two Democratic nominations for the lower house in every district, Mr. Cole is right. This would have a marked effect in curbing the power of both machines.

JERRY SIMPSON.

Since the death of Jerry Simpson (p. 465), of whom an excellent portrait accompanies this sketch,* his baptismal name has been widely published as Jeremiah Socrates. But that was never his name. It was an invention intended to afford the ingenious inventor an opportunity to contrast Simpson's original reputation as a Populist "calamity howler," with the quality of keen-sighted, hard-headed wisdom he was afterward discovered to possess. His baptismal name was Jeremiah, neither more nor less. The name of his own adoption, however, was simply Jerry. He always signed it so himself, and so it appears by his authority in the Congressional biographies.

Jerry Simpson was born in Westmoreland county, Province of New Brunswick, March 31, 1842. His father was a descendant of William Simpson, a Scotch emigrant to Prince Edward Island in 1772; his mother was a Washburn of Welsh ancestry. In his seventh year his parents moved to Oneida county, New York, where they lived for three years and then returned to New Brunswick. Of their large family only one child was born in the United States — Mrs. Lucy S. Clarke, now of Westville, Ind. Some of the others as well as Jerry were born before the family came into the United States, and the rest after its return to the British province.

At an early age Jerry Simpson began the serious business of his life. When not yet in his teens he hired himself out to a neighbor for six dollars a month. But this did not last long. At the end of three months he took a cow in settlement and quit.

His next employment, while he was still a boy, was as cook—not cabin boy, as some of his biographies have it—on board a small vessel trading between Port Huron and Detroit. He remained in this employment until his fourteenth year, when, having got his "sea legs" he shipped on a larger vessel of the Great Lakes as able-bodied seaman. For twenty-three years thereafter, he was a hard worker on these inland seas.

It might be inferred from this account of his childhood and youth that Jerry Simpson had received no schooling; and, indeed, his illiteracy has been generally assumed. But in fact he was neither without schooling nor illiterate. Although his pronunciation sometimes lacked scholarly polish and his spelling may not always have been conventional, he was better educated than many a man of faultless speech and spelling. His crudities were less noticeable as errors of illiteracy than as the quaint idiosyncrasies of a man of strong individuality. Simpson's father had tried to provide him with a school education, and in a measure had succeeded. But other employments were more attractive to Jerry than the tasks of school, and he was far from a regular attendant. He did, however, progress to higher school grades than he is commonly credited with having done; and in reading to his father, a man of dim eyesight, whose choice of literature was of a high order, Jerry early acquired a taste for good books and a faculty for straight thinking. His range of reading, beginning in his boyhood and continuing through life, included Shakespeare, Milton, John Stuart Mill, Longfellow, Blackstone, Kent's Commentaries, Henry George, and the newspapers. "I was always a great newspaper reader," he once assured a friend of his later life.

That he was by no means an ignorant man, is evident not alone from the testimony of his public career but also from his service on the Great Lakes. Service on those lakes in Simpson's day, in the capacities in which he served, called for educational accomplishments which, though not of the kind to give polish, were of a kind to foster intellectual strength. The qualifications of a sea captain as well as those of able seaman must have been possessed by Simpson for his service on the water, and as a lake captain he needed the abilities of a business man for his service in port.

Along in the '50s, while Simpson was serving as first mate on board a vessel lying at the dock in Chicago and ready to sail for Buffalo, he got himself involved in a charge of mutiny. His compassion having been excited by the brutal conduct of the intoxicated captain toward a young boy of the crew, Mr. Simpson interfered. The captain drew a revolver and began firing. From drunkenness his aim was so bad that he hit no one, but the noise of the pistol shots alarmed the police, and when they appeared they arrested Mr. Simpson for mutiny, taking the captain with them as a witness. At the hearing, the vessel's owners learned the circumstances, and upon Mr. Simpson's acquittal they dismissed the captain and promoted the mate to his place. The voyage of this vessel to Buffalo was Capt. Simpson's first in command, but in that capacity he served for many years.

In his long service as a lake captain he commanded other vessels and larger ones, and some of his experiences on those stormy inland seas were thrilling enough. The great salt seas have little more of terror to offer than these fresh water lakes, which are said to be at times terrifying even to the most hardened of salt water sailors.

One of Simpson's thrilling experiences occurred just before he abandoned the sailor's life for the farmer's. The "J. H. Rutter," under his command, was towing the steam barge "Ketchum" when a furious storm of wind and snow arose. The painter parted and the two ships were separated in the fury of the storm and the darkness of the night. Then the "Rutter" broke her steering apparatus and was at the mercy of the wind. At daybreak she ran aground off Ludington, Mich. The wind dying down, Capt. Simpson undertook to save the vessel by bringing help from shore and unloading her. Going ashore with small boats he brought back about 30 landsmen, whom he set at work. When the unloading had been only partly done, the wind again arose and with greater fury than before. Capt. Simp-

* Mr. Simpson's portrait is furnished as a supplement with the present issue of The Public.

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son's landsmen were utterly incapable of caring for themselves in this dreadful and unaccustomed environment, and he and his brother James had to force them into the rigging, actually carrying some of them and lashing them fast. The storm raged all day and when the sun went down Capt. Simpson and his crew had given up hope. But they were soon discovered in this hopeless predicament by a United States gunboat which came to the wreck and took them ashore.

After that disaster Cap. Simpson had no expectation of getting another vessel to command. But the next season he was offered a better one with better pay. Although he accepted the offer, he did not remain on the lakes beyond the year, and in 1878 he drifted to Kansas.

Early in the period of Simpson's service on the lakes, the Civil War had broken out, and he enlisted as a private in Co. A, of the Twelfth Illinois Infantry. His army service was short. In a few months after his enlistment he was forced out of it by ill health. It was in connection with his enlistment that he became an American citizen. The newspaper statements that he became a citizen in virtue of his father's naturalization are erroneous. Even if his father had remained in this country long enough to become a citizen himself, his return with his son Jerry to British territory and resumption of his British allegiance, when the boy was only 9 years old, would have prevented the naturalization of the son in virtue of the father's naturalization. Simpson's naturalization was undoubtedly accomplished through his enlistment as a soldier.

Upon going to Kansas, Simpson set up a sawmill in Jackson county. But he did not remain long there, for a sad experience drove him to decide upon leaving the place. One day a workman had started a log rolling from the top of a hillock near the mill, just as Simpson's little daughter, a child of four, was running to the mill to meet her father. She saw the log rolling toward her, and turned to run from it; but her movements were not quick enough. The log overtook her and knocking her down rolled over her body and crushed out her life.

To get away from this sorrowful memory, Simpson sold his mill and bought a farm in Barber county. On this farm, about six miles from Medicine Lodge, which is in the same county with Wichita, he engaged in farming and stock raising. It was there that the events occurred which brought him into national prominence.

In politics Jerry Simpson had been a Republican. He was a Republican in party affiliation because he was a democrat in political principle. His father's essential democracy had made the son an Abolitionist, and in 1864 he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln.

So long as the Republican party stood true to democratic principles, Jerry Simpson remained a Republican. But its drift toward the maelstrom of plutocracy in which it is now whirling became evident to open-minded observers as early as 1872, and Simpson's essential democracy was soon disturbed by this tendency. Such a man could not long remain in such a party. But the Democratic party, with its proslavery traditions, was not an acceptable alternative at that early day. He voted for Horace Greeley in 1872, but as a Liberal Republican, not as a Democrat, and in 1876 he voted for Peter Cooper, having by that time become a Greenbacker.

As a member of the Greenback party and its successor in Kansas, the Union Labor party, Simpson was twice a candidate for the Kansas legislature. Though each time defeated, it was by only a small plurality. The local prominence that these campaigns brought him led to his appointment in the Spring of 1890 as city marshal of Medicine Lodge, into which he had recently moved from his farm. It was his first public office and in it he instantly proved his capability as a public servant.

Medicine Lodge is a frontier town of a Prohibition State, and so it was then. Such towns are notorious for their evasions of the prohibitory laws, and Medicine Lodge was like the rest. At one of the local elections a law-enforcing ticket was put into the field and elected. As a rule the law-enforcing spirit subsides when the votes are counted; but not so here, for Jerry Simpson was city marshal. His first step was to call upon the proprietor of the most respectable hotel in the place and affably request him to close his bar. The proprietor protested that the people had intended to suppress the dives and not to interfere with business men of his respectability. To this protest Jerry Simpson replied: "I intend to close the dives, but I can't order them to close while your bar is open. All bars must close—the respectable ones first."

Further expostulation proved useless. The "lid" was put on and it staid on while Jerry Simpson remained city marshal. That happy mixture of democratic uprightness of purpose and affable shrewdness in execution, was Simpson's dominant characteristic in public life.

When the People's party movement rose like a tidal wave in Kansas it found Simpson almost in the middle of its path. For two years it had been quietly organizing, and in his own county Jerry Simpson was one of the leaders. It had not been organized as a political movement, but was distinctly a farmers' movement. The Farmers' Alliance had organized as trade unions do. They had held meetings fortnightly in every schoolhouse in Kansas, and discussed "the way out" of the economic trap in which they knew they were caught. Gradually these meetings became economic schools and debating societies; and when the farmers realized, as soon they did, that politics had undone them, they decided that politics must rescue them. Then came their conventions and after these the triumphant elections of 1890. The Republicans had carried Kansas in 1888 by 80,000; but in 1890, although they elected their gubernatorial candidate by 8,000, the Populist candidate for attorney general, endorsed by the Democrats, was elected by 50,000, and the Populists elected five out of the seven Congressmen.

In that campaign Jerry Simpson was the People's party candidate for Congress from the 7th Congressional district of Kansas. At the Congressional convention

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each aspirant for the nomination was required to make a speech and answer questions. Simpson made his speech with the rest. He answered questions, too, and as satisfactorily as the rest—all but one question. This was about pensions. To question a pension law was at that time and in that home of the G. A. R. akin to treason. But when the pension question was propounded to Jerry Simpson he declared himself as opposed to reckless pensioning. It was not a popular answer, but it was evidently an honest one. As Simpson left the platform a friend told him his pension answer had killed his nomination. But the delegates to that convention were puritanical in their devotion to ideas. They argued that if this candidate were brave and honest enough to stand up for his principles there, with the nomination at stake, he could be depended on to stand up for their principles in Congress. So his unpopular answer, instead of losing him the nomination won it for him.

On that July night he began his campaign. His district was as large territorially as the State of Pennsylvania; and in buggies, on horseback, on foot, in farmers' wagons, and on railroad cars when possible, he campaigned it thoroughly, speaking at least once a day, frequently twice and sometimes oftener, for four long months. He slept and ate in hotels, in farm houses, in sod houses, as opportunity offered. Like all the other Populist candidates in Kansas in that memorable year, he was paid $2 a day for his campaign work.

To embarrass him the Republicans issued a debating challenge. Their candidate, James R. Hallowell, was one of the most popular men and the best stump speaker in the State. If Simpson refused the challenge he could be laughed at; if he accepted, he would be flayed in the debate. That was the notion. Simpson accepted and Hallowell met him once. But only once. Said the editor of the Wichita Eagle, a few weeks after the election: "We expected our man to wipe the floor with Simpson, but Simpson wiped the floor with him, and after the first meeting our man wouldn't come to time." Simpson discounted all Hallowell's advantage as a trained and skillful orator with his opening words: "I can't make you as good a speech as Col. Hallowell will, because thirty years of hard work as a sailor and a farmer don't make very good actors of men." To this day Col. Hallowell's reputation in Kansas is less secure as an orator than as the man with whom Jerry Simpson "wiped the floor" in joint debate.

It was in his speech at this debate with Hallowell that Simpson laid the foundation for his fame as the "sockless statesman." Many absurd stories in explanation of this epithet have been told in print. The true one, also, has often been told, but it must be told again. The term "silk stocking" had been applied by the Populists to the Republicans. Alluding to this in his debate, Simpson said in substance: "Mr. Hallowell talks for silk stocking folks, but I am talking for farmers, and they've been made so poor by silk stocking laws that they can't afford even socks."

In some versions of this explanation, Simpson is said to have exhibited to his audience his own sockless foot, but that is not true. No gesture was necessary. There was something in the rhetorical antithesis that caught the humor of the crowd, and the newspapers did the rest. From that moment Simpson was "the sockless statesman of Medicine Lodge."

Too good natured to resent the epithet, he was too shrewd to reject it, and it served an excellent purpose in introducing him to the American people. If commonplace Congressmen thought they were to have in the "sockless statesman" a "butt" for their wit, they soon learned their mistake—from Speaker Reed down to the "rusty old Cannon from Illinois" they all learned it.

Jerry Simpson left Washington universally respected alike for his sterling honesty and his rugged intellectual abilities. Elected in 1890 as a Populist candidate, he was reelected in 1892 as the Populist and Democratic candidate. The Republican landslide of 1894 carried him down, but as the Democratic candidate he was again elected in 1896. After the expiration of his term in 1898 he held no public office. Nor did he long remain active in Kansas politics. An opportunity offering to dispose of his Kansas property to advantage he removed to Roswell, New Mexico, In the politics of this Territory he soon took an active interest, and would doubtless have played a prominent part in its future history had he retained his health. But last Summer his fatal illness, due to an aneurism of the aorta, attacked him. With faint hopes of recovery he went back to Wichita for treatment, and in the Catholic hospital there he died on the 23d day of October, 1905. His body was buried at Wichita with the rites of the order of Free Masons.

In describing Simpson after his death, the Associated Press dispatch from Washington spoke of him as "in many respects one of the most unique characters who has adorned the history of Congress," and credited him with having turned "popular Eastern sentiment regarding Populism from ridicule to respectful consideration." Continuing it said:

> There was not a question of Congressional action on which Jerry Simpson did not think and on which his conclusions were not strikingly and entirely different from those of anyone else. His language and manner of speech were quaint in the highest degree. Simpson always tried to make his adversaries look ridiculous, always threw new light on every subject, made a personal friend of every member of the House, and his political opponents declared never changed a vote on any question of legislation.

If Simpson never changed a vote in Congress, it must be remembered that his qualities were not of the kind that are most effective in changing votes where money "talks" so much louder than men.

Jerry Simpson didn't know how to make money in politics. One newspaper has ungenerously said of him that he remained a Populist, "because he really had learned to believe in Populism, and because it was personally profitable to him to do so." The falsity of that last clause is proved by Simpson's record. The little fortune he had was made not in or by his connection with politics but in spite of it. His personal fortunes would have been better served had he returned to the Republican party, or kept out of politics alto-

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gether; but his honest instincts would have been outraged, and this determined him. Nor was it a sacrifice. Though by no means so rich in money as he might have been had he placed his shrewdness and his conscience at the disposal of the rich and powerful, as so many men of our own day do, his honesty made him richer in better things than money. One of these, which he valued very highly, was the personal confidence of Henry George; and that was something which no money could have bought.

Simpson's friendship with George was a result, not the cause, of Simpson's becoming a thoroughgoing believer in and active promoter of George's single tax ideas. He had become a single tax man before his first election to Congress; and his first speech in the East, at Cooper Union, New York city, in the Spring of 1891, was before a free trade meeting assembled under single tax auspices.

At the second session of the Fifty-third Congress, on the 31st day of January, 1894, he made one of the six members of the lower House who voted for the single tax substitute for the income tax. This substitute had been offered by Congressman James G. Maguire, of California. Among the six who voted for it was Charles Tracey, of New York, who was not a single tax man but took this method of registering his opposition to the income tax. Another was Michael D. Harter, of Ohio, who, though he believed in concentrating taxes on real estate, did not accept George's idea of exempting improvements. But the other four were pronounced believers in George's plan for exempting everything from taxation except the market value of land. They were James G. Maguire of California, Tom L. Johnson of Ohio, John De Witt Warner of New York, and Jerry Simpson of Kansas.

Being a single tax man, Simpson was of course an absolute free trader. He was no more secretive of his opinions on this subject than on any other subject affecting personal liberty. Although his Congressional district was honeycombed with protectionism, he was an outspoken free trader even in the heat of campaigns. One of his favorite methods of ridiculing protectionists was to ask them why we should spend money in deepening harbors to promote foreign trade, if it is a good thing to levy tariff taxes to obstruct foreign trade?

Jerry Simpson was manifestly a man of religious purposes and motives; but of his particular opinions on religious subjects he thought more than he spoke. That natural law is universal and immutable, as inviolable in the domain of morals as in that of matter, he was firmly convinced. Further than this he was probably agnostic, except that he held superstition in contempt. But in loving his neighbor as himself, in holding aloft as his ideal the principle of justice, he made his life in the highest sense a religious example.

Until within half an hour of his death, he was in full possession of his mental faculties, and notwithstanding the spasms of pain that afflicted him at intervals, his sunny temper never passed under a cloud. After the last of these spasms, he whispered to Dr. Galloway: "Doctor, this is the real demon; all the rest have been a joke." For days he had entertained Dr. Galloway, his personal physician to whom he had become deeply attached, with stories of his political career and jokes about his experiences, and these were his last words. They were spoken in the dark of the morning. As the day dawned Jerry Simpson died.

This remarkable man was a democratic nobleman, who never forgot a friend nor failed to forgive an enemy. He was a republican citizen, who knew no distinctive rights of station or wealth or race or color or sex. He was an honest man, whose honesty towered so far above policy as to be his guiding principle of thought and action regardless of personal consequences. Like Garrison, he was a patriot with the world for his country and all mankind for countrymen.

The Czar—Count, what shall I give out?

Witte—Oh, that you have given in.

And thus the Czar's inflexible will became a flexible constitution.—Minneapolis Journal.

NEWS NARRATIVE

How to use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives: Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue so until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Thursday, Nov. 16.

Election results.

Until the official canvasses of the recent elections (p. 508) are complete, nothing positive can be asserted of any of the results that were close enough to be in doubt last week.

The most important and interesting of the doubtful results is that of New York, where William Randolph Hearst is contesting the reported re-election by a small plurality of Mayor George B. McClellan (pp. 506, 508). McClellan claimed his re-election on the 9th, two days after the voting by 4,180, and announced that—

> these returns are the results of procedure prescribed by law and they are expressly declared by the law to be presumptively correct. I believe they are correct. Therefore, I shall take all legitimate means to protect my rights, as well as those of voters. If my adversary appeals to the law to overthrow what are now the legal returns of the results of the election I shall meet him fully prepared to vindicate these results. To the courts, where these differences must be passed upon, every candidate and every citizen should readily submit.

Mayor McClellan's leading counsel is Alton B. Parker, lately Democratic candidate for President, who said in court on the 15th that—

> Mayor McClellan would never keep to his count nor to his majority one single illegal or dishonest ballot. Whatever be the truth, Mayor McClellan wants it, and it is my duty as his counsel to ask the court to make no order that would give him one technical advantage. If he would willingly take advantage of any trick to secure a ballot which did not belong to him, I would not be here representing him.

An official opinion of the Attorney General of the State indicates a victory for Hearst. It is based on the fact that several thousand voters who declared their intention of voting the Hearst ticket en-

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