

Payne there is no difference, except that Vilas is a Grover Cleveland Democrat, while Payne is a Mark Hanna Republican; and this difference as a rule is only skin deep. Democrats of the democratic variety in Wisconsin will serve their party best by voting for La Follette for governor. A democratic Republican is always preferable to a plutocratic Democrat; and if Peck has any claims to being a democrat, except the party label, he has kept the secret well.

There are signs of a resuscitation of the anti-protection work of the Reform Club of New York. The tariff reform committee of this club did splendid work in the early '90's; but with an injection of protection sentiment into the club, the club deteriorated and its free trade work languished. The only unfortunate thing about the proposed revival of the work is the persistence of the name, "tariff reform." Free traders look askance at this name because they were buncoed by it once; and protectionists, of course, are not to be caught with a name which, though it might mean reformation favorable to protection, is associated with the activities of such doubtful protectionists as John De Witt Warner, Charles S. Fairchild, Henry de Forest Baldwin, Charles Biggs, Robert Grier Monroe, P. J. Mosenthal, Franklin Pierce, Henry B. B. Stapler, Anson Phelps Stokes, Calvin Tompkins, Seth Sprague Terry, and Louis Windmuller. These gentlemen, free traders all, will strengthen their work immeasurably by coming out squarely and fairly for the fullest measure of free trade the Constitution permits—a tariff only for revenue. "Tariff reform" is a back number, with the reputation of a humbug; "a tariff only for revenue" suggests a policy to command respect and it is distinguished by a name that inspires confidence.

From the altitude of an offer to convict the Colorado labor leaders of moral responsibility for the Colorado outrages, before a jury

composed of the leaders of the decent labor organizations of the country, down to a bare assertion that his charges "have already been made good to the satisfaction of nine-tenths of the people and press," Walter Wellman makes a somewhat precipitous descent. This is his reply, however, when challenged by the Chicago Federation of Labor to make his offer good.

In Denver a "Peabody Law and Order League" has been organized. What kind of law and order is that?

At a banquet on the occasion of a national convention of dentists last week, one seat was reserved for a Chicago dentist of large practice, exceptional professional ability, and undeniable personal charm, who happens to be a Negro. Against his presence at that banquet there was a protest, some of the other dentists announcing that they would not attend if this their fellow-worker appeared. He heard of it and stayed away. Which of all these, say you, was the gentleman?

THE INSPIRATION OF THE CANDIDATES.

According to an article by Walter Wellman in the Record-Herald of Sunday, Sept. 4th, the favorite poem of both the Democratic and the Republican candidates for the Presidency is John J. Ingalls's "Opportunity," which runs as follows:

Master of human destinies am I,
Love, fame and fortune on my footsteps wait.
Cities and fields I walk; I penetrate
Deserts and seas remote, and passing by
Hovel and mart and palace, soon or late
I knock unbidden once at every gate.
If sleeping, wake; if feasting, rise,
Before I turn away. It is the hour of fate,
And those who follow me reach every state
Mortals desire, and conquer every foe
Save death. But they who doubt or hesitate—
Condemned to failure, penury and woe—
Seek me in vain and uselessly implore.
I hear them not, and I return no more.

Mr. Wellman states that this is the inspiration of Judge Parker's life, he often reciting the lines aloud; while "an autographic copy

of it, by Mr. Ingalls himself, hangs within a frame upon a wall of President Roosevelt's office at the White House."

If our poetic tastes are an index to our philosophy of life, to our ideas of morality, to our ideas of the relation of society to the individual and of the individual to society, as I think they are, the views on these subjects which the candidates must logically entertain are not complimentary to them.

The only analogy to an admiration of "Opportunity" I can think of, is the worship, in pagan days, of the Goddess of Fortune; or the belief of Napoleon in his lucky star, which is another phase of the pagan conception.

The doctrine of Ingalls's sonnet is an assertion that chance and accident are the essence of the universal scheme, and that all-prevailing, immutable, but beneficent law has no place therein.

For why, from the nature of things, should any choice outside of ourselves have a whit to do with our being successful in the true sense of that word? Why may we not be successful by simply "laboring in the sweat of our brow," physically or intellectually, and observing the dictates of morality, of which every normal person is innately conscious? And, since every normal person may of his own free will labor and practice morality, why should success not be simply a matter of his volition to do these things? Who has had any authority to amend the natural law, that nothing can come except by the exertion of labor, and nothing lack with it, by adding, "if the time and circumstances be favorable, and the individual act then and only then, he may have the good things of life"?

... But they who doubt and hesitate—
Condemned to failure, penury and woe—
Seek me in vain and uselessly implore.
I hear them not, and I return no more—

runs the verse. Why hasn't one a right to doubt and hesitate? Why should he be "condemned to failure, penury and want," if he labors, tho' he do as much doubting and hesitating as he pleases?

It is the melancholy fact that natural law has been amended by men by introducing the element of opportunity; melancholy, because the disturbance of natural har-