

urged that the ship subsidy should be welcomed by them as an ally. But free traders are not playing in a game. They are not opposing protection for sport. They oppose it because, whatever may be the mode of application, it is in practice destructive to wholesome industry and in principle economically false and morally pernicious.

The subsidy movement is the normal culmination of a long era of protection by tariffs. In that era a few gigantic trusts, promoted and buttressed if not caused by protection, have developed. They hold the fate of legitimate industry almost at their mercy, and threaten even the political integrity of the republic. They have perverted the intellectual standard of schools and colleges. They have polluted the moral atmosphere of churches. They have insinuated their influence into newspaper sanctums. They have dictated policies in legislative assemblies, seated their own professional servants upon the judicial bench, corrupted nominating conventions, and by trick and device diverted the course of public opinion itself. And now, glutted with pelf and drunken with power, they cynically propose to rob the public boldly, directly from the public treasury, as for a generation they have been robbing it stealthily by means of protective tariffs.

That in doing this they will cause the whole protection edifice to crumble is reasonably to be expected. But that much-desired ending of the most absurd and demoralizing superstition of economic history, is not a reason for advocating subsidies as the destructive means. This would indeed be doing evil that good might come. Much more to the honor of American intelligence and American sensitiveness to right and justice would it be for American citizenship to condemn the protective scheme with deliberation, than to leave it to the fates.

Rather than approve the shipping subsidy, though in the reasonable hope that its development would expose the absurd iniquity of protection and loosen the grasp of that superstition, all conscientious and intelligent citizens will demand that the shipping subsidy be condemned because it is one of the forms of that superstition. Free traders would

rather kill protection with the club of common sense or the sword of common justice, than help to poison it with an overdose of subsidies, however reconciled they might be to seeing it so poisoned by its friends.

DR. L. B. TUCKERMAN.

Outside of the medical societies, in which he was an active member, and beyond the city of Cleveland, where his medical practice was large and his personality familiar, Dr. Tuckerman's fame had but slightly extended. In Cleveland, however, his reputation as a citizen had been for years as general as it was unique. It is a reputation, too, which is more likely to spread and grow with time than to fade.

Of Dr. Tuckerman, Tom L. Johnson, now the mayor of Cleveland, is reported by the local press to have said several years ago that he regarded him as "the best citizen of Cleveland," because "he is always striving for the best interests of all the people and he has devoted his life unselfishly to the alleviation of suffering and the promotion of civic righteousness." This estimate of Tuckerman was repeated by the mayor upon learning of the doctor's sudden death, which occurred on the 5th, when he was barely 52 years of age. Nor was it an empty compliment. For in fact Dr. Tuckerman's devotion to public interests, and in no narrow or mere "patriotic" way, either, was both singular and weariless. And this devotion is to be publicly acknowledged at a meeting now being arranged upon a large scale, to be held on Sunday the 16th by progressive citizens of Cleveland.

A democrat of strong convictions, his intolerance of the undemocratic influences so long dominant in the Democratic party, made Dr. Tuckerman a populist in politics and afterward a member of the Socialist party, of which he was the candidate for school director at the time of his death. His socialism was not distinctively of the "scientific" order. It did not rest upon the materialistic philosophy nor cling to the class lines, of the socialism which is becoming in this country as in Germany the dominant type; but would have to be classified with the miscellaneous kinds,

of which there is a great variety, usually to be found outside instead of inside the Socialist party. Dr. Tuckerman was doubtless the father of the agitation for municipal ownership of public utilities in Cleveland, which has now gained such enormous headway there.

His early training in public affairs was under abolition influences in the famous Western Reserve; and to the time of his death the inspiring ideals of absolute right in human relationships, which made that movement invincible, remained his pillar of cloud by day and his pillar of fire by night. A public character developed conscientiously under the guidance of that principle, and which makes so deep an impression upon his community as Dr. Tuckerman is conceded to have made upon Cleveland, cannot but be remembered with increasing distinctness and grateful affection by everyone who may have come within the range of its influence.

JOHN S. MURPHY.

Another man of moral valor and civic power in his own community, is numbered this week among those whose days of fighting for the truth as it comes to them are over. The death of John S. Murphy, long the editor of the Dubuque Telegraph, and, after its consolidation with the Herald, of the Dubuque Telegraph-Herald, is announced in the issue of that paper of the 11th. Mr. Murphy was one of the leading newspaper men of Iowa, guiding the policy of a daily paper that stood in the foreground of state journalism; and in the Democratic party of the state he was a valued counselor, in convention and committee room as well as in the editorial sanctum. A democratic-Democrat, and withal a single tax advocate of clear perceptions and the intelligence as well as the courage of his convictions, his services to the Democratic party were dictated by the highest motives and distinguished by rare good judgment. On one occasion his loyalty was put to a severe test, but he stood it without flinching. Though dependent upon an editorial salary for the support of his family, he promptly laid down the editorial control of the Telegraph and sacrificed the much needed salary, rather than

stand sponsor for the advocacy by the owners of the paper of a 99-year charter for the old Dubuque street railway company. No better obituary could any true man wish for than that which is contributed to Mr. Murphy's memory in the editorial columns of a rival paper, the Dubuque Times:

With a heart full of sympathy for the weak, a noble aspiration for service to society, with a soul and intellect that gave him splendid courage and rare eloquence in the defense of any cause that appealed to his sympathies, John S. Murphy won the affections and the admiration of thousands. His life's work suddenly ended, its influence survives in their hearts. His lofty purposes remain as a heritage to the generation he sought to serve, while by those long and intimately associated with him in his work the memory of his kindness, gentleness and patience and the warmth and loyalty of his friendship will be treasured as his choicest influence and example.

NEWS

The war in South Africa continues to be the center of news interest; and, owing to an event of the current week, a news center of extraordinary importance. This event is a battle in which the Boers gained a startling victory and numbered among their prisoners the distinguished British general Methuen, the senior officer in South Africa next to Lord Kitchener.

Complete reports of the battle are not yet at hand. Lord Kitchener telegraphed the general facts on the 8th from Pretoria and they were made public in parliament on the 10th. According to this dispatch Gen. Methuen "was moving with 900 mounted men, under Maj. Paris, and 300 infantry, 4 guns and a pompom, from Winburg to Lichtenburg," when the attack was made. Winburg is in the Orange Free State, about 70 miles northeast from Bloemfontein; and Lichtenburg is in the South African Republic, about 25 miles east of Mafeking. The two points are about 150 miles apart, Winburg being the more southern. The best known places in the region between these extremes are Kroonstad, Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp. Gen. Methuen was to have effected a junction on the 8th with Gen. Grenfell, who, commanding 1,300 mounted men,

left Klerksdorp for that purpose; but early on the morning of the 7th he was attacked by Gen. Delarey, with a force estimated at 1,500, between Taaibasch and Palmieteknill, and, his force being thrown into confusion, he lost his guns and baggage and was himself taken prisoner. At Lord Kitchener's request this dispatch was withheld from publication by the British government at London until the receipt of a second one, dated the 10th, had confirmed the discouraging news of the first. The second dispatch told of the return of Maj. Paris with the remnant of Methuen's force. They reported that the attack had been made just before dawn, and that the British rear guard broke before reinforcements could come up, throwing men, mules and wagons into confusion. Maj. Paris collected a few men and made a sturdy defense, but at 10 o'clock in the forenoon was compelled to surrender. The British loss thus far reported, besides guns and baggage, was 41 killed, 77 wounded, and 201 missing. Though Gen. Methuen was retained as a prisoner, Maj. Paris appears to have been released. When last seen, Gen. Methuen was being well cared for in his own wagon, though suffering from a fractured thigh.

When the news of this disaster was announced in the House of Commons on the 10th, the Irish members cheered; but the general feeling both in the House and in the country is reported to have been more depressed and gloomy than at any time since the British disasters of 1899. This feeling has been intensified since the 11th by a general fear that Grenfell's force, which was to have effected a junction with Methuen on the 8th, has also suffered disaster, nothing having been heard from it since it left Klerksdorp. British reinforcements are being ordered out from London and the determination to pursue the "unconditional surrender" policy is asserted to be unrelaxed.

It is evident that there is very little American sentiment in sympathy with that attitude of the British government, while sympathy with the Boers is expressing itself with growing emphasis. The matter came up in Congress on the 7th, when Representative Burleson, of Texas, introduced a resolution calling upon the Secretary of State to explain why he refused to ask permission of the British government (p. 740) for the Rev.

Hiram W. Thomas and his wife to go to the British reconcentrado camps in South Africa, for the purpose of distributing relief funds collected under the authority of Gov. Yates. Mr. Burleson addressed the House on this resolution on the 11th, declaring his purpose to be to fasten the attention of the American people on the pro-British course of the state department. There was also a large popular demonstration at Joliet, Ill., on the 11th, one of an increasing number of public meetings in the West in protest against the attitude of the American government toward the British in the South African war. It was addressed by ex-Gov. Altgeld, of Illinois, on 18 specified points, the substance of which is printed in our Miscellany department this week; and the occasion was made sadly but impressively dramatic by the death of Gov. Altgeld in consequence of his effort and soon after the close of his speech.

Mr. Altgeld, though apparently in excellent physical condition at the beginning of his speech, grew weak toward its close; but rousing himself he delivered the peroration with his usual oratorical power, except that he stammered slightly toward the end as if confused. Having finished, and while the audience was yet applauding his splendid effort, he fell in a faint; and although he afterward recovered consciousness for a time, physicians pronounced his ailment an attack of apoplexy, and at 7 o'clock on the following morning, March 12, he died.

Born in Prussia, December 30, 1847, Altgeld came to this country with his parents when three years of age. His parents settled on a farm, in Ohio, and his early life was hard and his opportunities for acquiring an education poor. In 1864 he enlisted in the Union army, and fought as a private through the James river campaign. At the close of the war he worked his way through an academy, and after teaching in Ohio went, penniless and on foot — what we should now call a tramp — to St. Louis and thence to Kansas and Northwestern Missouri, where he taught school and studied law, working on farms at intervals. He was admitted to the bar in 1870, in Missouri, where he served for a time as city attorney of Savannah and then as state's attorney for Andrew county. In 1875 he came to Chicago. Here he built up a large practice and made