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"National prosperity!" answered Secretary Shaw, the other day in Philadelphia, when asked how he accounted for the stringency in the money market. "National prosperity," he said; "that alone will account for it, I think." What a diagnosis! "Good health!" said the doctor, when asked why a patient was sick. "Good health," said he; "that alone will account for it, I think."

Mayor Maybury, of Detroit, curiously illustrates a misuse of the word "radical" when he calls himself one and then enumerates opinions which he holds that are no more radical than the tire on a wagon wheel. "Radical" does not mean fanatical, but is an allusion to "root." That which goes to the root is radical. As applied to social reformers it describes not those who make a multifarious fuss about social wrongs, but those who try to eradicate them.

When the Chicago board of aldermen, Republicans and Democrats, voted for a resolution, as they did on the 13th, memorializing Congress to obtain control of undeveloped coal lands in order that the fuel monopoly might be broken by competition with the general government, they showed that they "hear a bell ringing but don't know where the clapper is." If undeveloped coal mines were taxed at the same rate in proportion to market value as farms and cottage homes, the fuel monopoly would be broken without delay and effectually, by private competition.

A significant commentary upon the recent proclamation by the Brit-

ish government of several counties in Ireland as so lawless that jury trial therein must be abolished and public meetings forbidden, is afforded by the British "blue book" of Irish criminal statistics for 1901. According to the London Speaker, this government report discloses the fact that there is less crime in Ireland than in England and in Wales. For every three offenders in England and Wales, there are only two in Ireland. It is further observed that the Irish districts where there was least crime last year were the first to be divested of their civil rights this year. When imperialism gets in the saddle, popular government is in a fair way of being trampled upon, no less in Ireland than elsewhere.

It now leaks out that the Republicans of Alabama have been as anxious as the Democrats to bar Negroes from the ballot box; and they have availed themselves of the opportunity a wholesale disfranchisement affords, to exclude from their State convention every Negro delegate. Perhaps the Negroes of the country will begin to learn after a while, that the race question is no longer a party question, but that their rights are involved in the general question of fundamental democracy. No longer does the Republican party stand as a guardian over the rights of Negroes. Its imperialistic policy has taken all that sort of "nonsense" out of it. The rights of the Negro now depend upon the democratic Democrats and the democratic Republicans of the country, who defend them not because they want the Negro vote, ignoring them when he has none to give, but because he is a man.

Some Southern editors think they are meeting the child-labor question in their section, and duly rebuking Northern critics, by finding out from

"careful investigation" that, as one Southern paper puts it: "Laborers under twelve years of age in Southern cotton mills are relatively very few." The poor misguided section-mad creatures! Can they not see that no matter how few, relatively, child laborers are now, the vital fact is that they exist at all, and that they have come in with Southern "prosperity." Are these editors so obtuse that with all the experience of the North to enlighten them, they yet cannot understand that as this kind of "prosperity" increases in the South, the destruction of children in factories—so common at the North,—will become common also at the South? It is one of the piteous phenomena connected with the increase of poverty with the increase of wealth. Desperate parents throw their children among the factory wheels, as desperate travelers have been known to throw babies to packs of wolves, to save themselves. It is one of the lamentable effects of jughanded "prosperity."

Why it should have been supposed that the coal barons have yielded, even in the slightest degree, is something we venture to suggest no reflecting man can understand. Upon the face of the matter at least, Mr. Baer was right when he said that there had been no yielding. Acting together as a bosses' union, the barons refused to treat or arbitrate with the miners' union. They refused still. Offered the opportunity by the miners' union of an arbitration in which the union should take no part, the arbitrators to be appointed by the President without restrictions, they had refused that. They refused it still. All they did was to propose that each employer should arbitrate with his own men before arbitrators to be selected by the President out of certain specified and very limited