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Various producing interests of the United States are to have a hearing before the joint high commission now sitting in Canada. What a blessed novelty it would be if such bodies would now and then give a hearing to the consuming interests.

The prompt refusal of representative men to serve upon President McKinley's commission for investigating some of the departments of the war office, is significant of what we should gladly disbelieve. Whatever other motives these men may have had for declining to serve, there is one reason amply sufficient to justify such action on the part of any man fit for the place. It is this: President McKinley has appointed a commission which has no authority to compel the production of testimony.

Since the president, as commander-in-chief of the army, has full power to appoint a commission with authority to compel the production of testimony, why did he appoint one which could have no such authority? What could have been his purpose in instituting an inquiry into the delinquencies of the war department in such manner as to enable all witnesses who chose to do so, or who feared to do otherwise, to refuse to testify? Could he have had any other purpose than to suppress the damning facts? It will be remembered that he stood out sturdily against any investigation at all, until the Vermont election admonished him that there might be a God in Israel, whereupon he hastily appointed the commission which had no investigating power and most of

whose members have since declined to act. Was this done for the purpose of trifling with public opinion? Did Mr. McKinley decide upon an impotent commission, instead of the kind he might have appointed, in order to defy public opinion while seeming to defer to it?

The time has fully come when the responsibility for the ghastly management of the war should be placed where it belongs. President McKinley is no king, whose delinquencies are to be loaded off upon the shoulders of his ministers. As the chief servant of the people, upon his head should rest the blame for his faults. And this mismanagement was his fault. He has done nothing but play politics with war questions since they first arose. What is the sense in trying to excuse him by putting the blame upon Alger? He is responsible for Alger. Upon good authority it has been publicly asserted, and never denied, that just as he appointed Sherman to make a place in the senate for Hanna, so he appointed Alger to strengthen Hanna's senatorial fences. Responsible for Alger, he is responsible for the fact that the war was most deadly where there were no troops but our own and no weapons but theirs. He realizes this fully, even if the people in their generosity have not yet awakened to it; and no injustice is done him by inferring that his futile commission was intended to be futile. It was another "bunco."

From the president's original appointments of sons and nephews to staff positions in the army, where they have been able to contribute more or less to the sickness and death of our massacred soldiers, down to the report of Gen. Shafter, army appointments in this war have been

treated almost wholly as questions of "pull." Shafter literally caps the climax by recommending for promotion nobody but his own staff officers, and he recommends them in a bunch.

The action of the republican convention of California in making a side attack upon James G. Maguire, the democratic candidate for governor, because he is a single tax man, is beginning to have the effect we expected. While Maguire does not admit that the single tax is the issue in the campaign, as indeed it is not, he nevertheless plunges into a full discussion of it, showing the ignorance of the republican platform makers, and taking up and tearing to flinders their assertion that the single tax would burden farmers.

Already the leading republican paper of San Francisco has been compelled to apologize for the single tax plank of the republican platform, which describes the single tax as "socialistic" and "anarchistic," as if it could possibly be both; and we may yet expect the same paper to explain away the assertion that the single tax would exempt city values and fall heavily upon farm values. Maguire has shown that on the contrary, while it would fall with especial weight upon the large land owners of San Francisco, it would actually diminish the taxes of working farmers. It won't take much of that kind of campaigning to make the republicans of California try to forget that they allowed an anti-single tax plank so unnecessarily to slip into their platform. But though they forget, not so the farmers whom they have stirred up. To be aroused by a cry that somebody intends to increase your taxes when you are already overtaxed, and then to find, after all the excitement, that

so far from trying to tax you more he is trying to tax you less, will affect a California farmer pretty much as it would anybody else. The truth about this single tax plank is that the agents of the Southern Pacific railroad, who controlled the republican convention, shoved the plank into the platform because they thought his single tax idea one of Maguire's weaknesses. They are finding that it is his strength.

That vigilant and energetic newspaper, Justice, of Wilmington, Del., points a moral with an interesting story which it finds floating through the press. The story relates to a London parish, to which in times past a wealthy gentleman bequeathed an extensive suburban property on condition that the income be always distributed annually among the parish poor. One of the business sections of London having now overspread the property so bequeathed, its ground rentals are enormous. This would seem to be a good thing for the poor of that parish; but in practice it isn't so. In order to participate in the distribution it is necessary to belong to the parish, and in order to belong to the parish one must live there. Consequently, the rentals of tenements in that parish are twice and three times as high as the rentals of similar tenements in adjoining parishes. People pay higher rents so as to get part of the fund. Thus the gift which was intended for the poor of the parish goes in reality, through the hands of the poor, to the owners of the site of the parish.

The story neatly illustrates an invariable law. The financial benefits, whatever they may be, which are available to the inhabitants of any particular territory invariably slip through the fingers of those who are supposed to enjoy them, into the pockets of the owners of the territory. Localized advantages raise rent. It is in obedience to this law or principle that public benefits ultimately increase the rent of the land to which

it is necessary to go to enjoy them. If, for example, the government of New York or Chicago were very much improved, no one would reap the pecuniary benefit except the owners of New York and Chicago land. The more desirable a city is made for business or residence purposes, the more it costs in rent to live there. New Yorkers are already learning this from their experience with the small parks they have been making to give fresh air to the poor. The poor are getting the fresh air, but the neighboring landlords are being paid for it in higher rents.

The great steel trust, with its prospective water amounting to over \$90,000,000, in addition to the water which the stock of the unifying companies has already absorbed, was organized under the laws of New Jersey. It was organized to do anything it may want to do, from getting out ore to carrying on government functions. Such a company is a menace to every state in which it undertakes to do business. It bears much the relation to state governments that the powerful barons of the middle ages bore to petty kings. If allowed to go on, this great organized and incorporated trust will be a power before which the United States government itself must bow. But there is a weak spot in its armor. No corporation has any existence outside the state of its incorporation, except as a matter of comity. In other words, it is only by legislative and judicial courtesy that a corporation organized in one state can sue or be sued or receive any other legal recognition in any other state. If the legislature of Illinois or Ohio or Minnesota, for instance, were to provide against the recognition by their courts of any corporation organized in another state with the powers which this steel trust has arrogated to itself, the trust would have no standing in the courts of the state taking such action. It would be for all legal purposes in that state a mere voluntary association without cor-

porate existence. If this were done the trust would doubtless seek protection of the United States courts. And it might get it. Judging from the recent history of that court, it probably would. The court might hold that a New Jersey corporation is a citizen of New Jersey, and entitled as such to protection under the fourteenth amendment. But it would be interesting to see the experiment tried. The people would have more food for reflection than ever, if under cover of an amendment intended to secure to the freedmen their civil rights, the supreme court should divest the states of their long-established prerogative of refusing to recognize all the corporations which improvident sister states choose to spawn.

If Gen. Miles is disposed to take a little good advice, let him expose Alger's duplicity to his heart's content, but lie a little low on his proposition to increase the standing army. The idea of a large standing army never was acceptable to the American people, and nothing has happened lately to make it so. While the war has proved the necessity of having the war department in a good state of preparation and organization, it has not given the slightest hint of the importance of a large standing army. It was not men that we at any time lacked. They came in ample numbers at the call. Nor were they deficient in training and real discipline. What we did lack was efficiency in the war department, a kind of efficiency that needs no large standing army to practice upon. If the war department had studied how to get supplies when needed and how to transport them to the places where needed, had been posted in sanitary science, and above all had schooled itself in thinking first of the army to be served and only last of friends and chums to be gratified with "soft snaps," not only would the war have been prosecuted without friction and useless loss of life, but it would have been carried to a successful con-

clusion before the heat of summer had set in. Let Gen. Miles be careful how he plays into the hands of the ring that wants a big army.

Great complaint is made by the Minneapolis Times, because the supreme court of the United States sustains the Mississippi constitution which was intended to disfranchise negroes. "There is no blinking the fact, in the face of this decision," says the Times, "that the United States supreme court is in sympathy with the purpose of the Mississippi supreme court to disfranchise the negro race." But the Times is strangely blind to the drift of things if it has just discovered the tendency to undo the democratic work of the republican party of Lincoln. In Mississippi, Louisiana, and elsewhere in the south, negroes are openly disfranchised; in the District of Columbia, all the inhabitants are disfranchised so as to disfranchise the negroes without seeming to discriminate; Hawaii has been annexed, slave code and all, under circumstances that clearly imply an intention to disfranchise most of the inhabitants. These are but beginnings. For some time a property qualification of the suffrage has been urged; how long is it likely to be, when once the American people become used to a large disfranchised class, before property qualifications will be introduced and extended until the dangerous working class, white as well as black, is denied the right of suffrage? The drift is plain enough. But a few organs of public opinion, like the Minneapolis Times, if they speak out boldly can turn it back. The most dangerous sentiment abroad to-day is the supposition that the republican party of the present is the same republican party that freed the slave and made him a citizen. They are as unlike as are this year's weeds and last year's crop.

The republican party is so enormously good in every detail, so immaculate in all its impulses no less than in all its actions, that we hesi-

tate to call attention to any delinquency. But the disposition which it shows to charge the democrats in congress with having voted last spring against war supplies, because they voted against the republican method of raising war supplies, is altogether too much like common-lying to be allowed to pass unrebuked. The motive of the democrats in voting against the republican method was so apparent that only a liar could charge them with voting against war supplies, and only an ignoramus or a fool could believe that they did anything of the kind. The Congressional Record speaks too plainly upon that subject. It shows that what they voted against was the republican plan of issuing unnecessary bonds and of placing the burden of the war taxes upon the poor and middling classes and allowing the rich to escape. One of the best statisticians of the country, Thomas G. Shearman, has estimated that the republican method of raising war taxes, which the democrats voted against, placed only ten per cent. upon the owners of accumulated wealth, 30 per cent. upon persons who own some accumulated wealth but are chiefly dependent upon their industrial activity for their incomes, and 60 per cent. upon those who have no accumulated wealth and are obliged to do daily work for their daily bread. It was against this discrimination that the democrats in congress voted. The Congressional Record proves it.

In some sort of legal contest in Canada, the particulars and nature of which are not important to the present purpose, it was contended on one side and denied on the other that the right to vote is natural and inalienable. In support of the denial of this contention it was argued that the right to vote is a mere privilege, which has been secured point by point. Of the soundness of this as a technical legal argument, we make no question. It isn't worth while. For law, as has been so often said,

is only a species of force except as it gives expression to natural justice. But as one of the principles which go back of law, giving to it its vitality, the contention that the voting right is a mere privilege is bosh. Men have not been fighting tyranny all these generations for mere privileges. By assailing tyranny they have denied that tyrants are entitled to any privileges, either to keep or to confer. What men have been fighting for and what tyrants have been forced to yield point by point are not gracious privileges, but natural rights. The so-called elective franchise is one of these rights. Some members of the community have secured it, while others have not; but none the less it is a natural right. To those who have it, it is a natural right secured; to those who have it not, it is a natural right still denied.

The reason that the elective franchise so-called is a natural right may be easily explained. There are only two methods of government—by common consent and by superior force. One or both of these is natural. Human nature revolts at the idea of government by superior force. The only natural method, then, must be by common consent. But it is absurd to call that a government by common consent which denies to any one of mature years and sane mind, who has not forfeited social rights by crimes against society, an equal participation in the process of ascertaining the common will. So far from being a government by common consent, such a government would be essentially one by superior force. It follows that such equal participation is a natural right. To deny this conclusion is to assert that government rests at last upon superior force and not upon common consent.

Something entirely unique in the way of a book of bible studies has been prepared by the Rev. James B. Converse, of Morristown, Tenn. Mr. Converse is the author of two or three

other books on bible subjects, and has been the editor of the Christian Patriot and also of the Christian Observer. The unique work to which we allude deals with some of the most important questions of contemporary discussion. It undertakes to show what light the bible throws upon such topics as the higher law of nations, the end of government, the rights of the people, taxes, the tariff, money, free coinage, the land, labor, monopolies, railroads, trusts, and prohibition. This book is still in manuscript, but Mr. Converse is proposing to put out an edition of 1,000 copies, upon receiving that number of subscriptions, payable upon delivery of the book.

In the platform of the Wisconsin republicans it is proposed to abolish the legislative lobby. But what good would that do? So long as legislatures are allowed to vote public privileges into private hands, there will be lobbies or vigorous substitutes for them. It may interest the Wisconsin republicans to know that in New York the lobby has been abolished. It was abolished by the great political bosses. Now, when private interests seek legislation there, instead of hiring lobbyists to beg and flatter and bribe legislators, they deal directly with the bosses who have the distribution of legislative nominations. A seat in the New York legislature is, therefore, no longer very profitable; but the position of a political boss is exceedingly so. To abolish lobbies, in essence as well as name, nothing can be effective short of abolishing private legislation.

One of the acts of the British parliament at its recent session provides for allowing persons accused of crime to tell their own stories to the jury. It is strange that England should have been so slow to adopt this reform. New York adopted it 40 years ago, and was quickly followed by the other states. Even in the federal courts, it has been established for 20 years. Yet it is not so strange, upon second thought, for lawyers advance

slowly. It is of the very nature of their profession to worship the past. They never inquire professionally as to what ought to be, and seldom as to what is, but almost altogether as to what has been. They proceed upon the theory that what has been is, and what is ought to be. So English lawyers opposed the bill allowing prisoners to testify in their own behalf. It was passed against the vigorous opposition of leading members of the British and Irish bar. Similar protests were made against the abolition of capital punishment for stealing, which by the way came well down into the present century. It is difficult for us to conceive of valid objections to allowing prisoners to tell their own story at their trials. But one of the objections urged in England, which was also urged here half a century ago, was that timid innocent prisoners would be subjected to such a strain under cross-examination that they might prejudice their cases with the jury, while guilty prisoners who were ingenious and bold might impose upon juries with their lies.

There is something extremely curious about the prosperity which we are now enjoying. The papers are full of it, and from the republican politicians' tongues the word falls trippingly. But none for whom it is intended experience any of it. Work is as hard to get, wages are as low, advertisements for situations are as plentiful, and advertisements of situations to give are as few and mean, as ever. Indeed, the prosperity of 1898 is so like unto the hard times of 1896 that nobody seems able to distinguish them. The nearest approach to an explanation was that of the iron trade journal which we quoted some weeks ago. It said that the peculiarity of the present prosperity is that it consists in more trade with less profits, and more work with lower wages. That explanation is ingenious, but a simpler if not truer one would be that, except among a few monopolists, there is no prosperity at all.

THE INTEREST QUESTION.

When Henry George brought the land question into the arena of popular discussion, arguing that the institution of land ownership is unnatural and unjust, he shocked many of those who adopted his views in this particular by his incidental defense of interest. Prior to his advent as a great reformer, interest was usually held accountable for economic ills. If the rich were growing richer and the poor poorer, interest was ascribed as the cause. And by way of illustration, such stunning calculations were made as that the compound interest of a penny from the beginning of the Christian era would absorb the wealth of the nineteenth century. George antagonized this theory, insisting that interest, so far from being an unearned exaction, is a natural increment of capital. He thus evoked the hostility of the anti-interest, or, as it would call itself, the anti-usury, element; and many of his own devoted followers take pains to declare their disagreement with him on the interest question.

I.

Most objectors to George's interest theory, so it seems to us, mistake his defense of interest for a defense of something else. They do not clearly distinguish interest, from sources of income to which George was as much opposed as they. That was his own view, for in the chapter of "Progress and Poverty" which is too often neglected or too cursorily read by the opponents of interest, the chapter entitled "Of Spurious Capital and of Profits Often Mistaken for Interest," George used this language: "The belief that interest is the robbery of industry is, I am persuaded, in large part due to a failure to discriminate between what is really capital and what is not, and between profits which are properly interest, and profits which arise from other sources than the use of capital."

He goes on in that chapter to distinguish from capital, which does earn interest, those property privileges which yield returns that superficially resemble interest and are called interest, but essentially are profits of a radically different sort. Among these is land, which is com-

monly called capital, and the rent of land, which is commonly confused with interest. Rent—ground rent—is not interest. It is not due to capital, which is a product of labor, an artificial thing; but to ownership of land,—a natural thing. Then, too, government bonds are as a rule not capital nor representatives of capital, and the so-called interest on them is consequently not true economic interest. The capital originally exchanged for the bonds has been used up in war, and the so-called “interest,” so far from being the earnings of that capital, is a mere tax, exacted year by year arbitrarily by government. Thus the bonds, instead of representing living, earning capital, are only evidences of a legal right to levy taxes. Watered stocks and bonds also figure as capital, and their returns as interest; whereas, to the extent of the water, they are in fact spurious capital and their returns are plunder. There is likewise the familiar power of great concentrations of capital acting upon bad social adjustments, a power which does not attach to capital in its normal use. The trust is an illustration. It aims to make profits by restricting, instead of augmenting production. Such profits are not interest. The profits of successful but risky speculations are also often mistaken for interest.

When these and kindred forms of spurious capital and interest are eliminated, as George eliminated them, his interest contention is immensely simplified. It then involves nothing more than the proposition that labor products, when devoted to further production, yield an increase in themselves.

II.

This is readily seen as to some kinds of labor products. One of the simpler examples is a planted field. If labor plows the field, and, having gathered seed-grain, sows it there, the result, a planted field, is a product of labor; and such growth as may come is, therefore, the result of that labor. True, natural forces and not labor, cause the growth; but they could not cause that particular growth but for the preceding labor of planting. And growth there will be. Day by day and night by night, during the subsequent months, nature will work for the man

who has planted that field. She will work for any other man who has made similar demands upon her, for nature is no respecter of persons; yet she will refuse to work in that way for any man who has not thus given direction to her forces. Nature helps those who help themselves. That planted field—not the land of course, but the artificial condition which labor has produced—is capital, a product of labor; and to that particular capital and to nothing else, does nature attach this particular increment of growth. The grain sprouts and ripens even while the laborer who gave direction to the natural forces is wrapped in sleep. He has called upon nature to work for him; and nature, in harmony both in character and extent with the demands of his industry, does work for him, and in that connection for him alone. The increment that she thus adds to his work is his by the best title it is possible for nature to give.

But nature aids labor in this way only to the ripening point. When the grain is ready for the sickle the laborer must labor again, or nature will undo both her work and his. The grain will rot. Yet between planting and ripening there is a constantly increasing increment, due to no human labor except the original labor which ended with the planting—the labor that produced the capital. That increment is interest, natural interest, the interest to which George alluded when he described interest as just.

III.

What is thus true of a planted field, however, is not so obviously true of machinery, which, unlike the field, yields no natural increment—yields nothing except while labor actually uses it. Recognizing this, George said that if all capital consisted of non-growing products, like machinery, he would incline to think that interest could not exist. Inasmuch, though, as growing forms of capital, like wheat fields, do derive an increment from the active powers of nature, he held that the non-growing forms exact a share of that increment, through commercial interchangeability. His own words are as follows:

The interchangeability of wealth necessarily involves an average between all the species of wealth of any special advantage which accrues from

the possession of any particular species, for no one would keep capital in one form when it could be changed into a more advantageous form. No one, for instance, would grind wheat into flour and keep it on hand for the convenience of those who desire from time to time to exchange wheat or its equivalent for flour, unless he could by such exchange secure an increase equal to that which, all things considered, he could secure by planting his wheat. . . . And so, in any circle of exchange, the power of increase which the reproductive or vital force of nature gives to some species of capital must average with all.

There are other grounds upon which George's interest theory rests, but this sufficiently serves the purposes of explanation.

IV.

In objection to that theory we have never encountered but one plausible argument. It is an argument which takes different forms, but is expressed with peculiar force by one objector in these terms:

As I understand George, he justifies interest on the ground that when money is invested in some modes of production, it has a power of increasing independently of labor, owing to the reproductive power of nature. I will not invest in shoe leather, which has no tendency to become shoes without the application of much labor, when I can invest in a calf, which has a tendency to become a cow with the application of a very little labor. Consequently, I will not let a shoemaker use my money unless he will pay me the increase which the money could earn if invested in calves. Now, this argument does not commend itself to me. It seems to me that the value of a given product will depend upon the amount of labor required to produce it. If calves had to be manufactured and did not grow, veal would be an expensive diet. Do not all consumers get the benefit of the reproductive powers of nature? Do not old wine, beef, fruit, grain, shoes, chairs, clothes, and all articles of wealth depend for their value upon the amount of human exertion required to produce them? If nature helps more directly in the production of the former, that means that old wine, beef, fruit and grain will be cheaper than if they were produced in a manner similar to the production of shoes, clothes, etc. That all may share in the reproductive powers of nature, interest is not necessary. The advantages of these powers of nature are equalized by the greater productive power of labor when cooperating with the reproductive powers of nature, and the consequent cheapening of these articles to all consumers.

The argument, though plausible,

really leaves the interest question where it finds it, as we think a little further reflection will show. It gives to the consumer, instead of to the producer, the benefits of growth. But in the normal state of society—and the question at bottom is whether interest would exist in such a state—in the normal state of society, the producer and the consumer are one. Every consumer, in that state of society, would be his own producer. He would not, indeed produce the identical things he consumed; but he would produce their trade equivalents. Consequently, whether the increment of growth which attaches to some forms of capital benefits the consumer or the producer makes no difference. It is interest, nevertheless; an advantage which labor derives from accumulating the vital forms of capital, and which, in the commercial equilibrium, distributes itself among the accumulators of all forms.

V.

Interest distinguishes the wages of laborers who accumulate capital from the wages of those who do not. In the last analysis it is nothing but wages of labor. For the final classification, as George himself says, is not land, labor, and capital, but land and labor, capital belonging in the category of labor; nor rent, wages, and interest, but rent and wages, interest belonging in the category of wages. It is much as skilled workmen naturally earn higher wages than the unskilled, that workmen who accumulate capital earn higher wages than those who do not. In either case the higher wages are due not to any oppression of other laborers, but to greater production in consequence of the accumulation of superior productive power. Interest, essentially, is wages for the kind of work that involves not only the production of things that have to be ripened by nature, but the accumulation of such things while they grow to the ripening point.

VI.

This ripening point is an overlooked consideration. We are told, for example, that wine not only gains value by lapse of time, as George explains, but that with further lapse of time it loses value. So it may be said that while standing grain gains

value for a period, yet, if kept standing beyond that period, its value diminishes. This is true. And it might be added that every species of vital capital would, if held too long, suffer a decrement instead of acquiring an increment. But there is no contradiction here of the George principle of interest. According to that principle, a natural increment attaches to growing capital up to the ripening point, but then begins to disappear. This is only a manifestation of the familiar truth that all products begin to decay as soon as they are complete. Products which are due in part to growth are not complete products until they ripen. It is on account of the operation of this principle of ripening, that there is no such thing, and never has been, as compound interest. A penny put out at compound interest at the beginning of the Christian era would, instead of absorbing the wealth of the nineteenth century, have required enough productive labor through the centuries in reaping and planting—or, in the terms of finance, in looking after collections and reinvestments—to have left nothing but simple interest over and above simple wages. The interest which does exist, and which George defends, is limited by the increment that attaches to the vital forms of capital during the ripening period.

George does find in exchange a further basis for interest, or, as he expresses it, in "the power of increase arising from differences in the distribution of natural and human powers," such as the exchange of fruits of the tropics for fruits of colder latitudes. In such exchanges, as well as in growing, the element of time contributes to the final product. But here, likewise, the ripening principle applies. When each kind of fruit reaches its destination in the climate in which the other was grown, its exchange powers ripen; and not only is there no further increment, but, if consumption does not take place, deterioration sets in, and proceeds until both interest and principal are destroyed.

It is true, as said by the objector whom we quote, that the value of products depends upon the labor required to produce them. But it is not

quite true in the narrow sense to which he restricts the idea of labor. The value of products depends not only upon the amount of labor required to produce them, but also upon the time required to ripen those that need ripening.

VII.

If George's fundamental principle of interest be sound, the payment of interest by borrowers to lenders, upon contracts made wholly without duress, direct or indirect, is no burden to borrowers. On the contrary, its nonpayment would be a burden to lenders. For the payment of interest by borrowers does not take a penny from their earnings; it is paid out of the increment which attaches to the borrowed capital. Interest exists irrespective of borrowing and lending. It is part of the wages of a special kind of service—the service of producing things which must ripen before they can serve their purpose; and if the borrower pays no interest, the lender loses part of the natural compensation for his particular kind of work.

In a state of freedom, there would be no lending upon such terms. Imagine a farmer lending his grain field in December, on condition that he be repaid the following December with a grain field in like condition! or a spring calf, upon condition that he be repaid with a spring calf three years later! or a bottle of wine just put into the bin, upon condition that he be paid a bottle of new wine five years afterwards. Such a contract would deprive him of part of the very compensation which, in planting the field, or raising the calf, or making the wine, he had sought from nature, and which nature would in due time have given to him without prejudice to anyone else. It would deprive him of part of his wages.

VIII.

It is often said that the borrower does a service for the lender, in caring for his capital and returning it in the condition in which it was lent; and that, therefore, instead of paying interest for the use of the capital, he should receive pay for taking care of it. Here again the ripening principle clarifies the question. What borrowers borrow is not that capital which, considering the factor of com-

mercial interchangeability already noted, we may call ripened capital. It is unripened capital, incomplete capital, growing capital—capital which still increases in usefulness and value with mere lapse of time. That is to say, they borrow what is capital as distinguished from what is wealth in possession of the consumer.

To illustrate: A householder going abroad might gladly lend his household furniture without interest, upon satisfactory assurances of receiving back furniture equally good upon his return. He might even pay for the service, for a service it would be. But if he were a furniture dealer, he would not upon any such terms lend furniture out of his stock. Why not? The ripening principle explains. His household furniture is, so to speak, past the ripening point; it is not on its way to final use, but is actually undergoing final use and passing back into the reservoirs of nature whence it came. Not so with the furniture in stock. That is still on its way to final use. In the commercial sense, and by analogy with the vital forms of capital with which this inert form is interchangeable, it is still growing toward the ripening point. To lend that furniture without interest would be to give to the borrower a pecuniary benefit at the expense of the lender. It would diminish the lender's stock, and thereby lessen his business opportunities. No furniture dealer in his senses would lend on those terms, except under duress. Being a free man, neither under duress nor exercising duress, he would demand interest as the condition of lending any part of his stock in trade; and the borrower, being also a free man, would either pay interest or forego the loan.

IX.

Thus, we see that, after all, the interest question is only of speculative importance. It is of no practical concern either to advocates of Henry George's single tax reform or to its adversaries. The essential principle of that reform is the establishment of economic freedom. Its chief recommendation is that it would place all men upon such an equality of industrial opportunity that contracts would be free from all manner of duress. Supposing this to be the re-

sult, the single tax in operation would solve the interest question. Were contracts really free, borrowers would not agree to pay interest unless capital had an earning power in itself, while lenders would not forego interest if capital had such power. Interest, therefore, under a single tax regime, would persist if it were natural and just, and disappear if it were not. We believe with Henry George that it would persist.

NEWS

Perhaps the most important events of the week are those connected with the Dreyfus case. Though these relate nominally to the fate of an individual, they in fact involve the integrity of the French army and not improbably the stability of the French republic.

When last we referred to this case, Col. Henry had confessed to the forgery of one of the documents that had been relied upon to support Dreyfus's conviction of having communicated French military information to Germany, and while in prison was alleged to have committed suicide. It has been suspected, though, that he was murdered. At that time, also, Col. Paty de Clam, another active prosecutor of Dreyfus, had been arrested in connection with the case and was afterwards removed from his military position. We had also reported the resignation of Cavaignac, the French minister of war, who explained his action by saying that he believed in Dreyfus's guilt and could not therefore act in harmony with the cabinet. Cavaignac's place was immediately filled by the appointment of Gen. Zurlinden, and upon this appointment it was rumored that the cabinet had decided to revise the Dreyfus judgment and allow Dreyfus a new trial. But the public were disappointed. Zurlinden opposed the revision, and being supported in this by President Faure, it was not allowed. So the matter stood last week.

Since then Zurlinden has resigned. Claiming to have made an exhaustive study of the Dreyfus case, he declared he was too fully convinced of Dreyfus's guilt to agree, as head of the army, to any other solution than that of the maintenance of the judgment in its entirety. This occurred on the

17th, at a morning meeting of the cabinet, at which it was decided to take the first step toward a revision of the Dreyfus case. The step in question was taken at the instance of M. Sarrrien, the minister of justice. He said that after having examined the papers he felt unable to decide upon the proposed revision until he had taken the opinion of a special commission. Such a commission the cabinet thereupon authorized him to summon. He did so, and the commission met on the 21st at the ministry of justice. Its sessions have been secret.

Both Gen. Zurlinden and M. Tillaye, the minister of public works, regarded the authorization of this commission as involving a revision of the case; for that reason the former resigned, as already stated, and the latter followed his example. M. Tillaye distinctly said in resigning that he was unwilling to accept any share of responsibility for a step which in his opinion involved a revision of the case. At the afternoon session of the cabinet on the same day, the place of Gen. Zurlinden was filled by the appointment of Gen. Chanoine, who promises to appoint an entirely new staff and to reorganize the secret intelligence department of the army. The place of M. Tillaye, was filled by the appointment of Senator Godin.

Co-incidentally with the decision to appoint a commission of inquiry into the Dreyfus case, a report came from London to the effect that Count Esterhazy, another of the active prosecutors of Dreyfus, and the most notorious, had secreted himself in London and had there made an oral confession. He explained that in blind, unquestioning, brutal obedience to orders from his military superiors, whom he regarded as having the same right to rule his conscience as his sword, he had participated in the forgery of the documents upon which Dreyfus was convicted. Out of the thousand documents so used, he denounced 600 as forgeries. Esterhazy's record is so bad that his naked statement will have but little effect; but he asserts his ability to corroborate it by means of documents in his possession. As to human witnesses, he says there were but three who knew the truth—Col. Sandher, Col. Henry and himself. Both Sandher and Henry are dead.

Among those whose names are associated with the Dreyfus case is Col.

Picquart. Regarded by friends of Dreyfus as the only conscientiousman in the military crowd, he appears to have fallen under the military ban. A prosecution was instituted against him in the ordinary criminal courts, upon a charge of revealing documents concerning the national defense. His trial was to begin on the 21st, but the public prosecutor then moved an adjournment, on the ground that a military prosecution had been ordered by the war department on charges of forgery and using forged documents in connection with the Dreyfus case. Picquart's lawyer strenuously opposed this motion as an attempt to thrust Col. Picquart into the clutches of the military ring, but the judges granted the adjournment. This was not done, however, until Picquart had made a speech, in which he implied that Picard, a detective in the Dreyfus case, who was said to have hanged himself, and Henry, one of the forgers, who, upon being arrested, was supposed to have cut his throat, had really been murdered by military conspirators. Col. Picquart said: "This is perhaps the last time I shall speak in public. I shall sleep, perhaps, in the military prison of Cherche Midi. Therefore, I wish to declare that if I become there a victim of the strangling cord of Le Mercier Picard, or the razor of Col. Henry, it will be murder, for I have no idea of committing suicide."

Next in importance to the army scandal in France is the army scandal in the United States. The investigating commission of nine appointed by President McKinley has not yet been completed. Of the original appointees, Gens. Gordon, Schofield and Manderson and Messrs. Lincoln and Lamont had declined last week; and of the subsequent appointees, not all have yet accepted. Among the men who have accepted are Col. Sexton, of the G. A. R.; Dr. W. W. Keene, of Philadelphia; Granville M. Dodge, of New York; Charles Denby, of Indiana, and Evan P. Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution. Gen. Stephen M. Weld, of Dedham, Mass., to whom one of the vacancies on the commission was offered, declined it; and President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins university, after having accepted, changed his mind and withdrew.

One of the newly developed facts

regarding army mismanagement is that at the beginning of the war the inspector general's department was virtually abolished. The army officers in charge of that department were promoted at the outbreak of the war, and no one was assigned to their places. Consequently, throughout the period of hostilities, no inspection tour was made. Another significant fact is reported from Lexington, Ky. During Secretary Alger's visit there on the 20th, Gen. Sanger plainly charged that there had been rottenness in the management of the departments of the quartermaster and the surgeon general. On the same occasion Gen. Wiley charged criminal neglect in the furnishing of supplies at Chickamauga. Among other things, he said that the reason the troops drank unboiled water was because no water boilers were supplied; and directly to Secretary Alger he used these words: "You worked the men to death at Chickamauga. Why, sir, these men were drilled from five to six hours each day in the hot sun, and when they fell there were no stretchers or litter bearers to carry them away; nor were there any ambulances at hand in many cases, and the poor fellows were forced to lie in the boiling sun without attention. It was cruel to them, and it was criminal negligence not to have a sufficient number of litter bearers and stretchers. The reason these men were not on hand is because every available man for the doctor or nurse had been taken away from their commands and placed in the division hospital."

The peace commission has been completed by the appointment of the Spanish members. They are Senor Rios, president of the Spanish senate; Senor Abarzuza, the Spanish ambassador at Paris when Spain was a republic; Gen. Cerrero; Senor Villaurrutta, the Spanish minister at Brussels, and Senor Garnica. The French government has offered the use of the conference room at the foreign office in Paris for the sessions of the commission.

While preparations for final peace between Spain and the United States are in progress, the evacuation of Puerto Rico under the protocol has begun. No delay has been interposed by the Spanish commissioners, and several towns have been turned over to American garrisons. The embarkation of Spanish troops for Spain began on the 20th.

In Havana, the American flag was raised for the first time on the 20th. It was floated from the flagstaff of the Trocha hotel, the headquarters of the American evacuation commission.

The Cuban republic has called an election to be held on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th of September, for the selection of representatives to frame the Cuban constitution. All male persons more than 21 years of age, residing in the territory now occupied by the Cuban authorities, are qualified voters at these elections. The representatives elected are to assemble by the 10th of October. In view of the election and the constitutional assembly to follow, President Maso has issued an address in which he urges gratitude to the United States as the protector of Cuba, and describes the American people as "our ally of yesterday, our host of to-day, our friend always."

The situation in the Philippines does not appear to be materially altered. Though the national assembly of the Philippine republic met on the 15th, as intended, but little news of the proceedings has reached this country. The only important action so far reported is that the assembly resolved to reject a proposal for a joint Spanish-American protectorate over the Philippines. It is opposed to any continuance whatever of Spanish rule in the islands in any form. Three parties are said to be represented in the assembly. One favors annexation to the United States, another favors absolute independence, and the third advocates autonomy under American protection.

President Aguinaldo has addressed and signed the following letter to the American people:

Manila, Philippine Islands, Sept. 19. —The Filipino government desires to inform the American government and people that the many rumors circulated regarding the strained relations between the Filipino and American forces are base, malicious slanders of the enemy of both parties, are without any truth and are circulated for the purpose of prejudicing the appeal of the Filipinos for their release from the oppression and cruelty of Spain. The relations of our people and yours have been and will continue to be of the most friendly nature, and we have withdrawn our forces from the suburbs of Manila as an additional evidence of our confidence in the great American republic.

For some purpose not yet divulged, the United States is preparing to send the battleships Oregon and Iowa to the Philippines. Accompanied by four colliers and two supply ships, the Oregon and the Iowa are to proceed down the Atlantic coast on the 27th, and around Cape Horn to Manila, touching at Honolulu.

From Hawaii latest advices come down to the 14th. The annexation commission was then expected to finish its work and depart for Washington by the 23d. Petitions and memorials from native Hawaiians are being submitted to the commission in abundance. One kind of memorial petitions for the restoration of the queen; another submits to the idea of annexation, but asks for full rights for the natives under the new order of things. The restorationists held a mass meeting on the 12th, at which a memorial was adopted asking for the reestablishment of constitutional government. This memorial sets up the invalidity of annexation, because, first, the treaty of annexation was not accepted by the United States, and second, the joint resolution of congress was not adopted by the people of Hawaii.

For the military government of the different conquests made by the United States in the war, President McKinley decided, on the 17th, in conference with Gen. Miles and Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn, as to the number of troops for garrison duty. According to this decision the army of occupation for Cuba will be 50,000 men, that for Manila 20,000, that for Puerto Rico 12,000, and that for Honolulu 3,000.

From the English and French situation at Fashoda in the Nile Valley nothing official has been heard during the week, though fairly well authenticated rumors have been published. The first of these came from the Constantinople correspondent of the London Daily Mail. He telegraphed on the 16th that news had been received at Constantinople of the occupation of Fashoda by the French expedition under Major Marchand, assisted by 10,000 Abyssinians under Ras Makonnen, the principal general of King Menelek. The second rumor escaped from government circles in London, and was to the effect that Fashoda had been taken by the Anglo-Egyptian troops,

and that the Egyptian flag was flying there. This rumor was explained by a report of the London Daily Mail on the 19th, which said that France had diplomatically declared Maj. Marchand's expedition to Fashoda to have been quite unofficial, and that the whole matter would be arranged by the friendly transportation by Gen. Kitchener of the French troops at Fashoda down the Nile to Cairo.

Equal good fortune appears to have attended England in the adjustment of her difficulties in China. The Peking correspondent of the London Times telegraphed on the 20th that as a result of British protests the Chinese foreign office had authorized the conclusion of the New Chwang railway loan with a British syndicate. This is the loan with which Russia interfered, as reported in these columns on the 13th of August.

Wholly apart from its relations with England and Russia, the Chinese government has recently given indications of the effect of the revolutionary influences that have been at work in the empire. Within a few days a series of imperial edicts have been published. To Chinese officials they are said to have been startling. In one of these the emperor, directly addressing the Chinese people, makes a long explanation of his new policy. He says he has decided to adopt the good features and reject the bad ones, of Western civilization, believing it to be on the whole superior to the existing order in China. Another of the edicts announces the establishment of a general postal service, and asks the people to cooperate with him, assuring them that thus they will aid in strengthening the empire. Still another requires officials to render and publish monthly accounts of receipts and expenditures. Most important of all these edicts, however, is one which extends to everybody a right heretofore restricted to privileged classes, that of directly memorializing the throne. It is our own venerated right of petition, in which is the germ of democracy. The emperor has directed that his edicts be published throughout the country, so the people may understand the efforts he is making for their welfare.

The circulation of these progressive edicts has been succeeded by rumors in Peking that the dowager empress has regained ascendancy over the emperor, who is still a mere boy.

That might imply a return of Li Hung Chang to favor, and the triumph of the reactionary over the progressive influences that have inspired the emperor's democratic policy.

The demand made upon the Turkish military commander of Crete by the British admiral for the surrender of the ringleaders in the massacre at Candia, reported last week, has been complied with. Forty-three of these ringleaders were delivered to the British admiral on the 15th. From this it was inferred that the disarmament condition of the ultimatum, reported last week, would be complied with, and on the 18th this inference was realized. It was then announced that the sultan had ordered the military commander to accede to the demand for disarmament. Disarmament was temporarily delayed, however, by the military governor, who insisted that the surrendered arms be delivered on board a Turkish warship; but the British admiral demanded that they be delivered to a British guard, and the governor gave way. The surrender began on the 19th. On the 21st it was learned that the Mussulmans were surrendering only their obsolete arms; they had not yet brought in any Martini rifles.

American politics is beginning to take shape for the fall campaigns. In California the gubernatorial campaign is in full blast. The principal issue is the railroad power, but both sides are discussing the merits of the single tax, owing to the fact that the democratic candidate for governor is a single tax advocate. The voters in Washington have the same question before them in a more definite way. There as in California, the democrats, populists and silver republicans have made a fusion; but the joint platform of the Washington fusionists contains a plank which reads: "We demand the submission to the people of Washington state, of a constitutional amendment that will permit exemptions from taxation of personal property and improvements in and upon land." In New York, Platt and Roosevelt have come to an understanding which seems to assure Roosevelt's nomination for governor by the republican convention. The democrats of Wisconsin have made an innovation in campaigning. It having been customary heretofore for the candidates and stump speakers of both parties to travel in campaigns

upon railroad passes, the democrats have decided to abolish the custom, so far as their party is concerned, and to require their candidates and speakers to pay railroad fares. The gold faction has captured the democratic party of Connecticut; and in Michigan the republicans have renominated Gov. Pingree by acclamation.

Sir George Grey died in London, England, on the 19th, at the age of 86 years. He was a notable man. In 1841 he became lieutenant governor of South Australia. From 1846 to 1854 he was governor of New Zealand. In 1854 he went to the Cape of Good Hope as governor and commander-in-chief, remaining until 1861, when he returned to New Zealand where he was governor from that time until 1867. From 1877 to 1891 he was premier of New Zealand. Notwithstanding his many official honors, Sir George Grey is likely to be remembered best and longest as the first man in the world, of wealth and prominence, to adopt the views that Henry George put forth in 1879 in "Progress and Poverty."

NEWS NOTES.

—The sovereign grand lodge of Odd Fellows met at Boston on the 19th.

—The Rev. John Hall, of New York, died on the 17th at Bangor, Ireland. His body will be brought to New York for burial.

—Tulare lake, in Tulare county, Cal., once a body of water of 1,000 square miles in extent, has dried up and is now a mud desert.

—The currency congress at Omaha completed its session with "paper day," on the 15th. A. J. Warner, of Ohio, was the principal speaker.

—On the 20th, in a fire at Detroit, in a grain elevator, caused by spontaneous combustion, 10 persons were consumed and eight fatally burned.

—Travelers from all parts of Europe are flocking to Vesuvius to witness the eruption, which is increasing and threatens great damage and misery.

—Varma Anne Jefferson Davis, better known as "Winnie" Davis, the youngest daughter of Jefferson Davis, died at Narragansett Pier, on the 18th.

—Capt. Allyn Capron, who opened the battle of Santiago, and whose son was killed a few days before at the La Quasina skirmish, died on the 18th, at his home near Fort Myer, Va.

—Gen. Wheeler has been nominated for Congress in the eighth Alabama district by a union of democrats, republicans and populists. It is intended to make his election unanimous.

—J. Sterling Morton, President Cleveland's secretary of agriculture, has been offered the position of adviser in agricultural matters to the government of the Argentine republic.

—An electric trust with a capital of \$25,000,000 has been formed by the consolidation of the Walker Electric company of Cleveland and the Westinghouse Electrical company of Pittsburgh.

—Spain has announced her intention of sending a delegate to the Czar's disarmament convention. Italy notifies the Czar that if the pope is to be represented she will not send a representative.

—At the Pulkowa observatory in Russia, it has been discovered that the well-known nucleus in the constellation Andromeda, instead of being gas, like the surrounding matter, is composed of stars.

—Chili and the Argentine republic are reported to have agreed to refer their boundary dispute to Great Britain; but this is denied, and the relations between Chili and Argentina are described as tense.

—Hamlin Garland, the author, who has been seeking adventure in Alaska, had two narrow escapes from starvation. Each time he wandered into a post where supplies could be obtained, just as his strength was failing.

—Meetings are being held in London to demand municipal control of water works, the occasion being the neglect of the privately owned water works to furnish a sufficient supply. Owing to deficient water supply, a fever epidemic is feared in some London districts.

—The single taxers of Missouri have been invited by the St. Louis single tax league to meet at St. Louis in state convention on the 4th and 5th of October, to form a state organization and devise means to secure legislation favorable to the equitable assessment and taxation of property.

—The joint commission on American-Canadian questions resumed its sessions at Quebec on the 20th. Senator C. J. Faulkner, of West Virginia, has been appointed by President McKinley to the place on this commission made vacant by the transfer of Senator Gray to the Peace commission.

—A single tax educational congress was held on the 16th and 17th at Omaha, under the auspices of the Trans-Mississippi exposition. Franklin H. Wentworth presided, and among the speakers were John Z. White, George V. Wells, Louis F. Post, W. W. Rose, H. C. Bliss, Mayor Quick of Sioux City, J. R. Herman and Horace Mann.

—The China Gazette gives publicity to a promise made to Russia by Li Hung Chang, when he was at the head of the foreign office, to the effect that Russia, instead of England, shall have

control of the collection of Chinese customs. The promise is said to have been made in writing at St. Petersburg when Li Hung Chang was on his tour of the world.

—Prof. Berson, of Berlin, made a balloon ascent from the Crystal Palace, London, on the 15th, with one companion, carrying an oxygen equipment to prevent asphyxiation, and rising to the almost unprecedented altitude of 27,500 feet. The thermometer at that altitude fell to 29 degrees below zero, the sky was an intense blue, and the sun was dazzling.

—Maximilian de Proskowetz, Austrian consul general at Chicago, was killed at Fort Wayne on the 16th. He attempted to walk through to the dining car of the train on which he was coming from New York to Chicago, not noticing that it had been cut off, and falling to the ground was crushed under the baggage car as it rolled back to couple to the car off which he had fallen.

MISCELLANY

THE LAND SHALL BE FREE.

"Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

Hark! the bugles call; a waking tumult
Thrills the earth and echoes through the skies

As the rallying shouts of Freedom's armies
On the wings of morning rise.

Ye friends of suffering Right
Who mourn in Slavery's night,
Awake, arise; the darkness flies,
And dawns the Jubilee.

All hail the birth of joy to earth;
The land shall be free.

Oh, the dark, the anguished night of bondage,

Oh, the lurking brood of woes untold,
Where brothers, robbed of nature's birth-right,

Are taxed and bound and sold;
Where traitors plot through laws
To wreck the people's cause,
And siren lies in patriot guise
Betray Liberty;—

But now, in spite of greed and might,
The land shall be free.

Is it Heaven's design that sovereign Labor

Should implore a crumb for all his toil?
Or hire of fellow-heirs and equals
His share of common soil?

Must brothers, starved and gaunt,
And sisters, faint from want,
Their tribute pay to Plunder's sway
And Mammon's decree?

Or, will ye swear, as true men dare,
The land shall be free?

Brothers up; the battle-lines are forming,
Rally now in great Jehovah's name,
All the bribes and threats of Power scorn-
ing

And Oppression's league of shame.
Fear not the tyrant's pains;

Break, break the toiler's chains.
Aspiring Man is Reason's plan,
And Heaven's heir is he;

Come, speed the fight for God and Right;
The land shall be free.

By the glorious crown of Faith triumphant,
 By the patriot vows that freemen keep,
 By the sacred names of home and loved ones,
 Let hearts with courage leap;
 Nor let the conflict pause
 Till Right shall frame our laws.
 So children's children yet unborn
 Shall hold the land free,
 And guard through time this hope sublime,
 The land shall be free.
 —The San Francisco Star.

THE FAMINE IN RUSSIA.

Owing to the failure of the harvests in seven districts of the government of Kasan, and in the provinces of Samara, Saratof, Simbirik, Viatka and Perm, where the crops are almost worthless and even the landed gentry are beginning to ask the government for relief, the Russian government is adopting measures to relieve the sufferers. But the distress is becoming more acute every day. The peasants are denuding their cottages of the thatches in order to feed the stock. In spite of this, cattle and horses are dying in great numbers. The government officials are very slow in putting the relief measures into effect, and the only relief thus far has been the granting permission to the peasants to gather faggots in the woods for fuel and to collect dried leaves for fodder. The peasants are exhausted from lack of food, and unless the promised supplies are speedily sent, the suffering among the peasantry will be terrible.
 —The Springfield Republican.

THE BONES OF COLUMBUS.

Columbus died in 1506 at Seville, and he was buried there, although in his will he asked to be buried in San Domingo. It was not until 1536 that his son succeeded in fulfilling his father's wish and carried his remains to the cathedral of San Domingo. After the treaty of Basle, in 1795, the governor-general, Aristizabal, having received an order to evacuate the island, which was lost forever to Spain, caused the sarcophagus to be transported to Havana, where it was deposited in the chapel of the cathedral. There the "Gran Colon" has slept for a century. A marble slab at the entrance of the chapel has this written on it: "O restos e imagen del grande, Colon, mil siglos durad guardados en la urna y en la remembranza de nuestra nacion." (O body and image of the great Columbus, be ye preserved for a thousand centuries in the urn and in the memory of our nation.)—The New York Sun.

Let us leave the house; let us leave the city; let us leave the country. All

that we can do; but we cannot leave without bringing with us our lares. The lares of the Latin race in America are the bones of Christopher Columbus in his leaden coffin in Havana.—The Madrid Imparcial.

THE PUBLICANS AND HARLOTS.

Perhaps half a million people will sit down in the saloons of Chicago tonight; not to get drunk or even to drink, for the vast number of them do not drink at all, but because the saloon is the only social shrine, the only municipal drawing-room in which the greater number of citizens can get together as human beings, and "shake their hearts out" to each other, as the Germans say. In this sense, the saloon fulfills a public and profoundly religious function, which the church and municipal system have alike failed to offer; it is the only social refuge which gives warmth and color, relief and fellowship, to millions of toilers. The drunkenness and crime which follow are the direct fruits of the social system.

In her last years, Miss Willard declared poverty to be the cause of drunkenness rather than drunkenness the cause of poverty.

We privileged classes are wickedly insensible to the fact that, to the majority of human beings in what we call Christendom, the sensations of drink and sexuality are the only experiences which make life interesting; the only things which give anticipation and romance to life; the only sacraments of human fellowship, save the common misery and poverty. Centuries ago, the great Augustine declared physical immorality to be but perverted divine yearnings after fellowship. And more than four hundred years before Augustine, Jesus declared that the harlots and publicans would enter the kingdom of heaven before those of us who belong to the privileged and religious classes, for the simple reason that they are infinitely better than we are; they still have yearnings, while we seek only our own righteousness, and the safety of our interests in the existing order.—Prof. Geo. D. Herron.

FORTIFICATION IMPRACTICABLE AND UNNECESSARY.

An amusing and rather significant incident occurred at Quebec at the time of the organization of the joint high commission which has been carefully concealed by the dominion authorities. On the day when the commissioners of the two countries met for the first time to exchange compliments and cordiality and to prepare

for the permanent removal of all causes of irritation there appeared at Quebec a distinguished party of military men from England—a major general, a colonel of engineers and a captain of the royal navy—sent over by her majesty's government to inspect the defenses upon the American border and report how they might be extended and strengthened. Their arrival was unexpected, at least by the civil authorities, but fortunately Sir Wilfrid Laurier; prime minister of Canada, heard of it promptly and in time to prevent the disclosure of their mission.

He met the "defense committee," as it is called, in the members' rooms, and explained how inopportune was their arrival just at the moment when delegates from the United States were gathering to arrange for perpetual peace and begged them to clear out before anyone discovered their business. They resented such an unceremonious dismissal as a reflection upon their dignity and showed their instructions, but Sir Wilfrid told them that he didn't care a tinker's rap about their dignity or their instructions; there were no fortifications upon the American border for them to inspect, and the Canadian government did not propose to have any; and they might go home and report to the military authorities in London that all the money in the world could not fortify the Canadian frontier against an invasion from the United States.

The committee then explained that they could not return to England without doing something or going somewhere, so Sir Wilfrid Laurier borrowed a car and some guns and fishing tackle from Sir William Van Horne and sent them over to inspect the defenses of the Rocky mountains, with an injunction to keep away from Quebec and to conceal their mission.—Wm. E. Curtis, in Chicago Record.

"HOW MUCH DOES GOD CHARGE FOR COAL MINES?"

Little Jo had been listening to his father reading about the starving miners. Little Jo was too young to understand Caesar's ways; he only heard the voice of nature as it spoke within him. He was not old enough to be contaminated by vices and devices of lawyers and landsharks, bogus statesmen and political mountebanks, boodlers and coal barons. He had heard his father reading and talking about something wrong in the affairs of mankind, and he was trying to find out the "why." So he let the natural voice of truth and justice speak:

"Father, why don't those miners dig out some coal and trade it for something to eat?"

"Because, Joey, they don't own the coal mines."

"Who does own the coal mines?"

"They are owned by some men in Chicago."

"Did those men in Chicago make the coal, and put it down in the mines, father?"

"Oh, no, Joey; God made the coal."

"What did he make the coal for?"

"Why, he made it for fuel, my child, to keep us warm and to cook our food."

"Did God make it for those men in Chicago?"

"No, not exclusively; he made it for everybody."

"Well, then, if he made it for everybody, didn't he make some of it for those miners?"

"Why—yes—I suppose so; but you see, my dear little Joey, those miners are too poor to own anything."

"Oh, yes, I see; God made the coal for everybody that's rich."

"No, no, Joey; he made the coal for all, but the poor are not able to buy the mines, and so they can't own them."

"How much does God charge for the coal mines, father?"

"Why, my boy, he doesn't charge anything for the coal, more than the trouble of digging it out."

"Do those men in Chicago ever dig any of it out?"

"Oh, no; they hire those miners to do that."

"Well, father, if God made the coal for all, and don't charge anything for it, and those miners take all the trouble and labor to get it out, why don't they own it after they have dug it out?"

"Well, Joey, my boy, I know it does look that way to your young and childish mind, but as you get older you will understand how it comes about that a great many of God's creatures that he sends here fail to get what he made for them."

"If they fail to get what God intended for them, who does get it, father?"

"Why, it is the sharp, shrewd business men who get it."

"How do they get it?"

"Why, Joey, I don't know as I can make you understand it; but I'll tell you that once upon a time, long, long ago, a certain king rose up and seized the 'earth and the fullness thereof,' and said: 'It all belongs to the king.' Now, when the king did that he actually confiscated—or, if you don't understand that word, stole—every-

body's interest in the earth and all the earth contains."

"Why, father, I shouldn't have thought the people would let the king do such a thing."

"Well, you see, Joey, the lawyers told the people that the king could do no wrong, and the people were foolish enough to believe the lawyers."

"Well, then, that is how those men in Chicago came to own the miners' coal, is it?"

"Yes, Joey, the king divided up the earth among his favorites, and they parceled it out to such as were rich enough to buy, and those who were poor lost their inheritance."—C. W. Ayres, in *Farmers' Voice*.

THE "OLD MASTERS" IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Teachers in the Chicago public schools are setting for themselves the task of fighting the festive cigarette picture, the gay "tin-tag," and other matters dear to the heart of the youthful collector; not as cigarette pictures and tin-tags have been fought before, but by substituting for them small copies of great paintings.

The school children are to be offered the opportunity of buying real and genuine "old masters" for a penny each. Small photographs of great and famous pictures and pieces of statuary, ranging in size from that of a cigarette picture to a 3x3½ inch limit, will be provided for their purchase at the sum of money mentioned. Larger pictures will be on sale for three cents apiece. The children, it is argued, will then collect good and beautiful pictures instead of cigarette and advertisement cards which have heretofore claimed their attention.

Miss Josephine Locke, superintendent of Drawing in the Chicago public schools, is responsible for the new scheme. Last winter, while delivering lectures at the different public schools of the city, she used small photographs of the subjects treated for stereopticon illustrations. The children, she speedily noticed, were anxious to know where and how to procure copies of these illustrations. The value of such pictures both as an assistance to childish memories and as art educators immediately became apparent not only to Miss Locke and her assistants, but also to the grade teachers and principals. Sets of the tiny pictures which are to be used so freely this winter were then procured by a number of principals and the children allowed to look over and occasionally borrow them. Out of this experiment, which proved an undoubted success, grew the penny-picture idea.

Among the pictures which were great favorites among the children last year, and which will serve as examples of those which are to be sold during the coming season, were copies of the Sistine Madonna, the "Angel of Death," Millet's "Bringing Home the New Born Calf," "Alice," by William Chase, and one of the favorite pictures in the Chicago Art Institute, and a number of other subjects usually considered entirely beyond the enjoyment or comprehension of youthful minds. These pictures, together with numerous others quite as classic and fine in character, will this winter be sold for a penny. Several sets of the diminutive old masters are now on the market, and copies of any famous picture, scene, or historic edifice chosen by the children themselves will be added to the collections as rapidly as possible. "Death and the Young Sculptor," the "Lost Pleiad," and several other works of art now in the Art Institute here will be among the first additional pictures brought out.

Last year the little pictures, in addition to being used as helps for the drawing lessons, were also utilized, later, as aids to the memory of the childish students of history, geography, and kindred studies. The natural instinct of a child, according to the teachers in the Chicago public schools, is to desire a picture or representation of the subject, place, or object which interests him. Pictures of Westminster Abbey, the National Capitol, St. Peter's Cathedral at Rome, and similar edifices were among the historic pictures most popular. The heroes and heroines of the books read and studied in the various school lessons were also called for in great numbers. When, late in the end of the school season, it was announced that the small pictures might be this year purchased and taken home by the children there was a perfect furore of joyous excitement.

Miss Lucy Silke, one of Miss Locke's foremost and most enthusiastic assistants, declares that the average public school student, of any grade selected, will usually exhibit a pure taste and good artistic judgment in the selection of the little pictures which constitute, as a rule, the child's initial opportunity for exercising these qualities. Sentiment, form, and color appeal to them most strongly, a faulty line or strained conception meeting with prompt criticism, censure, and disapproval from the childish judges. A famous name affects them but little, save in the case of an occasional upper grade student, whose

judgment has been biased by outside opinion; it is the picture itself and the idea which it represents for which they care. Overwrought sentiment, however, they will have none of and satire passes above their heads.

In the "slum" schools of Chicago the little pictures proved especially popular last year. Now that they may be purchased and carried home their popularity is expected to increase a thousandfold. The penny picture idea will be put into active operation immediately after the opening of the public school season.—The Chicago Tribune.

OUR SACRED STRAIGHT JACKET.

We believe that the constitution of the United States is the most excellent organic law ever adopted by any people, and we feel a just pride in the loyalty to it which the democratic party has ever shown, but we believe that the lapse of years and changed conditions have brought the time when further amendments to it should be brought forward for adoption. We hold that its provisions for its own amendment are utterly inadequate to give expression to the will of the people and we, therefore, favor the amendment of article 5 of the constitution of the United States, to the end that whenever a majority of both houses of congress shall deem it necessary the congress shall propose amendments to the constitution which shall be submitted to popular vote and shall be valid as part thereof when ratified by a majority of the votes of the people of the United States cast at any general or special election at which such question shall be submitted to vote.—Plank in the Iowa Democratic Platform.

The first few amendments engrafted upon the constitution were really a part of the original instrument and grew by unanimous consent out of the agitation which gave it birth. Not one of them touched upon any vested wrong or aroused the opposition of any private interest. These amendments which grew out of the civil war and to which any great opposition existed were only made possible by the civil war. I am convinced that unless we provide some better method of amendment, the people will again find their path to larger liberty blocked by a rigid constitution supported by an oligarchical judiciary and that the alternative will be presented of the submission of the will of the majority to the tyranny of the few, or a resort to force. In such a juncture we know what the Anglo-Saxon will do. He will

achieve liberty if it breaks the constitution.

What is the proposition in our platform? Simply that the majority shall rule. If there is anybody who denies their right to rule I have no argument with him. Let our whole history answer him. From those who concede the right of the majority to rule I can imagine no valid objection to the proposed reform. The American people are the only branch of the Anglo-Saxon race who have felt called upon to assume a constitutional straight jacket for fear of doing themselves some harm. When the majority of the people of Canada call for a law they get it, and there is no three-fourths majority section in any constitution to intervene and block the way of progress. The people of Australia have experienced no harm from having the will of the majority carried out at once. No one can call the government of England "a radical one of passion." In all these countries the people seem intelligent enough, sane enough and just enough to govern themselves without the interposition of the dead hand of ancestral legislation between the desire of the people and its fruition. Are the American people more passionate, less sane, less just or more untrustworthy than our English-speaking cousins? I deny it. The proposition is infamous. It is insulting to the American people. It is not put forward in good faith. Those who protest against speedy and unconsidered changes are in fact opposed to all change. In their ranks will be found all those who seek to deny to the people the power to reform their institutions. Every man who believes that the people are unfit for self-government, who holds that whenever the people complain the people are wrong, who casts longing eyes backward to monarchical institutions, who sees in the possession of wealth the insignia of the right to power, will be found opposing this plank of the democratic platform. On the other hand, wherever there is found a man in any party who trusts the people, who believes they have wrongs which should be righted, who holds that manhood confers the right to political power, who admits that there is anything in modern conditions which was not anticipated in the convention of 1787, who believes that when the people complain that they usually have cause for complaint, he will be found, however he may vote, supporting the principles of this plank of our platform.

Who will deny that if a majority of the people deliberately desire an in-

come tax they ought to have it? Yet an income tax can only be secured through an amendment to the constitution.

Who will say that when a majority of the people of the United States shall desire that federal taxes shall be raised by any system of direct taxation they ought not to be so raised? Yet there is but one system of direct taxation provided by the constitution, and that so palpably absurd and unjust that no people would ever tolerate it. Direct taxation can only be obtained through an amendment to the constitution.

Who will contend that if a majority of the people of the country desire elective federal courts or any change in the present judiciary system that their wishes should not rule? Yet, no such change can be brought about except through amendment to the constitution.

What likelihood is there that as against powerful private interests any one of these reforms could be brought about even though a majority of the people might favor them, so long as article 5 stands unamended, laying upon the people who seek relief the impossible task of carrying both houses of congress by a two-thirds vote and then securing a ratification by three-fourths of the state legislatures. Such a task is enough to appal the most hopeful.—Mayor J. H. Quick, of Sioux City, Iowa, on the foregoing plank, in interview reported in Sioux City Journal.

THE NEW EARTH.

Extracts from a sermon on the subject, "All Things Made New," preached by the Rev. John S. Saul, of Chicago, September 11.

The New Jerusalem is descending from God out of heaven. As this becomes more firmly established upon the earth a new order of human society develops. In addition to what has already been done during the present century to bring about new conditions, we have a forecast of new and still greater things for mankind in the future. The divine truth is opening the human mind even on the earthly plane, to see that "society is an organism, and not a certain number of individuals;" that "individuals are members of the social body, and can be healthy only in the health of the whole body." Men are beginning to realize that "the laws and customs which govern the relations of individuals to each other, and which make up the collective life, are the larger and ever-increasing part of the life of each individual." These things were

taught by the Lord when he was on earth nearly two thousand years ago; but it is only now that mankind is coming to realize them to any great extent. They are now coming to the consciousness and perception of the world as new. And as the mind of the organic social man comes to realize the value of these great economic principles of heaven, they will be adopted as the laws of men upon earth. So the Lord's kingdom will come, and his will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.

If we pray the Lord's prayer sincerely, and study the divine law diligently, desiring to know what is right that we may do it, there is no room to doubt as to results. The Lord will see that through our efforts an orderly condition of things is brought about. He will give us to provide as a matter of duty toward society that the forcible appropriation of the resources of the people and of the products of their toil, are not secured to selfishness and greed, but that a just proportion shall go to all as they work for it.

Notwithstanding the great strides which civilization has taken in advance during the past century, our civil and social machinery is still terribly out of order. But there can be no doubt of the power of divine truth as now coming down from God out of heaven to renew it and set it right. This can only be done, however, through man's effort. As the truth comes into the enlightened understanding it must be applied to the conditions of human life for their betterment. Men are agitating and working for these improvements now as never before.

Let us all pray and work for them in ourselves as individuals. As our personal lives are made new, we shall come into the better state to help along the conditions we would like to see in the world around us. Then we shall cooperate with the Lord in the formation of the new heavens and the new earth, the former things having passed away.

JOBS AND MEN.

Men are too many, or jobs too few. That is the obtrusive fact in the labor question. It is the one fact which, however superficially, accounts to all minds for a condition in which so many men hunt in vain for work. To state it is merely to state in another form the problem of the unemployed. Because men are too many or jobs too few, there are at all times unemployed men. When that is so, the

wages of employed men are perpetually threatened and perpetually tend downward. Lack of employment, therefore, is at the root of the labor question.

If it were possible to bring about a condition in which there was no lack of employment, in which jobs were hunting for men instead of men hunting for jobs, the labor problem would be solved. It would solve itself. There would then be such a universal and insatiable demand for men to work that no one would work for less than he earned. Or, if any were willing to work for less than they earned they would be in such exceptional demand that their wages would rise to the earning point in spite of themselves.

This condition would be brought about by the single tax. If the single tax were in operation, men would no longer hunt for jobs; jobs would hunt for men.

The reason is plain. Only one thing is required to stop men hunting for jobs and set jobs a-hunting for men. That thing is the land. I speak now not only of individual workingmen, but of that complex industrial mass in all branches and grades, which is properly called "labor;" and I speak not merely of land in the sense of fertile soil, but of land in all its characteristics as the natural and social environment of man. Let labor have free access to this, and labor will provide itself with everything else. Deny this to labor, and though you provide it with everything else it will be helpless. If labor had all the money and all the machinery in the world it would be impotent without land; but if it had all the land in the world, all the money and all the machinery would be subject to its control as a matter of course. When labor has the freedom of the land it can plant and reap; it can dig and build; it can make machinery and use it; it can dictate its own money system; and the more work it does the more work it will be asked to do, and the higher, consequently, will wages rise.

This freedom of the land would be secured to labor by the single tax. That tax, though in form and name, and in substance, too, a method—the best, because the natural and just method—of raising public revenues, is also a radical industrial reform. By lifting taxes from labor and labor products, and putting them upon land in proportion, not to its area, but to its value, the single tax would take every year for common use approximately the actual and possible ground rent of all the land in the community. Land

not worth a high ground rent would not pay a high tax; but, be the ground rent high or low, it would be exacted, whether the land were in use or not. Obviously, then, no valuable land could be kept out of use. To keep it so would not pay. Unless put to use it would be eaten up every year or two by taxes. Landowners would have to use their land. But they could not do that without calling in labor to help them. Unaided they would find it impossible to use the land well enough to make their taxes good. So they would be compelled to hire workingmen; or, if workingmen wouldn't be hired, to take them into partnership. In one way, if not in another, the land that landlords now hold vacant would be utilized to its fullest capability. That would make jobs, and it would keep on making them time without end, faster than men would appear to do them.

Consider a moment. There are scores of thousands of acres of coal land of great value, which is now unworked. If its possible royalty were taken in taxes every year its owners would have to allow it to be worked. There are millions of acres of town and city lots of enormous value, which are bare of buildings, though the people who want buildings are like the sands of the sea shore for number. If the possible ground rents of these lots were exacted of the owners in taxes every year, the owners would have to allow them to be built upon. So, also, there are millions of acres of farming land, owned by railroads and syndicates, land of splendid fertility and tempting value, which is now lying fallow while farmhands beg for work and city workingmen struggle for bread. If the possible ground rent of that land were demanded every year in taxes, the owners would have to work it or abandon it to men who would. Think of the jobs which the consequent demands for workers would make!

The supply of workers would then augment demand for work, until no conceivable increase of population, nor any possible improvement in labor-saving machinery, could lessen it. It would find its only check in exorbitant wages—in wages, that is to say, which were in excess of the earnings for which they were demanded.

These are some indications of how the single tax would alter the most notable industrial condition of our time, that of men hunting for jobs, to a condition which would be characterized by the phenomenon of jobs hunting for men. By thus raising

wages to the full earnings of the worker, this simple land reform would make workingmen secure in civilized comfort, and guaranteeing to labor absolute independence, would abolish all that is hateful in the present relationship of employer and employed.—Louis F. Post, in *Labor Day Review*.

IN THE DAYS OF OUR GREAT-GRANDFATHERS.

Sanitation was unknown. Streets were undrained, wells digged in the reeking soil, springs were horribly defiled, root cellars were under all the houses. Every fifth person on the street was horribly disfigured with smallpox. In the open country the death rate of 1790 was higher than in the worst tenement districts of New York in 1890. In 1790 the death rate in the towns was higher than the death rate to-day in the yellow fever districts of the south. Ninety years ago the lottery was the favorite form of benevolence. Schools, colleges and churches were built thereby. In the year 1800, in Providence, an Episcopal church held a lottery, of which the grand prize was \$8,000. In 1795 the legislature of Rhode Island granted a lottery for "the advancement of religion and the building of a church." The library of Harvard college was built by the sale of lottery tickets, and good orthodox Princeton college adopted the same method of advancing its interests. Even the English government went into the lottery business. At one time the authorities of London were selling lottery tickets for 20 different objects.

Drunkenness also was well-nigh universal. Births, marriages, funerals, the dedication of public buildings and churches—all were consecrated with liquor. Every business transaction was concluded with a drink. For the hostess not to offer wine to her lady callers was an offense against good breeding. Dr. Chambers, of Philadelphia, tells us that in 1825 he went to a funeral of a prominent member of his church, and that he and the sexton were the only persons who were not in danger of falling into the grave through drunkenness. On the next Sunday he told his people that he would never again officiate at a funeral of a church member where liquor was freely distributed.—Dr. Hillis, of Chicago, as reported in *The Advance*.

The greatest good that we are to find through municipal ownership will be found in the improved quality of our citizenship. Whenever the feeling is once awakened that this is our city, this is our country, then a man

becomes in the best sense of the word a citizen who loves his country. This feeling will be wonderfully enhanced as the city goes forward in the work of municipal ownership. The people will learn that they can serve themselves better without profit than a private corporation can serve them with profit as an incentive for their effort. In the parks and public playgrounds in Glasgow I saw neat porcelain signs with this inscription: "Citizens, Protect Your Property," and when my eyes first fell upon that inscription I confess to such a feeling of delight as I never before experienced through merely looking at a dumb sign board.—Mayor Jones, of Toledo, before the League of American Municipalities.

A LETTER FROM HUNGARY.

For The Public.

Mrs. Dario Papa says in an article in *The North American Review* (see *The Public* of Aug. 20.) that the Italians are justly ashamed of being the only nation afflicted with the "pellagra" (hunger-sickness). Not only Italy, but also Hungary has this mournful distinction. The causes are the same as in Italy. Though the harvest has not been as bad as was expected, according to official confession over 10,000 workers found no employment; in other words, that number of men, in most cases with families, are absolutely without food for the coming winter, for there is no work to be had in the country in winter.

Dr. S. H. Schreiber has prepared an article on the "pellagra," in which, after describing the symptoms of the malady, he states that it was formerly unknown in Hungary, and that it is only this year that it has been conclusively proved to be the same "pellagra dyscratica" that appears every year in Italy. So widespread and so sudden was the appearance of the disease that the government was obliged to appoint a commission to investigate the causes of it. They are but too clear. The report states that there are great numbers of families where a half kgr. (about a pound) of maize bread is the daily food of each person. Another even more menacing peril of Hungary is a possible protective tariff.

As the revenue agreement with Austria seems in consequence of the obstructions in the Reichsrath (imperial parliament) very problematical, the government called a conference to dis-

cuss the best modes of collecting tariffs. There was not in this conference a single freetrader; the landowners wanted agrarian, the manufacturers industrial protection. They hope that protection will create new home industries, and will raise the price of wheat, which American competition has lowered. The statement of a prominent Hungarian politician seems to me to be typical of the position of the so-called freetraders at this juncture. "We can't be freetraders when all the world is protectionist." At this rate we are likely to shortly be burdened with a Hungarian Dingley bill.

In connection with the Tariff Conference I must mention a certain professor of political economy who was a member of the Conference and an ardent defender of protection. Only about six months ago when the tariff question was not yet before us, I spoke with him on the subject of free-trade. "Of course," said he, "I am a freetrader too." But we were then by ourselves. Since he has played his part in the Conference I am constrained to believe that Mr. George was right in all that he said about professors of political economy.

I will add that Hungary is a real Eldorado for monopolists. All "home producers" are in every way greatly aided by the government. Sugar and spirit get high premiums, and not a single paper would dare to make a campaign against it. It must seem very unprofitable to our papers to be a little sincere.

ROBERT BRAUN.

Budapest, Hungary, Sept. 6, 1898.

THE SHERBORN REFORMATORY FOR WOMEN.

Some remarkable statements were made at a meeting in the United Charities building by Mrs. Johnson, the manager of the women's prison at Sherborn, Mass. It would seem hardly credible that separate reformatories for women are a very modern innovation, were it not that it is still the almost universal practice throughout the country to confine prisoners of both sexes in the same building, and frequently with very imperfect separation. The experiment appears to have been highly successful in Massachusetts. The manager of the institution studies each case as it comes to her, as a physician studies cases of disease, and instead of an unvarying

regimen and identical doses, adopts such treatment as seems required by individual conditions. Flowers, music, and animals are made instrumentalities of refinement, and instruction in sewing and all forms of household work is systematically given. Although the inmates of this reformatory number 300, there is but one dungeon, which is almost never used, and of the forty cells only nine are occupied. Outdoor work is provided in the fields and in the gardens, and the culture of silk worms proves an absorbing occupation, the women often begging to be allowed to work at it till ten o'clock at night. Good conduct is rewarded by promotion in the social scale, and finally by discharge on parole. Positions in private families are secured for these discharged women, the conditions of the arrangement being carefully guarded, and so successful has this system of employment proved that there are now actually over a thousand applications for these servants that cannot be filled. It must be admitted that this fact is conclusive as to the merits of Mrs. Johnson's system, at least as administered by her. If people are more and more anxious to secure discharged convicts as members of their households, it is evident that the process of reformation is a real and not a sham one.—New York Evening Post.

"Let women vote!" cries one. "Why, wives and daughters might be democrats while their fathers and husbands were whigs. It would never do. It would produce endless quarrels." And the self-satisfied objector thinks he has settled the question.

But, if the principle be a sound one, why not apply it in a still more important instance? Difference of religion breeds more quarrels than difference in politics. Yet we allow women to choose their own religious creeds, although we thereby run the risk of wives being Episcopalians while their husbands are Methodists, or daughters being Catholics while their fathers are Calvinists. Yet who, this side of Turkey, dare claim that the law should compel women to have no religious creed, or adopt that of their male relatives? Practically, this freedom in religion has made no difficulty; and probably equal freedom in politics would make as little.—Wendell Phillips.

I have the misfortune to be mayor of this city. I came in wholly unprepared and entirely ignorant of my duties, but with a determination to try to do my duty honestly and fairly. I have done so for about 18 months.

But because I have not stopped the stream of iniquity which has been flowing on for centuries, I have been attacked by the ministry, led on by a partisan press, and charged with every crime in the calendar. Sitting in my office day after day, listening to the appeals of men for an opportunity to earn a living for family and self, it began to dawn upon me that there was something horribly wrong in society; that in my efforts to abate the three great moral evils of a city—the saloon, prostitution and gambling—I was in most cases striking at results and leaving the cause untouched. Dr. Heron's sermons, together with the cases which come to me, have in a measure crystallized my thoughts. I begin to see wherein lies the difficulty. If some of the impractical, and I must say shamefully ignorant, ministers of my town do not cease their criticisms, I will preach some myself. Unless there is a change soon no man with a decent character and a family will dare go into politics in America.—The Mayor of an American City, to The Kingdom.

Severance of our accidental connection with the Philippines should be as prompt and complete as justice to the inhabitants of those islands will permit.

A government of the people, by the people, and for the people, does not contemplate a government of or by one people for another people.

The best and only way for the people of the Philippines to learn the art of self-government is to practice it.

Are our own people so perfect in the practice of that art as to warrant their spending any time or effort in practicing the effete art of governing other peoples?—John S. Crosby, in The New Earth.

The tender affection of Mrs. Gladstone for the dead statesman was characterized by implicit faith and reverent devotion. An English bishop was a guest at Hawarden castle, and joined in a conversation with Mrs. Gladstone and others concerning the Armenian atrocities. "There is one above who knows," piously concluded the bishop. "Yes," replied Mrs. Gladstone; "he'll be down in a minute or two. He's upstairs washing his hands just now."—Ladies' Home Journal, Philadelphia.

This present war is not really over yet, and until it is, and we have harvested and threshed out its crop, it will be best for us not to exult over it with too much noise. When it has come to be recalled with fireworks

and joyful oratory and general popular enthusiasm in Cuba and Puerto Rico, and Manila and Honolulu, then it will be ample time for the eagle to spread himself over it at home.—Life.

"A Philanthropist," writes the Chicago School Boy, "is a Man who conducts a Charity with other People's Money for the Purpose of advertising his private Business and scooping in the Rakeoff." Now, how did that Chicago school boy get such a notion into his head?—Chicago Inter Ocean (Yerkes' Paper).

Mark Twain writes to a friend: "It feels so good to be out of debt that I have canceled a number of lecture engagements in Australia. I have no respect for a man who goes about robbing the public on the platform unless he is in debt."

"Your father says we can't marry until I have \$50,000, and I haven't a cent."

"Never mind, dear. I'm willing to wait, if it takes six months."—Life.

"They say the sun never sets on the British empire."

"Doesn't it now? And we have such magnificent sunsets over here!"—Puck.

"Tell me where is fancy bred,
In the heart or in the head?"

"If you care to hunt around,

In a bake shop 't will be found.

—Puck.

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