

wars be waged in their defense. But there is one objection even to wars for defense which writers like the distinguished dean seldom consider. It is to their being glorified. At the best, war is, indeed, a "terrible necessity;" yet this terrible necessity is exploited by strenuous jingoes as a divine jollification, and men like Farrar often indirectly give countenance to these human brutes. Let preachers stop apologizing for glorifiers of war, and the "terrible necessity" for waging it will seldom arise.

One of the most startling plans in furtherance of paternalism originates in New York city in the shape of a proposition to charter a private corporation for the maintenance of morality, the corporation to be invested with police powers. It is to be a corporation which, according to one of its advocates, "can instruct and plead while it punishes at the same time." The alarming fact about this proposition is that it really expresses a tendency which, should it persist, would make the people of our country subject in all particulars to corporation government. Some corporations, like the one in question, would have police powers. Others would assume grand jury functions. Others would administer the courts. Others would be invested with legislative authority. Others would collect taxes. (Some corporations do that already.) And so on, and on, until government had become a complex arrangement of private corporate interests.

The campaign preliminary to the first parliamentary elections for the new Commonwealth of Australia is opening with good prospects for the free traders. Among the leading candidates on their side is Max Hirsch, the best, as well as best-known, statistician of the Australian colonies. Journalistically, the movement is supported not only by the general free trade press, but also, and with inspiring fervor and good political sense, by the Arena, a new threepenny illus-

trated weekly which has been started in Melbourne to take the place of the monthly Beacon. The Beacon was for many years a beacon indeed in Australia. To it the present strength and radicalism of the free trade movement there is in large measure due. But as a monthly its appearance was too infrequent for the needs of a great parliamentary struggle, and the 'Arena has been substituted for it. Through the columns of this excellent Australian periodical, Americans may keep themselves well posted on the affairs of the new commonwealth — the United States of the austral seas.

Some indication of the corrupt influences that were brought to bear by plutocratic elements in the recent campaign to force men to vote against their convictions is offered by the following letter:

Cable address: "Spitzer." Spitzer & Co., bankers. Established 1871. Ceilan M. Spitzer, New York, 20 Nassau street. Albert L. Spitzer, Toledo, Spitzer Building.

Toledo, O., Aug. 22, 1900.—C. M. Hayden, Agent, Wells-Fargo Express Co., City—Dear Sir: We are somewhat surprised to read in the prominent papers of this country that J. J. Valentine, president of the Wells-Fargo Express company, who was a strong supporter of McKinley four years ago, has declared in an open letter for Bryan. If this is the case, it is not necessary for us to state to you that we shall only use your company when we are obliged to, and shall use every effort to throw business to other companies. We cannot afford to do business with a company that has at the head of it a man who is doing everything he can to destroy our business. We know of many more large customers of yours who are talking on the same lines, but do not feel like letting your people know this. You will find there will be a big crusade against your company from the Atlantic to the Pacific. We think your president is deserving of the same fate that St. John received, who was a prosperous man and at the head of one of the largest banks in New York. The pressure brought to bear on the bank was so heavy that the directors were obliged to ask St. John to resign. Mr. J. J. Valentine is not the proper person to be at the head of any financial institution. Any man who believes in free silver and Bryanism should not be at the head of one of the largest financial institutions of this country; he is

simply a traitor to the cause and is bound to ruin the business of the company by his open letters to the public, and if Bryan should be elected and this country go on a free silver basis your banking business would be ruined as well as your express business.

We think the directors should immediately ask this man Valentine to resign, for he surely has not the best interests of the stockholders and officers at heart, but, on the other hand, is seeking to destroy the company's business instead of helping it. The belief of the chief executive of any financial institution should be on the line of building up the business of the company instead of destroying it. Yours truly.

(Signed) Ceilan M. Spitzer.

In Valentine's case the person sought to be intimidated was able to rise superior to such influences. But how many of the hundreds of thousands who were approached in similar fashion were strong enough or brave enough to maintain their rights of citizenship? It was a common thing in the course of the campaign, on the part of republican speakers—Mr. Hanna was one of them—to argue that employes ought to vote as their employers wished. From argument on such a point there is but a step to a demand. And in Valentine's case we have the proof of such a demand. If this is not plutocracy—government by the rich—what shall we call it?

The members of the Henry George Bryan and Stevenson campaign club of Chicago have good reason to be satisfied with the work of their organization. For considerably more than a month it maintained in the center of the business district a series of public meetings which were almost continuous. Beginning at noon, they were carried on daily, except Sundays, until nearly midnight; and except at supper time the store room in which they were held was almost always crowded to the door. Some of the leading speakers of the country were heard at this place, and excellent work in the direction of fundamental democratic principles was done. So many contributed in various ways to the success of