

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

The nation bows in sorrow and in humiliation—in sorrow because its chief executive, its official head, is passing through the valley of the shadow of death—in humiliation because the president of our republic has fallen a victim to the cruel and cowardly methods employed in monarchies where helpless and hopeless subjects sometimes meet arbitrary power with violence.

In morals and in the contemplation of law all lives are of equal value—all are priceless—but when seven or five millions of people select one of their number and invest him with the authority which attaches to the presidency, he becomes their representative, and a blow aimed at him is resented as an attack upon all.

Beneath the partisanship of the individual lies the patriotism of the citizen, sometimes dormant, it is true, but always active in hours of peril or misfortune. While the president's life hangs in the balance there are no party lines. The grief of personal friends and close political associates may be more poignant, but their sympathy is more sincere than that extended by political opponents. Although none but his family and his physicians are admitted to his room, all his countrymen are at his bedside in thought and sentiment, and their prayers ascend for his recovery. It was characteristic of his thoughtfulness that, even amid the excitement following the assault, he cautioned his companions not to exaggerate his condition to his invalid wife.

The latest dispatches give gratifying news of his improvement, but there is still deep solicitude lest unfavorable symptoms may yet appear. And the humiliation? Are our public servants—those who are chosen by the people and who exercise for a limited time the authority bestowed by the people—are these to live in constant fear of assassination? Is there to be no difference between our constitutional government and those despotic governments which rest, not upon the consent of the governed, but upon brute force?

There is no room for anarchy in the United States; there is no room here for those who commit, counsel, or condone murder, no matter what political excuse may be urged in its defense. The line between peaceful agitation and violence is clear and distinct. We have freedom of speech and freedom of the press in this country, and these are essential to the maintenance of our liberties. If any one desires to criticize the methods of government or the conduct of an official he has a perfect right to do so, but his appeal must be to the intelligence and patriotism of his fellow citizens, not to force. Let no one imagine that he can improve social or political conditions by the shedding of blood.

Free governments may be overthrown but they cannot be reformed by those who violate the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill."

Under a government like ours every wrong can be remedied by law, and the laws are in the hands of the people themselves. Anarchy can be neither excused nor tolerated here. The man who proposes to right a public wrong by taking the life of a human being, makes himself an outlaw and cannot consistently appeal to the protection of the government which he repudiates. He invites a return to a state of barbarism in which each one must, at his own risk, defend his own rights and avenge his own wrongs.

The punishment administered to the would-be assassin and to his co-conspirators, if he has any, should be such as to warn all inclined to anarchy that while this is an asylum for those who love liberty, it is an inhospitable place for those who raise their hands against all forms of government.

While the laborers for the United States Steel corporation are fighting for the privilege of organization, it is announced that the president of that trust, who is said to draw an annual salary of \$1,000,000, has purchased a tract of ground for a residence, paying therefor the sum of \$600,000, and that when completed Mr. Schwab's home will have cost in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000. It would seem that if the revenue from the trust is sufficient to enable one of its officers, who a few years ago was a poor man, to build a palatial home, that the trust is sufficiently prosperous to give its workmen the privilege of organizing for the purpose of protecting their bread and butter.

Jackson, in his celebrated message vetoing the extension of the bank charter, said that the humble members of society were the victims of injustice whenever the government, by granting legislative favors and privileges, made the rich richer and the potent more powerful. If the men who eat their bread in the sweat of the face would act in concert at the polls, a speedy and inexpensive remedy would be found for every evil complained of.

Fusion in Nebraska resulted in wresting the state from the control of corrupt republican rings. Fusion promises to do the same thing in Pennsylvania. Good sense and good morals demand that no one condemn a move that results, or promises to result, in good to all the people.

Mr. Grosvenor is missing a golden opportunity when he fails to impress upon the farmers that the high price of potatoes is due entirely to the Dingley law and the good graces of the administration. Can it be that Mr. Grosvenor is growing careless in his old age?

It was noticeable everywhere that those who addressed the people at a labor day meeting pointed out the fact that wrongs could only be remedied at the ballot box. Mayor Reed of Kansas City stated the case aptly when he said the laboring men were not law-breakers but should be law-makers.

Hohenlohe's Opinion of Emperor. Prince von Hohenlohe is credited with having held an opinion of the German Emperor that was none too high, and is said to have remarked of him: "His greatest fault is that he thinks there are no limitations to his will."

The Nation Monitors.

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THE ROBBER TARIFF

N NO WAY PROTECTS AMERICAN LABOR.

Still a Mendacious Representative of the Party of Trusts and Combines Seeks to Bolster Up Its Alleged Benefits to Our Working Men.

It is not very satisfactory to quote that mendacious representative of the party of trusts and combines, Mr. Grosvenor, for he has a habit of crawling out of any tight place he gets into by denying the interview, but as the one about to be quoted sounds grotesque and is being quoted by the trust organs who take Grosvenor seriously, it may be well to expose its absurdity. Speaking of the increased number of American products he found for sale in England, he said: "I understand that Mr. Babcock would take the duty from all these articles. While that might not be fatal to our prosperity, it would certainly cripple our strength. The tariff assists in developing our foreign trade. If this tariff is removed the goods of foreign mills will be rushed in on us, weakening our manufacturing strength. I find we are selling barley in England. If the tariff was off, Canadian barley would kill our barley production. The same arguments are good now as when the McKinley bill was passed."

"I find in this increased transportation for foreign markets an additional incentive for the building up of our merchant marine. We should not hesitate to take prompt measures to bring this profitable carrying trade under American control. Mr. Babcock's proposition is practically one for free trade."

In the first place, Grosvenor knows very well that the Babcock amendment to the tariff bill only proposed to place the iron and steel products of the trust on the free list and especially provided that articles manufactured from them, such as cutlery, should still be protected. Grosvenor calls that free trade, which will arouse the ire of Babcock, who lately declared he is still an ardent protectionist. This dis-agreement of these Republicans is so evident that it is almost laughable. Grosvenor can be viewed with equanimity by those who wish to see real tariff reform.

Grosvenor, like all the trust representatives, knows that the weak spot in the tariff policy is that the farmers of the country get no protection while they have to pay the tax that the trusts add to nearly everything they use. This is why he cites the tariff on barley and says he found we are selling barley in England, and that "if the tariff was off, Canadian barley would kill our barley production." He might have added that he found our wheat and four there also and that the same result might follow if there was no tariff on these articles, but that would have been too barefaced even for this trust advocate to argue. The tariff on barley is thirty cents a bushel and we are evidently growing more barley than we can consume or we would not be exporting it. The surplus, like our surplus of wheat and corn, has to seek the best foreign market it can find. The surplus of the barley crop of Canada has to find the same market. The price is fixed by the English buyers and the price of barley in this country is fixed by the price of the surplus sold abroad. Would Canadian barley, even if the tariff was removed, sell here for less than it will bring in England? It would surely seek the highest market.

The Year Book of the Department of Agriculture on page 781 reports that the exports of barley in 1900 reached 23,661,692 bushels and that the export price fell from 66.7 cents a bushel to 47.4 cents.

This official information is rather unfortunate for Grosvenor as with this large surplus to sell and the consequent low price, the Canadians or any other foreign growers would certainly have a hard time finding a market. It is also an equally unfortunate argument for protection that the price of barley is almost the lowest on record with the highest tariff. This is the wonderful protection that the farmers are getting under the Republican tariff, showing that protection to any farm product is impossible as long as there is a surplus of that product that must be sold abroad.

CONTROL BY TAXATION. It is well to remember when legislation to control the trusts is being prepared that the most potent power that can be used against them is taxation, this can be applied by the states themselves. Not by any unfair mode but by making them pay equally in proportion to what other people pay according to the amount of their property. At present the monopolies do not pay but a small part of what they should. The steel trust owns or controls 80 per cent of all the iron mines in the northwest which in a great measure enables them to be the gigantic monopoly they are, on this they do not pay one-tenth of the taxes that they rightfully should. Mr. Schwab testified before the Industrial Commission that these iron mines were extremely valuable for the reason that they contain only a limited supply of ore, a supply which cannot "last very long, perhaps 60 years." He continued: "We own something like 60,000 acres of Connelleville coal. You could not buy it for \$60,000 an acre for there is no more Connelleville coal." I believe that Connelleville coal will be exhausted in 30 years. The Columbus Press Post in commenting on this said: "That monopoly control of the raw materials, without which there can be no industry, furnishes the trust an impregnable fortress against which the hosts of labor cannot hope to prevail with their present methods of warfare."

"It is contrary to public policy to permit such a gigantic monopoly of raw material provided by nature."

"To prevent such a monopoly, there are but two courses open. One is socialism. If we were to try to cure the evil of private monopoly by taking the remedy offered by socialism we should probably be like the Irishman who said that, on account of the awful medicine prescribed for him, he was sick a long time after he got well."

"The other course is that suggested by the platform of the Ohio Democrats, the most radical anti-trust platform ever adopted by the Democratic party. Mr. Schwab says that the Connelleville coal is worth \$60,000 an acre and declares that the ore field of the northwest are of almost inestimable value."

"The employe of the trust, if he says enough to own a house, will pay taxes on 60 per cent of the full value of that house. Would it not be interesting to know how much taxes the trust pays on its 60,000 acres of coal fields?"

"President Schwab says the value of the great ore fields of the northwest is more than equal to the entire capitalization of the United States Steel Corporation."

"Why does the trust acquire property in all these fields?"

"Certainly not because it has any present use for them, but because it wants the legal power to keep others from using them so that it may command a monopoly price for this raw material."

SLAVES UNDER FLAG.

THOUSANDS OF BONDSMEN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Official Report to the National Government Gives Facts and Figures—A Constant Source of Trouble to American Rule in Far East.

Not long ago the Manila government announced news that one of the datus of the Sultan of Sulu had abolished slavery. This was an evident effort of the censor to lead us to believe the whole institution as it exists in our new possessions was being extinguished. The official report of Col. Pettit and Major O. P. Sweet, who are the commanders of the United States troops in the islands where slavery and polygamy exist, tell a different tale. The first named officer says: "Under our orders I believe all Filipino slaves and captives have been turned over to us, and further slavery, either by conquest or traffic between islands, has been prohibited. The abolition of slavery can be attempted in one of two ways—by war or by purchase. The latter would be the more desirable. The more slaves would be if set free. Their freedom would be of short duration. War could be had for the asking. It is for the United States government to decide if it wants it. The Mores have plenty of arms and ammunition and a country passable only by its waterways."

Major Sweet says: "The question of slavery, although not recognized by the United States, is still a fact, and is a constant source of trouble on account of slaves escaping from one master to another, or their being stolen. Whenever a question of relating to slavery comes before me, I simply make the owners prove they are slaves beyond doubt, in which case I have nothing to do with them, but in case I can pick a flaw in their title, I give the alleged slaves freedom papers. Thousands of Mores are held as slaves who are by right free people."

Thousands of free men slaves under the stars and stripes and the Taft commission and the home government doing nothing to free them. "If they are slaves without doubt, I have nothing to do with them," says this officer. Sixty thousand troops hunting down Filipinos and not a man or gun used to even attempt to suppress this trade in these unfortunate and miserable people.

Congress has given President McKinley full power in the Philippines, increased the regular army to 100,000 men, appropriated all the money asked for and yet he has made no move to suppress this blot on our civilization. In his tour through the South and West his every hour theme was full of rapture and exultation that the flag of slavery and freedom and prosperity, free and prosperous, were these slaves? But they can daily gaze upon the flag. The Republican party has made President McKinley as great an autocrat in the Philippines as the Czar of Russia is in his dominions, and Russia with all her barbarous customs has none of this.

Yet the American people with their eyes open but blinded by partisanship or the self promised and distributed by the Republican machine, voted for imperialism, of which this slavery in the Philippines is one of the attributes.

MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED. The politicians who are running the Republican party are having piled up against them a good deal of evidence that they are not only the greatest treasury looters that the United States has ever been cursed with, but they are also guilty of pillooting the government archives to accomplish their ends. Evidence of this was lately published and the Washington Times says: "It was developed yesterday that all of the secret correspondence of the Signal Corps of the army relating to the Spanish war has mysteriously disappeared from the files of the war department. Among the missing documents is a dispatch from Colonel Allen to General Greely, announcing the presence of the Spanish fleet in Santiago harbor. This message, it is said, was immediately communicated to Sampson, who allowed eleven days to elapse before taking any steps to meet the situation. As the original of the communication and the official endorsements which may have been made upon it are very necessary for Admiral Schley's counsel to see, perhaps the public need not be surprised to know that it has been put out of the way."

The excuse is offered at the department that possibly General Greely, chief of the signal corps, deliberately may have destroyed the records, with a view of concealing the names of persons used in the secret service of the United States. But nobody will be deluded by any such subterfuge. If General Greely had done a thing of that kind it would be a matter of public record and his reasons and authority for the act would be spread upon the files of the department. He is conveniently in the Philippines, and will not return until November 1, so there are several weeks during which the onus may be laid upon his shoulders problematically. All the same, the American people will conclude that the signal service records have been stolen for a purpose, as many public records have been stolen or falsified for various, but always infamous, purposes during the past few years.

"One would think that the Sampson scandal had become too hot for even the administration to bear, and that it would do something in the line of an attempt to convince the country that it is no longer an active party to the conspiracy against the victor of Santiago. It would better make the effort before it is too late; because every day now adds to the proof that a plot has been hatching ever since August, 1898, to rob Admiral Schley of his laurels and transfer them to Sampson, the man of the Mantanzas mule."

AN ADMIRABLE PLATFORM. The Democrats of Cambria county, Pennsylvania, adopted at the late convention a most admirable platform which shows that the fiscal policy of

RAILROAD NEWS.

MR. SEAGRAVES LOCATES 200 FAMILIES IN COLORADO.

Come from Northern Europe to Raise Sugar Beets.

Mr. C. L. Seagraves, passenger agent of the Santa Fe, has returned from the sugar beet district of Colorado, and completed arrangements to locate two hundred families from northern Europe, the first fifty families to locate near Holly, about October 20. Mr. Seagraves said:

"The leader of the colony is an expert agriculturist, and has visited and carefully investigated all sections of the United States, and pronounced the Arkansas valley the most promising of any section visited, on account of the superb climate, rich soil and the most perfect irrigation system in the world, backed by a reservoir supply with sufficient water to irrigate all the lands for two years without a drop of rain, thus insuring the farmers against failure of crops. After the first movement the balance will follow as fast as homes can be provided for them."

Mr. Seagraves advises that the farmers in the valley are very prosperous, and as that section will be densely populated and brought up to a high standard of cultivation, it will in five or six years become the richest and most prosperous community in the country.

He says: "Sugar beets are a very profitable crop for the farmer and the only drawback is the laborious work in the thinning season which lasts about two weeks. This feature, however, is being overcome by labor brought into the valley from New Mexico, who contract to thin beets at so much per acre. In the vicinity of Rocky Ford, where the land has been cultivated extensively, it is possible under only fair conditions to raise twenty tons of beets to the acre, while thrifty and industrious farmers grow from twenty-five to thirty tons to the acre, and in some instances as high as thirty-five tons."

"The price of beets is determined according to their sugar content, the average being about 15 per cent. The cost of growing beets, including all labor, seed, as well as harvesting the crop in the fall is about \$23 per acre, leaving the farmer \$75 or more profit an acre for his beet crop."

"The Arkansas valley of Colorado is considered the ideal sugar beet country, as they grow more tons to the acre and contain a larger percentage of sugar than beets grown anywhere in the world. The Rocky Ford factory is now rearranging some of its machinery, the beets being so rich that they will not submit to the usual methods employed at the other factories."

"Cantaloupes are also a very profitable crop, and many growers estimate they will pay \$100 an acre net. I saw two and one-half acres near Rocky Ford that yielded the grower one thousand dollars. This was on rented land of which the owner received one-third of the crop. This may be rather an exceptional case, but it proves what intensive farming will do."

"Alfalfa, as well as small grains, do well and are profitable crops to grow. Vegetables of all kinds, poultry and dairy products command good prices, and a ready market in Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo and the mining camps."

"Lands in the vicinity of Rocky Ford, before the erection of the sugar factory, that sold for thirty-five, forty and fifty dollars an acre, are worth today from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty dollars an acre. The question is what is land worth that will net over and above all expenses from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five dollars an acre? Lands in the Holly district and the very choicest in the valley and under a most perfect system of irrigation, with a never failing supply of water, a perpetual water, as well as with the alfalfa and selling at thirty-five dollars per acre, with ten per cent down and the balance in seven years at six per cent. The company will also build houses, barns, etc., on which they require fifty per cent down and the balance in seven years at six per cent."

"The Dunkards and Mennonites are now colonizing large tracts of lands, while other settlers are pouring into the valley from all over the country. The valley from all over the country.—Topeka State Journal, Sept. 2, 1901."

Where Eaton Came From. Dr. Edward Dwight Eaton, the new president of Beloit college, is by profession a Congregationalist minister and was formerly the pastor of the Newton, Iowa, Congregational church.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 16.—The Garfield Tea Co., manufacturers of Garfield Tea, Garfield Headache Powders, Garfield Tea Syrup, Garfield Relief Plasters, Garfield Digestive Tablets and Garfield Lotion, are now occupying the large and elegant office building and laboratory recently erected by them. For many years the Garfield Remedies have been growing in popularity and their success is well deserved.

Money Invested in knowledge pays the best interest.

WISCONSIN FARM LANDS. The best of farm lands can be obtained now in Marinette County, Wisconsin, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at a low price and on very favorable terms. Wisconsin is noted for its fine crops, excellent markets and healthful climate. Why rent a farm when you can buy one much cheaper than you can rent and in a few years it will be your own property. For particulars address F. A. Miller, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, Chicago.

Good One to Join. A recent addition to good influences is the "Don't Kick Club," of Buffalo, that already contains some 7,000 listed members. Its fundamental principle is: "Better say nothing than speak ill of your fellow men."

To Mormonize the Orient. Three Mormon missionaries have started for Japan to spread their religion, and from this solitary Mormonism will soon probably find its way into China, the Philippines and the other lands of the Orient.

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"The Dunkards and Mennonites are now colonizing large tracts of lands, while other settlers are pouring into the valley from all over the country. The valley from all over the country.—Topeka State Journal, Sept. 2, 1901."

Where Eaton Came From. Dr. Edward Dwight Eaton, the new president of Beloit college, is by profession a Congregationalist minister and was formerly the pastor of the Newton, Iowa, Congregational church.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 16.—The Garfield Tea Co., manufacturers of Garfield Tea, Garfield Headache Powders, Garfield Tea Syrup, Garfield Relief Plasters, Garfield Digestive Tablets and Garfield Lotion, are now occupying the large and elegant office building and laboratory recently erected by them. For many years the Garfield Remedies have been growing in popularity and their success is well deserved.

Money Invested in knowledge pays the best interest.

WISCONSIN FARM LANDS. The best of farm lands can be obtained now in Marinette County, Wisconsin, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at a low price and on very favorable terms. Wisconsin is noted for its fine crops, excellent markets and healthful climate. Why rent a farm when you can buy one much cheaper than you can rent and in a few years it will be your own property. For particulars address F. A. Miller, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, Chicago.

Good One to Join. A recent addition to good influences is the "Don't Kick Club," of Buffalo, that already contains some 7,000 listed members. Its fundamental principle is: "Better say nothing than speak ill of your fellow men."

To Mormonize the Orient. Three Mormon missionaries have started for Japan to spread their religion, and from this solitary Mormonism will soon probably find its way into China, the Philippines and the other lands of the Orient.