

equality of rights for all, but privileges for a "chivalrous" few.

The recent revolutionary municipality decision of the supreme court of Ohio (p. 201) has produced a picturesque political situation in that state. For many years Republican legislatures have been making special municipal charters and regulations under a constitution which expressly forbids it, going even to the extent of distinguishing for legislative purposes between cities differing in no respect whatever except that at the previous census one of them had a larger population than the other by 18 or 20 inhabitants. In this way Cincinnati, normally a Democratic city, has been put under the government of state boards which has resulted in its being ruled by a Republican boss, Boss Cox, who dispenses the local patronage of the state. Cleveland, on the other hand, having always been a Republican city, was allowed to have an excellent system of home rule government, known as the federal plan, under which the heads of departments are directly responsible to the mayor and the mayor is directly responsible to the people. Yet the only municipal difference between these two cities is that Cincinnati once had the larger population. Cleveland has been the larger for some time, having outstripped Cincinnati in population, but the difference in forms of government were perpetuated. When Cleveland elected Tom L. Johnson as mayor, and Johnson began to work for the people instead of the monopoly corporations, the local Republican machine bethought itself that a state board government like that of Cincinnati was what Cleveland needed. So Mr. Hanna's attorney general saw his way clear to bringing an ouster suit. The plan was to "knock out" the Johnson administration by knocking out the federal plan, and then to put Cleveland under the control of Boss Hanna as Cincinnati was already under that of Boss Cox. Meanwhile, the Republican legislature, at the be-

hest of a Toledo ring of Republicans who could not "use" Mayor Jones, had abolished the Toledo police board and authorized the governor to appoint a state police board for Toledo—all under a constitution which forbids special legislation for municipalities. The object, of course, was to sidetrack Mayor Jones, and the voters who had elected him by a vast majority, by establishing a Toledo boss, to correspond with Boss Hanna of Cleveland and Boss Cox of Cincinnati. But the non-resistant Jones, saying he would ne'er resist, resisted. He sturdily refused to surrender to the state board, and that expectant body brought suit to compel him to. This suit came before the supreme court along with the Cleveland suit, and in disposing of the two the court took up the whole subject of special legislation for municipalities, rendering decisions upon principles which cut the roots of all the municipal legislation of the state for half a century. These decisions sustained Mayor Jones in Toledo on the ground that the new police legislation was special legislation; and on the same ground it declared the whole Cleveland charter invalid. Had the Cincinnati or Columbus charter been before the court it would have fared in the same way, and proceedings attacking these charters have since been set in motion. Mr. Hanna's fool friends in Cleveland and Toledo had jumped for the Cleveland and Toledo preserve jars and pulled down with a crash all the preserve jars on the pantry shelf.

Mr. Hanna's party in Ohio is consequently in great tribulation. Gov. Nash must call a special session of the legislature, in the midst of the state campaign, to enact a general municipal code. There is no escape from it, for the stay of proceedings ordered by the court when its decisions were rendered, expires early in October. But this is not the worst of the matter. The attempt to enact a general code promises to plunge all the local Republican rings of Ohio, with their

varying interests, into a Kilkenny-cat fight, from which the grand old party is likely to suffer. Nor is even that the worst. A code might be whipped through the legislature which would suit Boss Hanna of Cleveland and Boss Cox of Cincinnati—a code, that is, which would put all the cities of the state under the rule of state boards appointed by the Republican governor, and which would also protect the monopoly corporations from equitable taxation and other impertinent meddlings. The governor has gone so far in this direction as to engage two of the most notorious corporation lawyers of the state, one of them Mr. Hanna's personal legal adviser, to outline a code. That their work will be as nearly ideal as possible, from the point of view of corporation and boss government, goes without saying. But then comes the rub. If such a municipal code were passed by a Republican legislature, the party could hardly weather the political gale that would set in in Ohio, and in all probability Mayor Johnson would be promoted by the people of the state and called upon as governor to administer the very state board system which had been cooked up for the Republican ring. That would be bad, but there would be worse to come. Johnson's sincerity is becoming a recognized factor, and the Republican ring knows that he would use his power at once to repeal the plutocratic municipal code and put in its place a more radical home rule system than any for which he could possibly hope to get popular endorsement now. The situation is both picturesque and encouraging.

#### HISTORICAL EVOLUTION.

In the May number of the American Journal of Sociology Louis Wallis presented an advance outline of his forthcoming work, "The Capitalization of Social Development."

His conclusion is in harmony with the practical proposal of Henry George; though he arrives at this judgment by inductive or "scientific" methods, instead of the a priori