can now be plainly seen that if Cervera had not abandoned Santiago at a critical moment and rushed to his destruction upon the guns of our fleet, Shafter's army would have had the alternative of leaving Cuba or dying by regiments. Good luck, not good management, won the war for us. Good luck might also have saved our soldiers from unnecessary disease and starvation. But it had already been overworked. Good luck cannot hold out forever against the incompetency of presidential favorites and the indifference of self-seeking politicians.

Russia's sudden anxiety to have all Europe disarm, should be welcomed with enthusiasm if Russia were not visibly winking as she makes the proposal. Those fabled peace plans of the wolves, whereby the sheep were to get rid of the dangerous dogs that guarded them, were not altogether unlike the peace proposition of Russia. Disarmament in Europe is a consummation devoutly to be wished. In itself it would be most excellent. But coming from Russia as the proposition does, and at such a time as this, it suggests the story of the egg, which, though perfectly good itself, was condemned because the hen that laid it was sick.

At this distance from California, we are in the dark regarding Congressman Maguire's possibilities of election as governor; but the way in which DeYoung's San Francisco Chronicle howls and spits at him, indicates that he has much more than a fighting chance.

Demands for direct legislation—the initiative and referendum—have been made this year by five democratic state conventions, those of

Illinois, Oregon, North Dakota, Minnesota and Michigan. The democratic party in Nebraska, Massachusetts, Kansas, Washington, South Dakota and Montana, besides the five states named above, is now committed to the initiative and referendum. This reform aims to secure upon the direct demand of the people the adoption of such laws as the people want, and the rejection by the people direct of those they do not want. It would require the submission to popular vote of any bill for which a specified proportion of voters petitioned, and the reference to popular vote of every important bill as a condition of its becoming law. The initiative and referendum would not necessarily give good government; but they would give the government the people really desire, which is after all the best government they can possibly have.

One Francis D. Carley, the head member and confidential correspondent of a Wall street brokerage firm, has achieved a splendid verbal invention. It is a new name for that something which figures in great modern businesses as "water," "privilege," "monopoly," and so on—that something which, by whatever name known, is at bottom nothing but legalized theft. Mr. Carley euphemistically calls it "invisible construction." In advising his customers as to what stocks to invest in for a rise, he says he has not backed Brooklyn Rapid Transit merely because it owns tracks and rails. Its value lies not in that kind of property, but "in its comprehensive invisible construction." Then, to avoid misunderstanding, he explains luminously that "Standard Oil stock is not worth 400 because of its pipes and machinery; it is the invisible construction which makes it great." So with Brooklyn Rapid Transit, the great expectations

from this stock rest upon the future value of its "invisible construction." Many thanks to Mr. Carley for the phrase. It is elegant in its aptness. May we couple it with another, an invention of our own, and say that invisible construction ought of right to yield intangible incomes?

The Cambria Iron Co. is promoting itself into the Cambria Steel Co. In the process it will give each stockholder three shares for one. Ninety cents a day for labor, the amount the Cambria has paid for years, is one of the secrets of this stockholders' prosperity. But why should anyone denounce the Cambria Steel Co. and its managers? They have done only what everybody tries to do—manufacture at as little cost as possible, and appropriate as much profit as they can. We should all do it if we had the chance. So at least the special pleader tell us, rebukingly; and perhaps they are right. That, however, is not the point. The real point is that none of us ought to have the chance—neither those of us who haven't it, nor those of us who have it—to do what the Cambria has been doing. For what is the nature of that chance? What is it that has enabled the Cambria to hire men for 90 cents a day, and then to multiply its stock by three without contributing to the world any new capital? The thing that has enabled it to get men for 90 cents a day is the great monopoly of all kinds of land, which, under low ad valorem taxation, is held at prices so high as to make competitive uses of it well-nigh universally unprofitable. That lessens opportunities for employment and keeps wages at the minimum. So much for the labor aspect of the matter. The things besides low wages that have enabled the company to water its stock so splendidly are chiefly patents, landed privileges, and the protective tariff, whereby the company has been secured by law in the enjoyment of a huge monopoly. Whoever would take advantage if possible of the same conditions to do the same thing is only

human. He is without blame. Were he to refuse the opportunity he might do harm, and could certainly do no good. But whoever would perpetuate those conditions, so as to make chances for his own enrichment at the expense of his fellows, might fairly claim lineal descent and hereditary characteristics from Jonathan Wild or Jack Shepherd.

So long as the spirit of democracy lives, people will not tire of the speeches of Wendell Phillips. The so-called democrats of his time hated him with an intensity that is hard to describe in polite phraseology; but the so-called democrats of Wendell Phillips's time were not democrats at all. They had no conception whatever of the meaning of democracy. Wendell Phillips was a true democrat. He not only declared, but he believed from his heart in the doctrine of equal political rights. He admitted no exceptions. To him, neither the color of the hair nor the color of the skin made any difference when the question of rights was under discussion. And as he believed in equal political rights regardless of color, so did he believe in them also regardless of sex. Some of Phillips's most convincing and eloquent speeches in advocacy of the democratic principle were made in behalf of the civil and political rights of women. Three of the most important of these have just been collected and published in a 25 cent paper volume, by the Woman Suffrage association, whose headquarters is in the World building at New York. We commend this little collection to ladies—of both sexes, as Sydney Smith would have put it—who think that feminine qualities are out of place in politics.

How queer it is that public life should be regarded as incompatible with feminine domesticity, when the woman most widely noted of all living women for domestic habits has for more than half a century governed the greatest of modern kingdoms. Possibly Queen Victoria has not gov-

erned in the widest sense; she may merely have approved perfunctorily what her ministers dictated, though that is not the account that contemporary historians give of her. But she has certainly devoted as much time and thought to politics, and lent as much influence to government, as any ordinary woman would be required to do in order to fulfill the voting duty. Then again, how suggestive of a degraded sentiment is the notion that while women must do nothing so burdensome and unladylike as to attempt to influence government by voting, they are to be applauded for attempting to influence it corruptly. Recently an American woman with an English title was engaged in electioneering for her husband, a candidate for parliament, in a way that if not unladylike was assuredly corrupting in its effect upon the public. She had not been accused of bribing with money, nor was there the slightest likelihood that she had bribed, but she appealed with feminine wiles to masculine voters to support her husband, not in the interest of the public good, but to serve him and please her.

New York women found in the ranks of the anti-suffragists begging legislators as they loved their mothers and wives not to impose upon womankind the dread duty of voting—such women in 1896 engaged in a species of electioneering which is no better in character, though inspired by more public spirited motives, than that of the siren of the English hustings. They worked systematically among the wives and daughters of the poor, urging them to beg their husbands and fathers not to vote for Bryan. Here was no appeal to the integrity and common sense of the voter, such as woman suffrage would impel women to make, but an attempt to control voters through their affections merely. Had small change figured in the effort, it would have been no whit more degrading to the franchise. Yet this was done by women who profess to dread the degrading

effect upon women of an extension of the voting franchise to their sex, and was applauded by men and newspapers that profess to think the place of woman is in the nursery or at the washtub and not at the ballot box. That is an inconsistency which only one thing can explain. Conventional objections to woman suffrage are false pretenses; they do not explain the inconsistency. The real objection is none of those that pass current; it is simply an objection to democracy. Both the women and the men who oppose woman suffrage do so because it would comprehend the wives and daughters of the working classes. They would abolish the working class vote among men if they could; they therefore have no disposition to extend it to women.

A league for the education of public opinion and the popular conscience of the country has recently been formed, with Rev. Josiah Strong as president. Leaflets are to be issued, it is announced, on the subject of good citizenship, written by "eminent authorities." Col. Roosevelt, for instance, is writing one on the necessity of enforcing law, while Lieut. Hobson has been asked for one on patriotism. Those examples of "eminent authorities" expose the sensational character of the organization. Hobson, whose desperately won reputation for courage we would not narrow by a hair's breadth, has never figured as an authority on patriotism. If courage were the theme, no better authority could be found at present. But courage and patriotism are not necessarily identical. So far as the public knows to the contrary, Hobson's patriotism is only of the spectacular order. It is for that reason, obviously, that this new society calls upon him. The publishing committee wants the benefit of his sensationalized name. And Roosevelt, what is he aside from his bellicose bravery, but a bureaucrat—a "business man's" administrator? His idea of the necessity of enforcing law, as those who have followed his career know, is that

it should be enforced in order to preserve social peace—order, he would call it—without establishing social justice. The popular conscience needs arousing more than it needs educating; and Col. Roosevelt and his kind are of all men the least likely to try to arouse it, or to succeed if they should try, except by some process of reaction.

Local option in taxation has acquired a foothold in New Zealand; and in some counties the voters, acting upon their local option rights, have adopted the single tax. It is worthy of special mention that this has been done by the vote not of all the voters, but of taxpayers alone. The local option law of New Zealand is so hedged in with irksome conditions intended to protect the landed interests, that the adoption of the single tax by the taxpayers of any county is strong testimony in favor of its popularity with the thrifty classes. By this law it is required that upon the petition of a specified proportion of the taxpayers a poll must be taken upon the question of taxing unimproved values to the extent of everything else. At that poll only enrolled taxpayers are allowed to vote, and unless one-third of them do vote the poll is invalid. Notwithstanding these and other restrictions, only four polls out of 15 have been invalidated by lack of the requisite one-third vote, and at the other 11, the single tax fell short of a majority at only one. For local purposes, therefore, the single tax is in operation in at least ten districts of New Zealand.

One of the New Zealand districts in which the single tax has been adopted, is the large county of Inaugabua, and upon the subject of its practical operation there, P. J. O'Regan, of Wellington, writes most favorably to the Sydney (N. S. W.) Daily Telegraph. Mr. O'Regan says that whereas under the old system the tax rate was levied upon the value of improvements and land taken together, as we of the United States levy real estate

taxes, it is now levied upon unimproved values only, no account being taken of improvements. Under the old system, too, the rate of taxation was only two cents of tax to \$5 of value; but under the new it is five cents, the exemption of improvements making this increase of rate necessary in order to raise the usual revenues. Improvers do not suffer by the increase, however, the whole burden falling upon the monopoly value of the site, and not at all upon the value of improvements.

But the most interesting information which Mr. O'Regan gives relative to the operation of the single tax in New Zealand has to do with its effect upon individual property owners. Still speaking of Inaugabua county, he gives specific instances. One man holding 502 acres, valued at \$7,515 and utterly without improvements, has had his taxes upon that property raised from \$30 to \$75. Another, also an owner of unimproved land, who formerly paid \$12 now pays \$30. On the other hand, a miner owning his own little home, a cottage worth \$800 upon a lot worth \$80, formerly paid \$3.50 in taxes, whereas he now pays only 80 cents. Another instance like that of the miner is the case of a farmer, whose property is worth \$9,550. Of this gross value \$2,250 is the value of the land and \$7,300 is the value of the improvements. Under the old regime, with taxes at two cents to the \$5, this settler paid \$38; but under the single tax system, which exempts improvements, he pays—with the rate raised to five cents to the \$5—only \$22.50. These facts from New Zealand go far to prove what single tax men have long maintained, that the single tax would reduce the tax burdens of the home-owning workingman and the improving farmer.

Mr. Day's motives for resigning as secretary of state have been explained by some of his friends, who say that the salary is too small to support the dignity of the office. Of course Mr. Day had the right to resign for that or any other reason; but the reason given

is highly significant of the extent to which we have drifted away from democratic moorings. The snobbery of Washington social life has fixed itself like a parasitic growth upon Washington official life. Mr. Day's salary was large enough to support him in comfort and decency; why, then, should he resign his office for lack of means to keep up a toploftical social establishment? Simply because undemocratic social customs which he does not care to brave, demand that as secretary of state he live like a lord and entertain like a prince. That is what is meant by "supporting the dignity of the office." Dignity of the office! Mr. Day seems to have supported the dignity of his office very well, in the office, where it should be supported. It is not the American people, but the swell mob, who would require him also to support it with a continuous free lunch at his house. President Hayes was the subject of many sneers because he saved part of his presidential salary. But Hayes deserved especial respect for that. He acted upon the sound democratic idea that official salaries are simply wages for work, carrying with them no obligation whatever, except to honestly earn them. When that idea prevails throughout Washington official life, though Washington social life may suffer, the real work for which official salaries are paid will be better done.

It is not altogether easy to repress some feeling of impatience, either for the good faith or the good sense of the Universal Peace Union, which has just been holding its annual meeting in Connecticut. It denounces war with all its might; yet it does nothing, advocates nothing, is friendly to nothing that would really make for peace. Its panacea for war is international arbitration. No doubt arbitration would be a vast improvement in ridding us of the horrors of war, but it could not put an end to what is worst about war. So long as the causes of war are fostered, its worst evils will persist. The Peace Union seems to think that the hor-

rors of war are the worst of it. That is not true. The death of soldiers and the destruction of property are small matters in comparison with the passions that war generates; and those same passions would flourish under systems of arbitration. They might even intensify in bitterness from the very suppression of war; while some of the blackest evils might flourish under arbitration as they could not if war were still regarded as the court of last resort. Many things are worse than death in battle. Slavery is one—worse alike for master and slave. Many things are worse than destruction of property in battle, among which systematic interference with the production of property and systematic divergence from its producers of the results of production, are not the least. These things figure among the great indirect causes of war. Their reform would put an end not only to killing and destruction, but also to the passions which war expresses and engenders and which arbitration could not allay. Yet as to them the Peace Union is silent. Even that moderate though far-reaching and deep-touching of the reforms which make for peace, the abolition of tariffs, finds only individual support here and there in the Peace Union. The Peace Union as a body is given over almost as completely to the great war god Protection as is the warlike manufacturers' union. As to more radical reforms—the abolition, for example, of that most prolific cause of war, landlordism—the Peace Union has vested interests to conserve which stand as a forbidding specter in its path. Some of its members plead for this reform, but the union itself is dumb. It is easy to cry, Peace! and to propose patent devices for enforcing peace; but it is hard to stand out against the vested wrongs that make real peace impossible. The Peace Union seems to bear much the same relation to peace that a sabbatarian society might bear to religion.

What a humiliating commentary upon our good faith is the refusal of

the Haitian government to permit the United States to establish a weather bureau station at Mole St. Nicholas. The refusal is based upon a suspicion of ulterior bad motives on our part, the Haitians fearing that our establishment of a weather bureau station within their jurisdiction would be only the first step toward our ultimate acquisition of the Haitian country. Their suspicion would have been laughable six months ago. But today we are obliged to confess that it is at least excusable. For behold the record we have recently made in this respect. Conspiring with a little knot of Hawaiians, mostly of American origin, we have gobbled up the Hawaiian islands. Taking advantage of the fortunes of war with a European power, we have grabbed Puerto Rico without the least reference to the wishes of its inhabitants. Under cover of adjusting the same war, we are proposing to appropriate the Philippines in utter disregard of the natives, whom our expansionist newspapers are viciously denouncing because they claim the simple right of self-government. And as to Cuba, we not only propose to grab that island, but in doing so to ignore our pledged faith. When the Haitians note the conscienceless land hunger we are thus developing, and observe how European nations use slight territorial concessions in China to slice up that empire, is it remarkable that they should suspect our good faith in soliciting permission to establish a weather bureau station upon their island? The action of Haiti in this matter is an indication of the kind of reputation which, thanks to our imperialists, we are gaining among our neighbors. No doubt all the republics to the south of us, which once trusted the United States as an older and stronger brother in republicanism, entertain similar suspicions to those of Haiti. If they do, it is nobody's fault but our own.

At the bankers' convention in Denver last week, some leather-faced Shylock compared the patriotism of sol-

diers in war to that of bankers, in a way that tends to bring all bankers into contempt by force of association. After pointing out the futility of the pomp and circumstance of war without the means to sustain it, this modest Pharisee asked where a government could look for its means "but to the patriotic spirit of the bankers." And then, to illustrate how patriotic the bankers are, he told of a visit of the secretary of the treasury to New York before the issuance of the war bonds, and of his there meeting a body of bankers who "assured him of their patriotic desire to see a three per cent. loan floated at par." Furthermore, "to enable him to make it a popular loan, without fear of miscarriage, they agreed to take the whole or any part of \$200,000,000 at par." Wasn't that a magnificent exhibition of patriotism? But what did it really amount to? To an offer to take at par millions of three per cent. bonds which every banker knew at the time would go to a premium, and which in fact did go to a premium before they were issued! He who has the hardihood to describe that as "patriotism," and to liken it to the heroism of men who offered up their lives—many without hope or expectation of reward, most without even the possibility of promotion or distinction, and all without enough pay to keep them in decent food—would hardly see any incongruity in describing the robber of a mission fund as a self-sacrificing missionary. We find no fault with the bankers who offered to take the war bonds. If the people allow their public servants to tie up future generations with interest-bearing mortgages upon their labor, it is the people and not the bond buyers who are to be condemned. But let the bond-buyers take to themselves no fancy names. The transaction is "business," pure and simple "business;" let them not nauseate the public by calling it "patriotism."

Before the war began there was a persistent pressure to increase the standing army, which was then limit-

ed to 25,000 men. The motives for this pressure were numerous, some plausible and some not, some sentimentally patriotic and some sordid; but the inevitable effect would have been to prepare the way for the strong man on horseback. Congress resisted the pressure until the beginning of the war, when it consented to a temporary increase to 60,000 men, distinctly providing, however, that at the close of the war the old limit should be resumed. Whether this resumption will take place remains to be seen. The pressure to keep the regular army up to its war footing, and even to increase it by 40,000 or more, is strong. Not the least of the motives for territorial expansion is the excuse it would give for maintaining a large standing army. The most popular plea in this connection is a variety of the old argument that a large standing army is necessary for defense. But the utter weakness of that has been demonstrated by the war. As to soldiers, we were ready to fight before even the best equipped enemy could have disturbed us. Within a few days 200,000 selected volunteers were in the field. Within a few days more they were drilled for action. Within less than three months they had proved their efficiency in battle. Those that were criticised were blamed for what their equipments and not they themselves were responsible for. The rough riders, no better men than the other volunteers, but better equipped, proved as effective as the regulars; yet all of them were engaged in peaceful pursuits when the war broke out. The whole experience of the Santiago campaign, the Puerto Rico campaign, and the mobilization of troops at different points in this country, proves conclusively that we need no large standing army for purposes of defense. What we do need for those purposes, and all that we need, is a competent war department, and a president who makes army appointments for merit and not for favor.

Our army showed itself to be weak

not as to men, but as to supplies. For that weakness there was no excuse. The soldiers had not dropped down from the clouds so as to increase the number of people to be fed. They had been drawn from 70,000,000 who were already being fed. If there were supplies enough before the mobilization of troops, there must have been supplies enough afterwards. And so there were. Had the mobilization been of as many Christian Endeavorers, experienced hotel keepers would have provided for them amply and comfortably; but our war department could not provide for a small fraction of the army at a point within daily communication of one of the largest markets in the world, during a suspension of hostilities, and four months after the call for troops. This failure, and the same is true of all the others, was not because the country was short of supplies, but because the war department was long of incompetent favorites. Instead of a large standing army give us a competent and faithful war department, and in reliance upon volunteers in an emergency, our country will be as safe from invasion as if it were surrounded by an impenetrable, an un-climbable, and an un-shoot-over-able wall.

THE HUNGER SCOURGE.

Repeatedly since The Public first appeared, we have had occasion to chronicle some of the horrors of contemporary famine. Not famines like those of the old times, when crops failed and whole nations went hungry; but famines in the midst of abundance. For such is the character of the modern hunger scourge. Its victims jostle the well-fed, and even as they die of starvation inhale the odors of rich food preparing for their immune brethren.

This hunger scourge is universal. For several years it threatened India, pinching the people more and more as each season passed, until it culminated in famine widespread and ghastly. Men, women and children died like rotten sheep. They died of starvation. Yet not all the people died so, nor were all of them hungry. Many of the inhabitants of India have no

notion to this day of what hunger is, except as they have seen its effects upon others. Like the unscathed survivors of an epidemic of cholera or yellow fever, though they saw others suffer and die, they themselves escaped even the breath of the scourge. It passed them wholly by. Elsewhere the hunger scourge is as severe as it was in India, though not so dramatic. In Galicia and Hungary it has become chronic. The war advertised its presence in Spain. Last spring's riots told the rest of the world that it had Italy in its grip; and in China and western Russia its ravages even now attract attention.

Out of all these countries have come heart-rending reports. From hunger alone 100,000 people in Italy go mad, while hundreds of thousands live upon nothing but moldy corn and die by wholesale of diseases it generates. Meat is unknown in nearly 5,000 districts, except among the few families of immunes; and in 1,700 districts even grain food is commonly known only as a luxury. In Russia, whence it is reported that the peasants eat but one meal a day, the bread consisting more of the bark of trees, leaves, and chaff than of flour, this condition is officially described as ordinary. Eighty per cent. of the people in Hungary are landless, and \$60 a year is extraordinary wages for a whole family; while in China, in the very heart of a garden valley of the earth, the workers are driven to the verge of rebellion by hunger.

To recapitulate the horrors of the hunger scourge would be an ungracious task, nerves are so sensitive to stories of suffering and so indifferent to the fact of suffering, but such a task would be useful. Could mankind only be forced to know how the hunger scourge drives its millions to disease, insanity and death, sleepy consciences might be awakened to the wickedness which all this implies.

But no account of the hunger scourge would be complete which stopped with the story of hunger in Asia and Europe, however full that story might be. As we have said, it is a universal scourge. In New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and even in the farming regions of the boundless and bountiful prairies, hunger has its victims. It is manifestly so in the

great cities. Every now and then a case of death from starvation is brought to public notice. It is also true of the country districts, though there hunger takes the insidious form of poor nutrition, and works its ends through supervening disease instead of ordinary starvation. But hunger is everywhere. The hunger scourge is indeed universal.

Not only is the scourge universal, but universally it flourishes in the midst of plenty. There was no lack of food in India, even at the height of the hunger scourge. There has been no lack of food in Galicia, none in Hungary, none in Italy, none in Spain. There is no lack of food in Russia, no lack of food in China. It is plentiful in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, London, Paris. They send it away in carloads from the very prairie farms on which people suffer from hunger diseases. Everywhere food is abundant; and the opportunities for producing it are everywhere not only abundant but limitless and exhaustless. Yet everywhere the scourge of hunger prevails! Yet everywhere, too, its victims are food producers!

The last observation admits of no dispute. All know that food abounds where famine strides, and that it is produced in its abundance by the famine sufferers themselves. It is the poor, those who have little or nothing but their labor to live by, who in any country or at any time in these modern days suffer from the scourge of hunger.

Some there are who say that all this is right, and altogether as it should be and must be. Those who think in that way, lay the responsibility for poverty in the first place upon the poor themselves. The poor are lacking in industry, it is said. But how should anyone be more industrious than the working poor? If industry would make men rich, the poor of our time, the poor who die of famine, would be rich beyond the dreams of avarice. But industry does not necessarily make the industrious rich. They may spend their lives, as Cowper puts it, in—

Letting down buckets into empty wells,
And growing old with drawing nothing up.

Or, it may be, we are told again, that

the poor are thriftless. But how shall he be thrifty whose wages yield him no better food than rotten corn? Pray, what may he save—the hull?

As if to confound those who say that the starvation of the poor is due to their indolence and unthrift, there rises up the great big unyielding fact that the hunger immunes, the people who are secure against the hunger scourge of modern times, are the nobility of some countries and the monopolists of others. These classes as a rule are neither industrious nor thrifty; they pride themselves upon their idleness, and advertise themselves by their extravagance. They toil not and save not yet they live in luxury when the toilers are dying of starvation.

Driven by this stubborn fact from their comfortable position that the victims of the hunger scourge become such because they are idle and thriftless, your devil's advocates—some of them insatiable devourers of widows' houses, and others smug preachers of a perverted Christianity, but hypocrites and blasphemers all—next place the responsibility for dire poverty upon the bountiful Father of men. They tell us that God did not make the world big enough nor rich enough to accommodate all mankind, and that the hunger scourge is one of his beneficent devices for diminishing the oversupply of human souls. Think of the blasphemy of it! One is driven to paraphrase Col. Ingersoll, and say to them, "if that is your idea of God, be kind enough to explain your idea of the devil!"

But this is a perverted idea of God. The true explanation of the hunger scourge is much simpler, though not so easy to accept. It is safer to slander the goodness of God than to accept an explanation which threatens the unholy privileges of the rich. God will forgive; the rich won't. Nevertheless, the true and obvious explanation of the persistence of the hunger scourge among the working poor and the immunity of the idle rich is this, that by means of disorderly institutions and laws—institutions and laws, that is to say, which conform not to divine standards of right—food which the poor earn is diverted without compensation to the possession of the rich who don't earn it. In other and

plainer words, the universal hunger scourge is one of the phenomena of a universal system of theft.

Let all the people earn without hindrance and possess their earnings without ransom, and the hunger scourge would abate along with the curse of monopolized riches which causes it.

That this condition could be brought about, will be evident upon reflection to whoever desires the change. An explanation is not necessary. He who has not that desire in his heart, would lack the understanding in his head to grasp an explanation. What such as he need most is to be confronted with the horrors of the hunger scourge, until it becomes a veritable hell and he sincerely prays for relief—for relief not from disturbing accounts of the horrors, but from the unrighteous condition that makes such horrors possible.

NEWS

Startling accounts of starvation and disease among the returning soldiers, have filled the newspapers during the week. It would be impossible in our limited space to attempt a recital of these horrors of the camp which have succeeded and outdone those of the battle field. Complaints came at first from Camp Wikoff, on Montauk Point, L. I., where the troops from the front had been brought for rest. At first the complaints came fitfully, and then in a perfect storm; and they were supplemented with similar complaints from rendezvous camps in other parts of the United States. Gov. Hastings, of Pennsylvania, describes the camp at Chicamauga as "a regular pest-house," in which no man could "live for any length of time without contracting fever." When the First Maine, originally a splendid regiment, reached New York on the 26th, although it had never been nearer Cuba than the Chickamauga camp, it was so broken down that every fifth man was unable to walk, and of 200 placed in hospital cars half were expected to die. This was not an exceptional case. When the 71st N. Y. Vols. marched back to its armory in New York city, it was less than 300 strong; the remainder of the regiment, except the killed and wounded of the San Juan battle, were sick with fever, helpless from starvation, or had

died of disease. The regulars suffered along with the volunteers. Ten men of the 7th U. S. Infantry were starved before they could be landed at Camp Wikoff, and the death reports impartially include regulars. Accounts of sick men left to die, lying on wet ground without blankets and without suitable food, are numerous enough to make a catalogue. A typical instance is said to be that of Lieut. Tiffany, of the rough riders, whose wealth called especial attention to his case. His death certificate, given by Dr. F. M. Johnson, of Boston, where young Tiffany died, described his death as "due to protracted fevers due to war life in Cuba, and starvation during the convalescent stage." The starvation had been suffered in the transport which brought him home. The total sick in home hospitals on the 27th was reported as 10,150, but it is evident from the reports that a large proportion of the men not in hospitals ought to have been there. Instances of the refusal of surgeons to send complaining men to hospitals are abundant in the report. In one startling case of this kind which occurred at Camp Wikoff the complaining man died on the ground within a few hours. Most of the suffering and death since the surrender of Santiago is due to maladministration.

Owing to the bad condition of Camp Wikoff, the secretary of war made a personal visit there for inspection. Upon his return on the 28th he gave out a prepared interview in which he said he did not intend to order an investigation, but to stand on his record, leaving the president or congress to investigate if they chose. He placed the responsibility for lack of supplies upon the commanding officers in the field. The reports of the bad condition in the camps continued, nevertheless, and they were confirmed by the broken down state of returning soldiers. The popular demand for a rigid investigation is unmistakable.

Rumors of court-martials also, are in the air. A disposition to hold Gen. Shafter, who is now on his way to Washington, responsible for the suffering and loss of life on transports bringing back soldiers from the front, is reported from Washington. This has had its origin apparently in the controversy between Gen. Shafter and Surgeon Gen. Sternberg, over their responsibility respectively for the absence of medical supplies at the time

of the battle of San Juan, but it is probably not unconnected also with charges that Shafter not only ignored the medical department but disobeyed Gen. Miles's orders in allowing the troops to frequent pest spots.

Another court martial which is reported as probable, seems more likely to take place. It is one in which Gen. Miles would figure as the defendant. He is accused of the technical offense of publicly criticizing his military superiors. The basis for this rumor is an interview with Gen. Miles, published in the Kansas City Star, over the signature of J. D. Whelpley, one of the most careful and conscientious of newspaper reporters. In that interview Gen. Miles does, by indirection at least, most severely criticize the war department. He tells how a secret dispatch was sent to Shafter by the department, while Miles was conducting the surrender negotiations at Santiago, assuring Shafter that Miles's coming there did not supercede him. Miles resents this attempt to secretly subvert his authority while he was the recognized commanding general. In the same connection he charges the department with mutilating the messages to him which it gave out for publication, thus putting him in a false position before the public. Gen. Miles also complains that his recommendations as to the removal of troops from Santiago and his orders as to the occupancy of fever-infected houses were disregarded, in consequence of which suffering and loss of life resulted. Moreover he charges the war department with divulging the original plans of the Puerto Rico campaign even in minutest details, so that the plans had to be abandoned lest the Puerto Rico army be involved in dangers similar to those which confronted the army at Santiago. It is understood that if Gen. Miles does not repudiate this interview, he will be subjected to a court martial; his friends intimate, however, that nothing would be more gratifying to him under the circumstances than a court martial, and that if not called before one he will demand a court of inquiry.

The president has appointed the peace commission. Its composition is the same as was anticipated, except that Whitelaw Reid has been named instead of Benjamin F. Tracy. The commission consists of Wm. R. Day,

Senators Davis and Frye, Whitelaw Reid and Associate Justice White. The selection of Reid instead of Tracy is understood to be a rebuff to Senator Platt, of New York, Tracy being of Platt's faction in New York and Reid in opposition. The secretary of the commission is Assistant Secretary of State John Moore, and the assistant secretary is J. R. MacArthur.

The feeling between United States officials and the insurgent government of Cuba has perceptibly subsided. This is doubtless due in great measure to the matter of fact way in which the Cubans have assumed that the resolution of congress pledging the United States to leave the island to the government of its people will be faithfully observed. Acting upon that assumption they are unostentatiously organizing their civil government in Havana. The Cuban civil governor of Havana has issued the following proclamation:

To the inhabitants of the territory of Havana: The war is ended. The independence of Cuba, the aim of our revolution, is a fact. But the victory which we have gained in this heroic struggle would be lost if we did not proclaim the fundamental principles of our nationality, harmony and fraternity among all Cubans. In the work of establishing more firmly in our fatherland the republican institutions Cuba asks the aid of all her sons. With the aptitudes, virtues and services of all, the ideal of Cespedes and Marti will become a reality. Let all suspicions disappear, let us all unite in fraternal embrace, and, respecting the laws, let us proceed to the reconstruction of our beloved Cuba.

At Manila a deadly conflict occurred on the 24th, between American soldiers and insurgents. The Americans were clearly to blame. While a corporal and two men of the Utah artillery were on an errand at Cavite, one of the men fired his revolver in the streets. The natives in the vicinity were alarmed and began firing. Dismounted American cavalry were ordered out to stop the disturbance, but its significance was misunderstood by the natives, and the firing became general. The soldier who had caused the trouble was killed in the fight, and five others were wounded, one of them mortally. Four of the natives were killed and several were wounded.

Gen. Merritt has left Manila to attend the peace conference at Paris in

behalf of the United States with reference to the Philippines. He sailed from Hongkong by the China on the 30th. President Aguinaldo also is to have a representative at the Paris conference, to present the cause of the insurgents. Meantime he has issued a proclamation to all foreign powers asking their recognition either of the independence of the Philippines or of belligerent rights for the insurgents.

Regarding the war cloud that has been gathering over Russia and England, there is good reason for believing that England has reversed her policy of the "open door." When last we had occasion to write upon this subject, two weeks ago—at which time we incidentally explained the nature of the conflict between England and Russia—the British ministry had announced that England did not propose to fight for a distributive share of Chinese territory, the "spheres of influence" policy, but would fight for the "open door" policy—for the rights, that is to say, of all British subjects to trade throughout China, by virtue of the old treaty of Tient-sin, upon the same terms as the subjects of the most favored nations. The reversal of this policy is now reported by the London correspondent of the New York Evening Post, upon authority which he regards as satisfactory. According to this correspondent the queen's consent was first obtained to the prosecution of diplomacy up to the point of war. She is strenuous in opposition to war, and the ministry have been hampered by her veto. But Lord Salisbury finally declared to her that he would resign unless she gave him a free hand. Upon her yielding, as it is understood she did, the former ministerial policy was abandoned, and the "spheres of influence" policy substituted. Thereupon, so the report runs, definite proposals were made to Russia to the effect that England would recognize her supremacy in Manchuria provided she would recognize British supremacy in the Yangtse-kiang Valley, her recognition to be accompanied by guarantees of permanency. Over the question of guarantees, so it is said, a hitch arose. What England required by way of guarantee or Russia offered, is not known; but England refused to accept a mere formal recognition as to the British sphere of influence in the Yangtse-kiang. Finally, England

demanding that a satisfactory answer be given by Russia by the 27th. This demand was said to have been tantamount to an ultimatum.

In the nature of things the foregoing account must have been constructed of surmises suggested by percolations from official quarters. It is in no sense really authoritative. Should it prove true, however, a great flood of light will be thrown upon the astounding proposals of Russia for a complete European disarmament. These proposals may be Russia's reply to England's ultimatum. They were embodied in a diplomatic note handed to the foreign diplomats at St. Petersburg on the 24th, three days before the alleged ultimatum expired. The note in question invites a conference of all the powers represented at the court of the czar, for the purpose of considering the possibility of reducing excessive armaments and maintaining the general peace.

The excitement in Paris over the czar's unexpected proposals for universal peace was quickly drowned in the excitement over something more sensational. This was nothing less than the discovery by the French authorities of proof of the innocence of Capt. Dreyfus, of the French army, now a close prisoner on Devil's island, off the coast of Cayenne. At a secret military trial in 1894, Dreyfus had been found guilty of selling to foreign nations plans and descriptions of French forts. He was sentenced to imprisonment for life. In the presence of 5,000 soldiers of all ranks and grades and a crowd of Parisians he was disarmed, his military insignia torn off, and his sword broken. He shouted his innocence, but drums drowned his voice. Finally, he was taken to Devil's island, formerly a leper settlement, where he is now. The case excited the attention of the news-reading world. Among those whose sympathy it evoked was Zola, the novelist. He challenged the verdict of the military tribunal which had convicted Dreyfus and over which Count Esterhazy had presided. His theory was that Dreyfus had been condemned, though innocent, because he was a Jew. Zola's vigorous hounding brought Esterhazy himself under suspicion, and the continued sale of military information proved that at any rate Dreyfus was not the only culprit. But the military ring was

too strong for Zola, who was driven into exile to avoid imprisonment for libel. Within the week, however, the conviction of Dreyfus has been totally discredited. Suspicion of having forged a letter which constituted a vital link in the chain of evidence by which the French ministry had justified the Dreyfus conviction when interpellated by the French chamber of deputies, fell upon Col. Henry, an active prosecutor of Dreyfus. The letter purported to have been written by a German attache, and to involve Dreyfus in the sale of information. Col. Henry was arrested, and, being accused of the forgery, confessed it. Some exclamations of his while under arrest aroused a suspicion that he had acted under military orders; but on the 31st he committed suicide, leaving behind no more definite information than that he had forged the letter. It is now believed in Paris that Dreyfus will soon be free.

The latest news from our new territory, the Hawaiian islands, comes down to the 18th, by way of the steamer Moana, which arrived at San Francisco on the 25th. This steamer bore the last report of the American minister to Hawaii; who also transmitted President Dole's formal acceptance of the act of annexation. The American commissioners had arrived on the 17th, and they qualified on the 18th by taking the oath of office. On the same day they held their first business session.

Further acquisitions by the United States, of Pacific island territory, are said to be in contemplation in consequence of the death of King Malietoa Laupepa, of Samoa, which occurred last week. Samoa—formerly known as the Navigators' Islands—is a group of 14 islands in the South Pacific. The independence of the Samoan government was recognized by Great Britain, Germany and the United States, June 14, 1889, with the right of the natives to elect their chief or king, and to choose a form of government according to their own customs; but the three powers maintained a tripartite government for the regulation of land tenures, the protection of foreigners, and the administration of the municipal district of Apia, the only town on the islands. Now that King Malietoa has died, a movement is on foot at Washington to break up the tripartite government and divide the islands of the group between the three powers.

The labor question in the United States has come to the front during the current week in different forms at different places. At Pana, Ill., the strike which we noted last week is still on. Several car loads of negroes have been imported by the operators to take the place of the strikers. They are guarded by armed deputy sheriffs, who prevent the strikers and all other persons from conferring with them. It is charged also that they prevent the negroes from escaping. Elgin, Ill., the great watch making center is also threatened with a disastrous strike, and a tie up of the entire Elgin watch works is threatened. The trouble is over a new kind of movement on which the finishers claim that at the piece price offered they cannot make their old wages. The strike in the wire mills at Cleveland, O., against a reduction of wages is still in progress. Thus far the corporations have been unable to make way against it. In connection with labor difficulties it is of interest to know that the right to boycott has been judicially sustained. Judge Valiant, of the circuit court at St. Louis, has dissolved an injunction forbidding labor to boycott. He declares that boycotts are lawful so long as no force or intimidation is resorted to. On the 31st at Galveston a strike of negro stevedores for higher wages developed into a riot when other negroes were imported to take their places. The strikers were fired upon by the police. One white spectator was killed and some negroes were wounded.

One of the important public meetings of the week was the annual convention of the Universal Peace Union, which met at Mystic, Conn., on the 24th and remained in session three days. William Lloyd Garrison was one of the orators. The subject of his address being "War and Imperialism Fatal to Self-Government." In concluding his address he said: "To be the land of refuge for all hunted and downtrodden peoples is a glory exceeding all conquest and extension of empire. To emancipate our great continent from land monopoly, recognizing the right of all mankind to the use of the earth, and to declare absolute free trade with all nations, would lay the basis of a civilization which no narrow prefix of Anglo-Saxon could describe. It would include the human race." Alfred H. Love was re-elected as president of the Union.

The joint high commission for the preparation of a treaty with reference to the relations of Canada and the United States, the character of which we described and whose first meeting we reported last week, held its second meeting at Quebec on the 25th. The meeting was behind closed doors, so that nothing is publicly known of its deliberations. The next two meetings were held on the 29th and 30th, and on the latter date an adjournment was taken to Sept. 20th. None of the deliberations thus far have been made public, though it is stated that from time to time the action of the commission on particular matters will be given out as may be deemed expedient.

The political movements of the week have brought to the surface nothing more important than the renomination by acclamation of Congressman Joseph W. Bailey, of Texas. His convention, the 1st district democratic, repudiated the declarations of the state convention of the party in favor of territorial expansion, and adopted the resolution on that subject prepared by Mr. Bailey and which the state convention had rejected. Bailey's speech against expansion was enthusiastically received. At the democratic convention of Wisconsin on the 31st Hiram W. Sawyer was nominated for governor. The Chicago platform was equivocally endorsed.

NEWS NOTES.

—The last of the Spanish troops at Santiago sailed for Spain on the 29th.

—Wilhelmina of Holland became queen on the 31st, having then reached her majority.

—President McKinley has been taking a brief vacation in Pennsylvania and at Cleveland and Canton.

—The bankers' convention at Denver closed on the 24th, after electing George M. Russell, of Detroit, as president.

—Senor Vicuna, the new minister from Chili to the United States, was formally presented to the president on the 26th.

—The Social Democratic association, the new political party of which Eugene V. Debs is the founder, has been incorporated in Illinois.

—James R. Elliott, chief of the Detroit fire department, and probably the oldest and most famous fireman in the United States, died at Detroit on the 31st.

—The American Social Science association met at Saratoga on the 29th.

President Simeon E. Baldwin, in his opening address, advocated territorial expansion beyond the continent.

—Ex-Gov. Claude Matthews, of Indiana, was stricken with paralysis on the 25th, at the conclusion of a speech at an old settlers' meeting near Lafayette, Ind. He died on the 28th.

—A sulphur deposit in Reeves county, Tex., has been sold for \$100,000. The purchaser says he now owns a mountain of sulphur and expects to compete with the Sicilian product.

—The hospital ship Olivette, which brought sick soldiers to Montauk and Boston and then returned to Fernandina, Fla., sank mysteriously off the latter place on the 31st. No lives were lost.

—Mrs. Ellen Spenser Mussey, daughter of the author of the Spencerian system of penmanship, is agitating for striking out the word "women" from the name of the Federation of Women's Clubs.

—The National Single Taxer was last week published from Minneapolis for the last time, the publication hereafter to be from New York city. James R. Brown is to be the publisher now, and Joseph Dana Miller the editor.

—M. J. Rodermund, M. D., of Wisconsin, has propounded a theory of blood circulation, which attributes the movement of the blood not to heart action, but to the oxygen that is breathed, the heart acting merely as a governor.

—Dr. Anita N. McGee, wife of Prof. McGee, of Washington, D. C., and daughter of Prof. Simon Newcomb, has been appointed assistant surgeon in the army, which entitles her to the military rank of second lieutenant. Dr. McGee has practiced medicine in Washington for several years.

—The convention which has been engaged in formulating a constitution for the United States of Central America, embracing Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, has completed its work. Commissioners have been appointed, who will convene at Amapala, Honduras, on the 1st of November, and assume provisional federal powers. An election for a federal president, senators, representatives and judges will take place December 1, the persons elected to take office on the 1st of March, 1899.

MISCELLANY

THE CRY OF THE NATION.

I.

Here is the cry of a nation, wrung from a nation's woe,
Struck down in the hour of triumph by the hand of a hidden foe:
A nation demands an answer from those at the nation's head,
And bids them find the guilty to blame for a nation's dead.

II.

You called, and we young men answered.
Awaked by the bugle's blast,
And then to a man stood forward, as our fathers did in the past.
From counter, and forge, and workshop,
Tollers of muscle and mind,
You asked for two hundred thousand. Did you have to seek far to find?

III.

You asked for the best and got them. You chose us one by one,
You asked of the wife her husband, the widow her only son,
Those that we left behind us, had never a word of blame;
We did our best, and now, 'fore God, we ask that YOU do the same.

IV.

Did we ever pause and falter, on that last and fiercest day,
On the shell-swept slope of San Juan hill, in the shambles of El Caney?
We laughed at the Mauser bullet, the shrapnel's deadly breath,
For men shall fall, if men will fight, and the wage of war is death.

V.

We laughed in the blood-soaked trenches, through the streaming tropic night,
We might lack fire, and even food, at least we were sure of a fight.
Until that day when the Stars and Stripes were over the ramparts flown,
We had finished our task on foreign soil, so turned—to find death at home.

VI.

Back to the land that bore us, not as conquerors come,
But to live and die in ditches, out in the rain and sun.
Crowded like cattle on transports, lacking both food and drink,
By orders of those "in authority," who hadn't the time to think,
All too busy to lift us out of the mud and grime,
It seems that WE could give our lives, but THEY couldn't give their time.

VII.

How long, O Lord, how long, shall the God of Red Tape slay,
For one that died on the battlefield, a score are dying each day.
Across the plains the funeral trains in endless progress creep,
And men who fought like lions then, to-day are dying like sheep.

VIII.

But the time shall come, and surely, to fix the measure of blame.
For a nation's wrath has risen at the sight of a nation's shame.
The cry is heard from the housetops of a thousand desolate homes,
And woe to him who is found at fault when the day of reckoning comes.
—New York Journal.

WHAT THE NATION DEMANDS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

An extract from a letter written by Julian Hawthorne to the New York Journal, under date of August 27.

Supposing we were to find ourselves confronted with another war? When the president called for 200,000 or 300,-

000 volunteers to fight against Spain, he got them sooner than he could use them. Does he think he could get them again to-day, if the outrages which have been committed on them are allowed to go uninvestigated and unpunished? Does he think he can raise an army whose deadliest foes are found in their own camps, on their own soil? If he does, I am not of his opinion. The nation has had a shock which it will not forget. There will be no more volunteers under this administration, unless this administration shall show itself resolute to follow up the malefactors to their last ditch, and exact from them the uttermost recompense. Their punishment will not bring back to life those whom they have destroyed; but it will show the nation that its government is not in league with criminals, and may restore a confidence which is now trembling on the brink of extinction.

As you know, sir, a son of mine has been one of the sufferers from the abuses referred to in this letter. I submitted his case to you, not because I held my son to be in any respect more deserving of sympathy than the sons of any other men who served and suffered as he did, but because he might answer for a type, enabling the public to understand the plight of hundreds who had no means of making their wrongs known. My indignation is not affected by the fact that the blow which has struck so many families in this country has struck mine among the rest. I do not echo the word of that father whom you quote to-day as declaring that if his son died he would kill Mr. Alger. My son may die or he may live; if he lives I shall be glad; but I shall not the less remember that the sons of many others have died, and I shall be just as desirous to see punishment inflicted on the guilty. This is not a personal matter; it is a national wrong and disgrace, and should be dealt with from the national point of view. Those who had no boys at the front should be as eager to see justice done as those who had. And those who have received, in return for the living youth they saw march away, a dead body, slain not by the enemy in battle, but by the enemy at home, should permit themselves to be actuated by no motive of private revenge. Justice, not revenge, is what we want; the justice of the law, impartially and impersonally administered. We want no more than that, but we want no less; and I trust that those to whom authority in this country has been delegated may, for their own sakes, be under no delusions as to that fact.

A LESSON FROM MASSACHUSETTS.

There comes to my door quite regularly a poor Arabian woman, selling small wares. She carries two heavy baskets, each one of which would be a heavy load for a strong man to carry about all day.

Seating herself cross-legged on the floor—as is the custom—before her opened baskets, she usually begins her trade by tightly closing her eyes, shaking her head emphatically, while wringing her hands, she says: "War! War! War! No trade; no money; husband dead; five children; no speak English. Ah!"

At first I looked upon this introduction as a part of the transaction, but by longer acquaintance I found a most generous and appreciative heart.

During her last visit, after a few small sales, she drew from her bosom something apparently very precious to show me. It was her license for peddling. Had I not read it with my own eyes I could never have believed it. There it stood: "Paid \$50" for peddling in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, signed by the proper authorities.

I tried, in vain, to make her understand that Massachusetts was very large; that she needed only a county license. But no, the "officer" had said so. She had paid it—"fifty dollar!"

And then I thought how this poor woman was taxed upon her tea, sugar, clothing, etc., and that she already paid, in her rent tax, her full share for the privileges of government and social advantages. But alas, too many private interests are allowed to live out of her labor.

Is it not enough to make one long for the single tax, one that shall tax privileges and not labor? This poor woman must pay \$50 a year before she can exercise her natural right to labor. By our laws we bind grievous burdens upon the weak.—Eliza Stowe Twitchell, in *The San Francisco Examiner*.

SEEN AND HEARD IN CHICAGO STREETS.

The tall, splendid women have come home.

Within one week the average height of the women seen in the streets of Chicago going about their marketing and their shopping, has considerably increased—apparently several inches.

Have you ever noticed what little, slim things stand behind the counters in the great stores, or sit perched upon stools in the cashiers' boxes? And their mothers—those women who trot perspiring through the shopping

streets in August, and have it all their own way at the summer bargain counters—they are little women, too, but they have grown dumpy.

And now once more there are great, handsome creatures on the streets—slender and lithe and graceful, if they are quite young, like Diana, or like Diana's friends the tall deer; curved and magnificent if they are older, like Juno and her kine. How fine is their carriage, and how delicate their complexions, and how their eyes shine! For the most part they look sweet and good, too—just princesses out of a fairy tale. I long to become acquainted with almost every one of them.

The sweet, good look is probably traceable to their comfortable homes, where there has been leisure to learn pleasant ways and to express that affection that all women need for their full blossoming. The clear complexions and bright eyes come of course from fresh air and healthful exercise. But how about the distinctly greater stature?

I wonder if that is not a consequence of better nutrition all the way up from babyhood.

Wouldn't it be lovely to bring about a restoration to all the little, seamstresses and shop girls of their birthright—the probability of developing into such glorious women!

Alice Thacher Post.

SCHOOL-YARD PLAYGROUNDS.

The experiment of using the schoolyards as public playgrounds for the children of the crowded districts of Chicago has proved a success from every point of view, and the closing exercises held in the yards on Thursday afternoon, August 25th, brought to a regretful termination for this year at least an approximation of what the schoolyards should always be used for.

Six yards were used, two on the North Side, the old Franklin, now the Lyman Trumbull school, at Division and Sedgwick streets, and the Kinzie school at Ohio street and La Salle avenue; one on the West Side, the Washington, North Morgan street, near West Ohio; two in the crowded Seventh ward—the Walsh school at Johnson and Twentieth, and the Washburn on Fourteenth street near South Union; and the Holden school, at Thirty-first and Loomis streets, had its beautiful yard in full use.

In addition to the yards, the kindergarten room at the Foster school, O'Brien and Union streets, was used as a playroom, and Miss Mary E. Johnson, the trained kindergartner

who had charge there, made a glowing success of the organization of several clubs of the neighborhood children for rational play and cooperating amusement.

A pleasant feature of the work was the loan by several of the Turner societies of athletic apparatus, parallel bars, jumping poles, ladder see-saws and the like, upon which both girls and boys were drilled in simple athletics.

By an appropriation of the city council of \$1,000 for the "improvement of small parks and temporary playgrounds for children during vacation," it was possible to equip the yards with swings, sand piles and see saws, and to place in each yard a competent custodian to care for the property, guide and control the boys, and direct the athletics, and a fund raised by private gifts in connection with the vacation school fund added to each yard a trained kindergartner to care for and play with the little children.

These playgrounds have been a godsend to the neighborhoods in which they were located, and the police say that it has cut down their trouble with juvenile mischief in these localities to almost nothing. Mothers have sent away their children in the mornings with the assurances that for the day they were safe, and it has been the unanimous testimony of the neighbors in every case that the playground was a blessing.—Chicago Commons.

THE COLLEGE GRADUATE AGAIN.

For The Public.

The general impression prevails, and it is probably correct, that a college education is a hindrance to business success. A young man undergoes the discipline and acquisition of a college course in the faith, fostered by admiring friends and fond parents, that he is preparing himself for the active duties of life, and discovers when he is through that he has achieved a large stock of misinformation about how to get on in the world. He finds himself ill prepared to conquer what is usually regarded as success in life.

The reason is not obscure. The college man spends several years in training his faculties, he thinks, to their highest possible state of efficiency, in bringing himself to the highest personal excellence of which he is capable. He expects to succeed by reason of his individual merits. His ideals are rich in personal coloring. He would achieve a place in the world by being something worthy of it, by bestowing some service upon the world.

This would all be very well for an ideal world, but it poorly fits the

world into which he is rudely thrust. He soon finds his ideals in his way. The ideals which inspire the business world do not point to personal excellence, but to excellence of position. The prevailing ambition is not to accomplish a noble deed, but to acquire a commanding place; not to be something great, but to get something great. The approved plan in practical life is to achieve distinction, not by bestowing a service upon humanity, but by extracting a service from humanity. One's success is measured, not by what he gives but by what he succeeds in taking. The desired end is reached by driving a bargain, by securing command of opportunities, by getting something for nothing.

The college man has to reconstruct the premises by which he has argued out a successful career. He has been taught that the ideal great man is the great poet, the great philosopher, the great inventor, and such he would humbly emulate. But he finds the great American ideal is the manipulator of natural resources, the man who gets in on the ground floor when nature offers her bounties.

The artists, the thinkers, those whose efforts have increased the sum of human comfort and enlarged the scope of human knowledge, do very well as the canonized saints of the next generation, but the man who has an eye to worldly success does not advise his son to follow them. The bonanza mine owner is a far more attractive character for imitation purposes.

The fact that we celebrate and canonize our heroes and our benefactors, even if it is after they are dead, does us great credit. It shows that we are secretly ashamed of our material standards. We would really like to be better and aspire to better things if the conditions under which we live would permit. We would all really like to have a condition prevail where the man who has been a moral force in his community, whose life has been a benediction to his fellows, whose days have been full of happiness, may be set down as the "successful man," instead of one who has only acquired the ability to bind more burdens upon his already overburdened fellow men.

JOHN TURNER WHITE.

I have not much stomach for any war, and little or none for a war which began for humanity, and then, by the ruling of an inscrutable Providence, or perhaps an ironical destiny, became a war for territory, or at least for coaling stations.—William D. Howells, in Harper's Weekly.

OUR DAILY BREAD.

What do we want? Our daily bread;
Leave to earn it by our skill;
Leave to labor freely for it,
Leave to buy it where we will:
For 'tis hard upon the many—
Hard, unplied by the few,
To starve and die for want of work,
Or live half-starved with work to do.

What do we want? Our daily bread;
Fair reward for labor done;
Daily bread for wives and children;
All our wants are merged in one.
When the fierce fiend Hunger gripes us,
Evil fancies clog our brains,
Vengeance settles on our hearts,
And frenzy gallops through our veins.

What do we want? Our daily bread;
Give us that, all else will come—
Self-respect and self-denial,
And the happiness of home:
Kindly feeling, education,
Liberty for act and thought;
And surely that, whate'er befall,
Our children shall be fed and taught.

What do we want? Our daily bread;
Give us that for willing toil:
Make us sharers in the plenty
God has showered upon the soil;
And we'll nurse our better natures
With bold hearts and judgment strong,
To do as much as men can do
To keep the world from going wrong.

What do we want? Our daily bread;
And trade untrammelled as the wind;
And from our ranks shall spirits start,
To aid the progress of mankind,
Sages, poets, mechanicians,
Mighty thinkers shall arise,
To take their share of loftier work,
And teach, exalt, and civilize.

What do we want? Our daily bread:—
Grant it:—make our efforts free;
Let us work and let us prosper;
You shall prosper more than we;
And the humble homes of England
Shall, in proper time, give birth
To better men than we have been,
To live upon a better earth.
—Charles Mackay.

ENOUGH AND TO SPARE.

We pray, "God give us this day our daily bread;" but our Father answered that prayer before the foundation of the world. Even in the present monstrous organization of production, the people could not by any possibility consume all that they produce in any given year; and the possibilities of production have scarcely been touched.

A conservative statistician estimates that the state of Texas alone, if its resources were all organized to that end, could support the present population of the world. An eminent Austrian economist figures that all that is produced in the Austrian empire would require but three hours a day labor from each toiler, if production were rationally organized and each man to toil; and that if the production of Austria were equitably distrib-

uted each family would have enough for an abundant life.

"If," says Henry George, "men lack bread it is not that God has not done his part in providing it. If men willing to labor are cursed with poverty, it is not that the storehouse that God owes men has failed; that the daily supply he has promised for the daily want of his children is not here in abundance."

In the early part of 1897, when meetings for the relief of the famine in India were being held in English and American cities, when contributions were received from newsboys and washerwomen, scores of ships laden with wheat, and carrying millions of money, arrived in English ports as rents from the people in India for the privilege of living on the lands which the English had taken from them.—Prof. Geo. D. Herron.

THE CAUSE OF THE IRISH FAMINE.

Ireland, of all European countries, furnishes the great stock example of over population. The extreme poverty of the peasantry and the low rate of wages there prevailing, the Irish famine and Irish emigration, are constantly alluded to as a demonstration of the Malthusian theory worked out under the eyes of the civilized world. I doubt if a more striking instance can be cited of the power of a pre-accepted theory to blind men as to the true relation of facts. The truth is, and it lies on the surface, that Ireland has never yet had a population which the natural powers of the country, in the existing state of the productive arts, could not have maintained in ample comfort. At the period of her greatest population (1840-45) Ireland contained something over eight millions of people. But a very large proportion of them managed merely to exist—lodging in miserable cabins, clothed with miserable rags, and with but potatoes for their staple food. When the potato blight came, they died by thousands. But was it the inability of the soil to support so large a population that compelled so many to live in this miserable way, and exposed them to starvation on the failure of a single root crop? On the contrary, it was the same remorseless rapacity that robbed the Indian ryot of the fruits of his toil and left him to starve where nature offered plenty. A merciless banditti of tax-gatherers did not march through the land plundering and torturing, but the laborer was just as effectively stripped by as merciless a horde of landlords, among whom the soil had been divided as their absolute possession, regard-

less of any rights of those who lived upon it.

Consider the conditions of production under which this eight millions managed to live until the potato blight came. It was a condition to which the words used by Mr. Tennant in reference to India may as appropriately be applied—"the great spur to industry, that of security, was taken away." Cultivation was for the most part carried on by tenants at will, who, even if the rack-rents which they were forced to pay had permitted them, did not dare to make improvements which would have been but the signal for an increase of rent. Labor was thus applied in the most inefficient and wasteful manner, and labor was dissipated in aimless idleness that, with any security for its fruits, would have been applied unremittingly. But even under these conditions, it is a matter of fact that Ireland did more than support eight millions. For when her population was at its highest, Ireland was a food-exporting country. Even during the famine, grain and meat and butter and cheese were carted for exportation along roads lined with the starving and past trenches into which the dead were piled. For these exports of food, or at least for a great part of them, there was no return. So far as the people of Ireland were concerned, the food thus exported might as well have been burned up or thrown into the sea, or never produced. It went not as an exchange, but as a tribute—to pay the rent of absentee landlords; a levy wrung from producers by those who in no wise contributed to production.

Had this food been left those who raised it; had the cultivators of the soil been permitted to retain and use the capital their labor produced; had security stimulated industry and permitted the adoption of economical methods, there would have been enough to support in bounteous comfort the largest population Ireland ever had, and the potato blight might have come and gone without stinting a single human being of a full meal. For it was not the imprudence "of Irish peasants," as English economists coldly say, which induced them to make the potato the staple of their food. Irish emigrants, when they can get other things, do not live upon the potato, and certainly in the United States the prudence of the Irish character, in endeavoring to lay by something for a rainy day, is remarkable. They lived on the potato, because rack-rents stripped everything else from them. The truth is, that the poverty

and misery of Ireland have never been fairly attributable to over-population.—Henry George, in "Progress and Poverty."

FORAKER ON THE CUBANS.

For my part I have a great deal more faith in the ability of Gomez, Garcia, and their compatriots of the army, and Masso, Capoti and their associates in the civil government of Cuba to rightly and in a satisfactory manner govern that island, than I have in any of the men who so maliciously and unjustly slander and vilify, the Cuban patriots and seek to assassinate their character and good name. Men who can organize and successfully conduct such a revolution as has been in progress in Cuba for the past three years of bloody struggle are worthy of the respect and admiration of every lover of liberty. And I believe still as I did last March and April, when I spoke in their behalf in the senate, that recognition of their government, which is republican in form and based on a written constitution, and now being administered by honorable, intelligent and capable men, so far as circumstances will allow, would be the safest and most creditable way to solve the Cuban problem.—Senator J. B. Foraker.

AMUSING FEATURES OF THE WAR.

Now that the war with Spain is over, it is safe to say that when the whole story is written it will contain more singular and comic situations than are to be found in any struggle of its size recorded in history. We have seen the governor of one of the enemy's possessions in the east fire a salute in answer to the guns intended to demand surrender, and when invited to come on board our ship to arrange the terms of capitulation send his polite regrets that his position did not permit of his indulging in such courtesies with strangers. No such amusing farce as this is likely to be found in all the pages of history. Recently we have witnessed the unusual scene at Santiago of the shipment of the Spanish soldiers for Spain going on at one wharf, and at the next wharf the shipment of the American soldiers to the United States, the amusing reflection being that Uncle Sam was paying the bills for both consignments. The situation in Puerto Rico has offered even more fund for laughter. Here our grim-visaged warriors move upon towns which, instead of erecting barricades and digging trenches, meet the enemy with open arms, cheer and dance while the bands play "Yankee Doodle," and

implore the commanding general to hurry along the stars and stripes to a people who are not crying for revenge, but for more American flags. To add to this comical situation, our soldiers draw from their knapsacks social letters of introduction to leading Puerto Rican citizens which they had obtained before entering the enemy's country, and which look to procuring business situations later.—Boston Globe.

DEMOCRACY AND DISCIPLINE.

It is a foreign observer of the fight of El Caney and San Juan who writes of the American volunteers that nearly every one of them seemed to be fitted to be an officer—in other words, that they were men of unusual intelligence and character, compared with the rank and file of European armies, and that they fought, not as dull and spiritless machines, but as men pushed on irresistibly by an inward spirit of courage and heroism. That is what democracy has done for the military service. It has made it nearly impossible to recruit from among the people an army of de-individualized human forms to be moulded into a compact and dead mechanical mass and wielded at pleasure by the commander as so much clay, but what it has lost in disciplinary effects of this nature, it has more than gained in the greater courage and power of the intelligent and spirited individual citizen soldier. For another thing which has been proved by this and our civil war is that moral courage does not destroy, but reinforces physical courage, and that the cultured and educated citizen makes the bravest and best soldier.

Such an army as democracy recruits may, therefore, be deficient in the discipline which stamps out individuality and reduces the soldier to the form of a spiritless and prideless physical mechanism, but its lack of superior efficiency for all that remains to be proved—and will so remain, we imagine, for a long time. It is an army which may insist upon reasoning why before the battle, and it is for that reason an army which tyrants and unjust causes cannot make a tool of for any purpose whatever, but once having set its face to the attack in an approved cause it becomes an army which is simply irresistible. — Springfield Republican.

WHENCE CAME THE HAWAIIANS?

An extract from an article on "Our New Fellow Citizens," by William Elliot Griffiths, published in the Outlook of July 23.

Who shall declare their generation? It is like trying to separate giants in

combat, or like riding between the fires of two hostile armies, to attempt decision of such a question. One line of writers declare in their books that the Kanakas, or Hawaiians, emigrated from the east—that is, from America. This theory bases itself upon the general trend of the winds and ocean currents, and links the islanders with the Toltecs of Mexico, while certain resemblances in mental traits and physical features are also pointed out.

Other scholars fortify their conclusions that the Hawaiians came from the west, or Asia, by arguments drawn from language and the similarity of customs, tools and household equipments to those in the Malay island world. They think that the Hawaiians are among the oldest of the Polynesian peoples. They argue that the various archipelagoes and islands of the southern Pacific were colonized by people of an ancient branch of the Malay race, who started from what is now the Dutch East Indies and gradually scattered themselves over the face of the seas. The conflict of opinions, between those who look to the sunrise and the others who point to the sunset, has in its course taken on features which remind one of that "odium" which, whether called theological or scientific, has its seat in human nature, rather than in the nature of the subject of inquiry.

In reality the controversy illustrates the old story of the shield with two sides, for nature seems to point out that both theories are true. The well-mapped ocean-world, so long studied by hydrographers, shows clearly that the Hawaiians came from both the west and the east, first from one and then from the other. When we study the action of that great Pacific Gulf stream called the Kuro Shiwo, or Black Current—first scientifically studied and described by Capt. Silas Bent, U. S. N.—we find an explanation of the mystery and the reconciliation of opposing theories. From the tropical ocean boiler a river of hot water runs up from the Malay archipelago past the Philippines, Formosa, Riu Kiu, Japan, Kuriles and the Aleutian islands. Then, flowing down past the coast of California and northern Mexico, it bends in half its volume westward, and, as the Equatorial Drift current, streams toward the Sandwich islands and back to Japan. A tree uprooted in the monsoon on Luzon will drift northward, eastward and westward, and finally be stranded off Oahu, "swinging around the circle" in a way that might have surprised Andrew Johnson. Boats disabled and driven

out to sea have done the same thing. I have the record of scores of such waifs. It was the rescue of these Japanese junks with dead and living men on board, by American ships, which first led to the repeated dispatch of our vessels and finally of a fleet to Japan. Only last year a Japanese junk that had been swept in this semicircle and recurved current stranded on one of the Hawaiian islands.

Furthermore, the analogies of language and the remarkable basic similarity of personal and household arrangements in the whole island world, from the Philippines to the Sitkan and Hawaiian archipelagoes, show that the North American "Indians," of all sorts and kinds, and the Hawaiians are as closely related to one another as are the various European nations. He who studies the lines of natural lighthouses, the chain of landmarks, the unceasing food supply lying along that great circle, from the Malay archipelago to Central America, has little trouble to account for the origin of the natives of America in Hawaii.

THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPOSITION.

Extracts from an article by W. S. Harwood, in Harper's Weekly of August 20.

A line drawn somewhat irregularly down the map of the United States, beginning at the Canadian border, thence along the eastern sides of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, along the southern border of Missouri, the eastern and southern sides of Texas, thence to and along the Pacific coast, and returning by the Canadian border line to the head of Lake Superior, broadly defines the territory represented in the Trans-Mississippi exposition in the city of Omaha. Other commonwealths outside of this line have exhibits in the exposition, but it is this great western region which particularly the fair illustrates. It may be well briefly to indicate somewhat of the enormous extent of territory represented. Inclusive of Alaska, which is logically a part of the region, and which is represented capitally in the building erected by the general government, there are in the region 2,600,000 square miles of territory. It comprises more than two-thirds of the whole United States—a vast and noble domain.

It is as large as France, Germany, England, Scotland, Ireland, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Greece, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark, Turkey in Europe, Bulgaria, Roumania and Servia, together with Egypt and

Japan, the Philippine islands, Hawaii and Cuba; and, in addition to all these, you must add all of New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and South Carolina. When you have set apart all these foreign countries, and to their combined area have added the areas of 13 of the states of our own country, you have but reached the area of the region which is represented in this western exposition. There were living in this region a half century ago less than 2,000,000 people, exclusive of Indians, three-fourths of the white inhabitants being in three states. Today this population has been increased by over 20,000,000 of people.

The 22,000,000 of people represented by these state buildings and the arch of states have found time to do something other than till the soil and work the mines and build the railroads. They have had enormous pioneering labors in the last half century, and yet in this region indicated they found time to establish 220 institutions of higher learning; they have equipped these institutions with modern appliances, and have selected, generally with good sense and wisdom, a corps of nearly 5,000 instructors and professors. According to the latest available statistics, these institutions have a scholastic population of nearly 70,000. In a general population of about 72,000,000 of people there are 484 colleges and universities, and nearly 160,000 students; in the region represented by these states, comprising less than one-third of the entire population of the country, there are nearly one-half of the collegians, and 224 out of 480 institutions of higher learning.

It is difficult to realize how much the great material as well as intellectual progress of the nation has been dependent for its supplies upon this trans-Mississippi region; that without this vast and noble empire very largely must our national life have been circumscribed and insular. Too often also has it been forgotten that it is the Mother East that has given birth to this giant West. All too contentedly do some of western fiber let pass from mind the fact that the intimate interrelation of the east has been of supreme aid in developing the scope and power of the newer region.

A novelty in the Midway region is the giant seesaw, which must be over a hundred feet high. It is made of steel, and its skeleton framework is balanced on an iron pier about 50

feet from the ground. On this pier is the working machinery of the concern. Two cages or cars, large enough to accommodate a good many people, are attached to the seesaw, one at either end of the giant arms—in you go, and up you go to a startling height.

The illumination of the grounds is admirable. I saw the city of Paris illuminated one night in honor of the return of President Faure from his successful mission to St. Petersburg, but there was nothing in the illumination of the French capital to be spoken of in the same breath with the display you may see any night on the grounds of the exposition. The Court of Honor, or whatever name you choose to give it, lies a half-mile long, a rippling-waved lagoon in its center bearing many a picturesque gondola. The water reflects back the thousands of electric lights, which define with beautiful distinctness the great buildings that border the lagoon. In the distance, rising in noble proportions, its splendid facade picked out in soft lines of yellow light, the Government building stands silhouetted against the dark sky. All down the court on either side, and here and there at short irregular distances from the buildings, stand graceful Grecian pillars—upon their tops no flaming torches or glowing smoking incense, but a knot of brilliant electric lights, symbolical rather of modern investigation than of ancient introspection. By day these pillars are fine and interesting, whether singly or in vistas; by night they are peculiarly attractive—a note of rich beauty in the general harmony.

From the western end of the court, looking toward the distant viaduct over one of the city streets, the view is scarcely less enchanting. The pillared corridors that connect the main buildings and afford such capital relief from rain or snow have their share of illumination. They join beyond the buildings in a graceful semicircle, or, as it is otherwise called, a hemicycle stairway, rising easily from the lagoon. Above this is a domed projection, under which the speakers stand on special occasions requiring oratorical display; and still above this two lofty minarets, each one bearing a graceful figure standing with sickle in hand, typical of the harvest. The effect of the illumination, looking either way from east to west or midway in the great canal, is very beautiful. Should you call it magnificent—indeed, superb—you would not misapply the words. . . .

In front of one exhibit, that of the state of Kansas, a wicked little black

mortar has for its ammunition a pile of glass cannon balls filled with corn, wheat and rye, and on them Kansans have placed the words: "For Cuba." . . .

In the mining exhibit of Utah we read, on a high placard at one end of the booth: "Utah has produced in 30 years gold, silver, lead and copper to the value of \$199,000,000." Some exuberant Mormon has put in big letters at one end of the long exhibit: "Utah, the Jasper-walled Treasure House of the Gods."

Near at hand is the exhibit of Colorado, showing in various ways the riches of her mines, while adjoining is a mimic gold mine in full blast—a capital representation of the workings of the mine. Statistics will be furnished you at the Colorado booth showing that last year the state mined over \$19,500,000 worth of gold, nearly \$13,000,000 of silver, almost \$1,000,000 of copper and \$2,750,000 of lead, while since records have been available, less than 50 years, she has put forth \$175,000,000 in gold and considerably over \$300,000,000 in silver. . . .

A pyramid of flour in an exhibit from the state of Minnesota also calls to mind the fact that away in the interior of this region, far from the fringe of the agricultural territory, more flour is manufactured in one western city, Minneapolis, than in any other city in the world. And it is of interest to note, too, though not specifically manufacturing, that the city of Omaha, in which the exposition is held, has the largest smelting works in the world, turning out annually over \$12,000,000 in gold and silver. In the Manufacturers' building, seemingly incongruous, though probably the most appropriate place on the grounds, are shown the products of the three great packing cities of the world—Chicago, Kansas City and South Omaha; and really the booths which present these products of the shambles are among the most artistic and interesting in the building.

The extent to which manufacturing is being entered into in the west is a revelation to one who has not before given the matter consideration. I saw one immense exhibit, illustrating the variety of goods manufactured, given up to a display of all manner of matting for floors made from prairie grass of tough fiber—on the face of it a very sensible and to be profitable field for manufacturing.

That one man should die ignorant who had a capacity for knowledge, this I call a tragedy.—Carlyle.

THE EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENT.

There is a passenger steamer. In the second cabin the passengers are numerous, but the food is somewhat scanty, and not of the best quality. At meal times there is a rush for the viands. Every one is afraid lest some one will get before him, and that he, or perhaps worse still, his wife and children, will have to go short and take something more or less repulsive and unwholesome. There is consequently a great deal of bad feeling and unpleasantness. There is a general atmosphere of jealousy and bitterness instead of kindness, and many become enemies who under happier circumstances might have been the reverse. In the first cabin, on the contrary, the passengers are fewer in number; there is abundance of food, and it is of the best quality. Here there is no unseemly pushing or striving. Each offers his neighbor the dish before he helps himself, and courtesy and consideration prevail. But is it not evident that if they were transplanted to the conditions prevalent in the second cabin, the first cabin passengers would act much as the others do, and that if, on the other hand, the second cabin passengers were placed in circumstances similar to those prevalent in the first cabin, their conduct would be equally exemplary?—Michael Fluerscheim, as reported in *The New Era*.

AN OLD PRAYER.

The following prayer is taken from the *Primer, or Book of Private Devotion*, used in the Reformed Church of England until the accession of Queen Mary.

The earth is thine, O Lord, and all that is contained therein; notwithstanding thou hast given possession thereof to the children of men to pass over in the short time of their pilgrimage in this vale of tears. We heartily pray thee to send thy Holy Spirit into the hearts of those that possess the grounds, pastures and dwelling places on the earth, that they, remembering themselves to be thy tenants, may not rack and stretch out the rent of their houses and lands, nor yet take unreasonable fines and incomes, after the manner of the covetous worldlings; but so let them out to others, that the inhabitants thereof may be able to pay the rents, and also honestly live to nourish their family and to relieve the poor. Give them grace to consider that they are but strangers and pilgrims in this world, having here no dwelling place, but seeing one to come; that they, remembering the short continuance of life, may be content with that which is sufficient, and not join house to house, nor

couple land to land, to the impoverishment of others, but so behave themselves in letting out their tenements, lands and pastures, that after this life they may be received into everlasting dwelling places, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

LABOR DAY.

For The Public.

Why march ye, O brothers, in brave array?
Are your swelling ranks
Giving humble thanks
For leave to labor that others may play?
March ye in triumph, with hardened hands,
From the mill and shop,
Where your brain powers stop
At the narrow line of each day's demands?
Must ye throng the streets, that the money king
And his greedy clan
Your vigor may scan,
As they lure it into their cunning ring?
With legal lies they will bind it fast,
And laugh in the sleeve
At the web they weave
Round the Sampson, left shorn and blind
at last.
In this proud procession with servile name,
Is there not at most
But an empty boast—
Each token of trade but a badge of shame?
Long suffering brothers, with joints of age,
And with shoulders bent,
Are ye well content
With your childrens' manifest heritage?
With flush of shame at your mustering line,
I pray that some cheer
Through the mist appear
For the slighted cause that is yours and mine.
Charity, ever the tool of knaves,
In the vain pretense
Of her blinded sense,
Doles a patent balm for the bane of slaves.
While Justice, weighted with ages of wrong,
Has no answering speed,
For the hour of need,
And we wait her coming, O Lord, how long?

D. H. INGHAM.

Now all over the land the trolley makes long country rides possible to thousands of persons who are too young, or too old, or too infirm or lazy to ride bicycles, and too poor or too timid to drive horses. Trolleying through a pretty country in good weather is an admirable amusement. It is cool, clean, safe, and refreshing. We are told that its effect is observable, in many places, in the improved health of city babies, whose mothers are able to carry them now on long rides, where they get good air and cool off. Trolleying is a standard summer resource in Washington, where it affords the easiest means of keeping cool. It is a recognized resource in New York and, apparently, every-

where else. Between Boston and Mount Desert, along the New England coast, with its remarkable succession of summer hotels, there is now almost a continuous line of trolley railroads. They run from village to village, and from port to port, and wherever the seafaring pleasure-seeker goes ashore he finds summer boarders trolleying in shoals up and down the country, and getting the most for their money that summer boarders ever got. A great institution is the trolley car. It beats the livery horse out of sight, and is the worthy fellow of the bicycle.—Harper's Weekly.

The Pecos Valley, in West Texas, to-day has the largest and most complete irrigation system now in operation in North America, and although it has been the result of but a few years' labor it has been so constructed that with proper care it may yet compete in durability with the Pueblo ditches and the Yaqui canals, built several hundred years ago. In addition to the benefit the irrigation system has been to the Eddy country in the way of raising crops, it has also been the means of transforming the barren plains into shaded streets and roads for miles. Eddy now boasts of having 30 miles of shade, numbering over 10,000 thrifty shade trees.

With the exception of Colorado Springs, Col., Eddy is to-day the best-shaded town in the west, and 15 years ago the Pecos river ran through as dismal and barren a waste as could have been found on this side of the great American desert.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The largest freight train ever hauled anywhere in the world ran over the Pennsylvania railroad last week. It was made up of one hundred and thirty cars of Amboy coal, which made a train 3,877 feet in length, a trifle less than three-quarters of a mile. The total weight of the train behind the tender of the engine was 5,212 tons, of which 3,693 tons was the weight of the coal. A single engine hauled the enormous string of cars. This locomotive, which is conceded to be the largest in the world, weighs about one hundred and eighteen tons, and has demonstrated its title to be the strongest machine on wheels in the world.—Public Opinion of Aug. 18.

Two hundred and sixty town councils and other local authorities in Great Britain, including those of the two greatest cities in the empire—London and Glasgow—have petitioned parliament for the right to raise local revenue from land values, and this is sup-

ported by the commercial bodies and almost unanimously by the trades unions, which here are much stronger than they are in the United States. So clear has this question grown in the local affairs of London, for instance, that in the county council election last March it became the chief cry, and the vast influence of such great land owners as the dukes of Westminster and Bedford, combined with the threats of the tory government, was thrown solidly against it. But the liberal party candidates, known locally as "progressives," were elected with an overwhelming majority.—Henry George, Jr.

The broadest and most far-sighted intellect is utterly unable to foresee the ultimate consequence of any great social change. Ask yourself, on all such occasions, if there be any element of right or wrong in the question, any principle of clear natural justice that turns the scale. If so, take your part with the perfect and abstract right, and trust God that it shall prove the expedient.—Wendell Phillips, at Worcester, Mass., 1851.

"They say yesterday was the hottest day this town has had for 15 years."

"That's nothing; last summer there was a day, the hottest we'd had for 20 years!"—Roxbury Gazette.

Somebody, traveling through the south, heard an ex-confederate remark: "We Yankees will give those Spaniards fits."—Judge.

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