

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

A Question of Expediency.

The Boston Transcript says that there can be "neither escape nor evasion of the conclusion that under authority of the Porto Rican decision congress can maintain a colonial system." Then the Transcript says: "Today there may be a disposition in some quarters to say that the people will not acquiesce in the supreme court's decision any more than it accepted the Dred Scott judgment as final, but this disposition will pass away. It is but the ebullition of a heated moment. The people will accept, if for no other reason than it will ease the vast moral distinction between the case of Dred Scott and that of Porto Rico. The former was in its essence a case of morals; the Porto Rico tariff is in its essence simply a question of expediency."

It is strange that such a statement as this should be made by a newspaper printed in the shadow of a Bunker Hill monument, and within the sound of the waves that dash against the harbor made famous by the Boston Tea Party.

There is no vast moral distinction between the case of Dred Scott and that of Porto Rico. The former was in its essence a case of morals; the Porto Rico tariff is in its essence simply a question of expediency.

At the time of the Dred Scott decision slavery was an institution recognized by our constitution. Dred Scott was a slave under the federal courts for freedom. He was put out of court on the ground that although he had been taken into territory covered by the Missouri compromise, he was yet a slave and therefore not a citizen and having no standing in the federal court.

At the very time that the supreme court denied to Dred Scott the right to sue for his freedom there were then in the southern states at least 3,000,000 human beings in slavery and not one of these would have the legal right to sue for his freedom. If the Dred Scott matter was purely a moral one then how did it happen that no proceeding was taken in behalf of the 3,000,000 slaves? The reason was that however immoral the institution might have been, slavery in certain states had a recognized legal standing. In the Dred Scott case, then, a purely legal question was presented to the court. In giving its sanction to the slavery of this human being the supreme court had at least the excuse that slavery was recognized by our constitution and our laws, however inconsistent it may have been with our declaration of independence.

In the Porto Rican case was involved the right of imperialism to be founded by the constitution. If a case were presented involving the proposition that a tariff duty be levied on goods going to and coming from the state of Massachusetts, the Boston Transcript would very readily recognize that a great moral as well as legal question was involved in the proposition. Such a tariff would be illegal because expressly prohibited by the constitution. Such a tariff would be immoral because every section of our union is entitled to equal opportunities and equal privileges with every other section.

As the Boston Transcript says of the Porto Rican tariff, so the slave owners of the Dred Scott period said of that case—it was "a question of expediency." Every public wrong sought to be perpetuated under conditions where fundamental law must be violated has been excused on the ground that it was simply "a question of expediency."

Both the Dred Scott and the Porto Rican cases were cases of law. The element of immorality enters in both, it is true. But the Porto Rican case has the advantage that the immorality sought to be accomplished under the guise of a statute is forbidden by the letter of the fundamental law and repugnant to the spirit of American institutions. The Dred Scott case involved an institution likewise repugnant and inconsistent with our declaration of independence, but an institution nevertheless formally sanctioned by our constitution and laws of that period.

If there are no morals in the Porto Rican case there were no morals in the Boston Tea Party.

If there is no morality in the contention of the Porto Ricans that they be given equal advantages and opportunities with other sections of the country of which they are a part, then there was no morality in the contention of the men of the revolutionary period.

Mr. Foraker announces that the Ohio campaign is to be fought on national issues. This is an interesting announcement because Mr. Foraker's lieutenants were always loud in declaring that state campaigns should be fought on state issues when they thought that the easiest way of winning.

The civil government of the Philippines will be answerable to the war department. One of the first tasks set for the Filipinos is to learn the intricacies of our elastic language.

Of course Kansas has rendered thanks to the administration for permission to harvest a bumper wheat crop.

It is amusing to read in a high tariff organ words of rejoicing because American manufacturers are competing successfully with foreign manufacturers. The high tariff organs are continually shrieking for protection against competition.

The Ohio republicans have learned that it is not their part to think. All they have to do is to accept.

Mr. Beveridge should hasten home if he expects to get his presidential boom inflated before frost time.

Growth of New York. The excess of births over deaths in New York is, on an average, about 5,000 a year, and if there were not constant immigration into New York from foreign countries and from other divisions of the United States, the growth of the city would be 50,000 in ten years, or less than 1 1/2 per cent in a decade. Actually, the increase in population is at the rate of 38 per cent. The territory of New York, which had 2,493,000 population in 1890, had 3,437,000 in 1900.

ALLISON CORNERED.

CANNOT WIGGLE OUT OF A DIFFICULT POSITION.

The Nub of the High Tariff Hobby is That American Goods Are Being Sold for Much Less to Foreigners Than to Americans—Tariff Question the Issue.

Senator Allison was interviewed while in Washington and speaking of tariff revision and the Babcock bill, he said: "I can understand that popular sentiment will endorse the proposition that American manufacturers should not sell at lower prices abroad the products which they sell to the American people at a higher price. But this question is not a new one. Some years ago, upon the motion of Senator Vest, we had an investigation of this assertion. It was proved that at which agricultural implements were sold in Buenos Ayres to prove that the people of the Argentine Republic were getting those implements at a lower rate than the American farmers paid. We found that it was true that the wholesale dealer in Buenos Ayres did pay less for plows and harvesters than was charged in this country. But we also found that he had to bear the cost of distribution, so that by the time the machines passed through two or three hands and freight was paid, the individual consumer paid as much as the American farmer. The manufacturers did not ship the goods to Buenos Ayres, so that the expense was very light."

Now that case proved the contention of those who want the tariff revised. It does not matter how many profits are made by middlemen and thus raise the price to the Argentine farmer, but the fact that the manufacturer sold the plows and harvesters, after paying the freight, for less money to the foreign wholesale dealer than the same implements were sold to dealers here is the nub of the matter. The distribution of them in a new country like Argentina is, of course, more expensive than in the United States, especially as the lack of railroads and the high freight rates there make it more difficult. It is a similar condition there as existed from 1860 to 1880 when some of the western states were being settled and before there were many if any railroad facilities. In those days farm machinery sold for double what it was selling for in the central states.

Senator Allison is a slick and smooth politician, but he cannot dodge the fact that the trusts are selling at a lower price to the foreigner than to our own people and to try and do so only shows that he, with other Republicans, is willing to aid the trust by legislation to rob the people.

The coal trust is organizing, the Indiana consolidation is practically effected and options have been obtained on mines in other states, and it is expected that a complete combination will be brought about. The price of this class of coal will be largely advanced, this has been the effect of the organization of the anthracite coal trust. At this time last year anthracite coal was selling in the market at \$5.25 a ton, while today it brings \$6.70, and the price will rise steadily until in September it will be \$8.00.

The Pennsylvania combination was engineered by the Morgan interests, and under an agreement in which the railroads of the state are included, a graduated price for coal has been established. Beginning with May the price dropped to \$6.00; this month it is \$6.70, and with a gradual rise of 10 cents per ton each month the cost is to be increased until in September the figure reaches its limit. This price is maintained throughout the winter.

The prices quoted are the Chicago market and a similar advance of \$1.35 per ton has gone into effect elsewhere and every family in the land is paying that tax to J. P. Morgan and the other trust magnates to increase their already enormous fortunes, and yet Mark Hanna says the trusts are "good things" and must not be legislated against, and the greater portion of the Republicans follow and endorse that policy.

It is rather amusing to see the way the state department treats Venezuela by transferring Minister Loomis to Lisbon, Portugal, at his own request, and sending another minister who will represent the asphalt trust just as faithfully. The department gives out the information that the new minister goes to his post "with instructions on the same lines as those supplied to Mr. Loomis." The trusts certainly do dominate our home and even our foreign policy.

Our subsidized sultan of Sulu is already learning the way we do things and has undertaken to exploit his subject by leasing the island of Paraguao for fifty years to a foreign syndicate headed by Prince Poniatowski. As we paid \$200,000 for the Philippine islands it will be interesting to know how the sultan can lease one of them, but perhaps Senator Hanna or some of his friends are side partners of the prince.

Which ever way we turn the sugar trust confronts us and it seems all powerful. Secretary of the Treasury Gage is its willing tool and interprets the law in its favor by imposing countervailing duties on Cuban sugar. This has cut off our export trade to that country which has imposed in retaliation, for the aid given the sugar trust an extra duty of 50 per cent on products of the United States.

The Atlanta Constitution wants a bill passed to pension all the congressional "lame ducks." The better way is as the president has arranged it. He tells them to pass a bill creating a pension fund of \$100,000,000. Twenty have come into existence under the call, and then he appoints the "lame ducks" to investigate something, principally, however, to draw a good fat salary.

A mutual admiration society has been organized in Iowa with two members. Governor Shaw proposes Senator Allison for president and Allison proposes Shaw. The railroad corporations have too good a hold on both of them for the people to second the nomination of either.

What are the Republicans going to do with Neely and Rathbone when the Cubans set up their own government? Bring them here for trial they cannot and leave them to the tender mercies of the Cubans would merely result in dividing the swag with the new officials.

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War Destroys Forests. Twenty-five years ago, in 1876, Serbia was clothed with forests and was aptly termed "the land of the forest," but the Serbian-Turco troubles of 1876-78 played havoc with the forests. Thousands of acres were stripped of trees in order to serve for fortifications or to her the advance of the Turkish army or to warn the great masses of troops that camped on the land during two winters. The war was followed by a period of ruthless destruction of the forests, vast tracts being sold at a ridiculous price or denuded to supply the railroads.

fore railroads can be legally constructed cannot have been constitutionally granted. Is this one of the reasons why the Platt amendment was so vigorously insisted upon by the administration, so that this case might be covered?

THE TRUSTS THREATENING LABOR.

The threat of the trusts to reduce the wages of their workmen if the tariff is taken off their production is an old tale and should deceive no one. Reducing or taking off entirely the tariff on trust productions would have no effect on the surplus they sell abroad and if the cost of what they sell at home is reduced it should increase consumption here and if that is the case the factories will be running full blast and the demand for labor will be increased instead of diminished. Wages follow the law of demand and supply quite as closely as the price of the articles made by labor follow like causes.

It is quite likely that the steel trust, for instance, might shut down its plants if the tariff is removed from its monopolies and its workmen refused to accept a reduction of wages, but it cannot long remain closed or the interest on its bonds would be unpaid and a change of owners would again take place and it would have to fill contracts already entered into, which generally extend six months ahead.

WAGES IN A PROTECTED INDUSTRY.

The coke industry, like coal mining, is very profitable to the operators, but according to the figures given in census bulletin No. 63, prosperity has certainly not struck their workmen. There has been an absolute decrease in individual yearly wages of more than \$5. In 1889 the average annual sum for each operative was \$52.61. But in 1899 this decreased to \$41.63, or only a slight fraction over \$5 a week and in many cases this small sum is dwindled by having to pay large profits at the store for all they eat and wear and at which their masters compel them to deal.

Now the coke industry is protected under the Dingley tariff by a tax of 20 per cent ad valorem, but it does not appear to have protected American labor although the operators were able to build up vast fortunes which is pretty strong evidence that protection protects the rich and not the poor.

How much stock the railroad managers have in the steel trust is an important question, for if they participate in the enormous profits they will not kick so hard against paying from \$7 to \$8 a ton more for steel rails than they would have to pay if the tariff was taken off. The railroads controlled by J. P. Morgan will, of course, have to be silent, and it is probable that some of the other railroad magnates have been squared by being on the inside of the steel trust deal. The people who travel and pay the exorbitant freight rates are the ones that suffer and they are demanding that the tariff be revised and the passenger and freight rates lowered.

The treasury officials are taking some heed of the protest of the labor organizations and are making a belated effort to enforce the Chinese exclusion law. There is no doubt that thousands have crossed the Canadian border either by the laxity or connivance of the officials. The railroads and some other large employers of labor are anxious to employ Chinese, who accept less than the going rate for labor and do not strike for higher wages. The admission of another horde of Chinese like that before the exclusion law was passed would degrade American labor and bring about the same riots that then occurred.

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WANTS PARTY AID.

NEW YORK SUN CALLS BACK DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

To the Position It Occupies in the Days of "Prophecy" — Says That the Ally of the Populists Must Return to Plutocracy.

The Republican organ of the trusts, the New York Sun, voting, no doubt, the general feeling of the "better element of society," says: "War upon plutocracy is hopeless. The democracy will never prevail until it satisfies the country that the Democrats, not the Republican party, are the friends and instruments of plutocracy. They must offer more favorable conditions for money-making than the Republicans can furnish, or they will remain indefinitely poor in political strength as they are today."

This brazen echo of Wall street is as ignorant, as insolent in thus giving advice to the Democracy. The Sun evidently does not know what Democracy means or has forgotten it. Many years ago, when it was an honest sheet, it published an essay on the wide gap between Democrats and Republicans as if the bipartite editor who now holds the pen will refer to it. It may learn something to his advantage, if only not to expose his ignorance again. The Sun now believes that by the bait of success the Democrats should be willing to forego their principles and the Republicans one better in their march of commercialism, imperialism and exploitation of the people.

The war upon plutocracy will never be hopeless while the Democracy exists as now organized under fusion. If for a while a majority of the people are led away to worship at the shrine of plutocracy and are willing to pick up the crumbs that fall from the table of Dives they will soon find their mistake.

The rule of the rich cannot be a government in the interest of the people and any party that is "the real friend and instrument of plutocracy" and that appeals to the people to support it is a fraud, delusion and a snare that only the Sun editor could believe in.

But it is well to have this exposure from such high Republican authority of what the real purpose and plans of that party are. Before this if a Democrat accused his opponents of being in league with the plutocrats he was denounced as a demagogue. Now he can cite this high Republican authority to prove his assertion.

Despite the blandishments and corruption of the plutocrats there are yet six million Democrats that have not wavered or bowed the knee to the golden calf they have set up on the Wall street wilderness.—A Fusion Democrat.

A FOREIGN COMPETITOR.

The steel trust is not going to have clear sailing in its efforts to export its productions to Europe. Not only will tariffs be raised to prevent its competing in Russia, but a combination of all the iron industries of that country has been organized to hold that market, according to a dispatch from London, which says:

American consolidation of industries has already been fruitful in Europe. We have news of the formation of a gigantic Russian iron and steel trust, whose purpose it is to compete with the American combine formed by J. Pierpont Morgan. The scope of the new trust is a wide one. All the existing metal works of South Russia are to be combined into one enormous steel and iron trust, their respective shares and debentures to be replaced by shares in the trust. The immediate advantages of such a trust are obvious. The price of raw products will come down and the different branches of the manufacture will be specialized. Then the prices of manufactured iron and steel will be raised, as all competition will be done away with. All those factors which have hitherto done good work will be assured of a continuance of remunerative trade. The weaker factories will be strengthened by means of the trust.

When asked what benefits the trust would bring to the consumer Mr. Traustoneur, the manager, could do him the shrug his shoulders and look wise. He added, however, that all the iron works of western Russia and Poland would probably combine to form a similar trust and that he looked upon it as his life's mission to combine these two trusts into one gigantic whole. This, he hoped, would take place in the coming summer.

As long as we have ultra protection, which prevents foreigners from sending any of their products to this country, we must expect retaliation to prevent our products from being purchased abroad. A tariff for revenue is the only sensible solution.

THE EXPRESS MONOPOLY.

There is no greater monopoly in the United States than the express companies enjoy. For many years they have had an agreement not to cut rates so that competition has been entirely eliminated. It now appears possible, however, that a rival corporation may invade the eastern section of the country and a possible rate war may be inaugurated. Express rates can be cut in two and still allow the companies to pay large dividends, no merchant or farmer who has to use this means of shipping perishable freights but has to pay these enormous rates the greater portion of his profit and in some instances the charges have been known to eat up all the goods brought when sold on the market. These corporations are adepts in evading taxation and it is estimated that they do not pay 10 per cent of the value of their stock or assets.

It is now stated that an express trust is to be formed by the consolidation of the American Express Company, the Adams Express and the United States Express, of which Senator Thomas C. Platt is to be president.

The United States Express Company under Senator Platt's management has become one of the most prosperous companies in the country and is said to be earning 20 per cent on the stock. It enjoys a monopoly of government business, procured through Senator Platt. The price that the government pays is kept from the public but it is well known that many treasury officials have franks that give them free use of the express service and that many Senators and Representatives have like favors and as Boss Platt is noted for not giving unless he receives some equal advantage in return, the government must be fleeced to an amount that is considerable and yearly growing larger.

These big pickings have induced George Gould, it is said, to bring his Pacific Express Company to the east with his transcontinental line and the three companies will combine to meet the competition of the new company. May the fight be prolonged and fierce, though there is no doubt that a trust covering the whole continent will result unless some means is found to prevent it, for competition is impossible as long as railroad monopoly continues.

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FEDERAL CONTROL OF THE TRUSTS.

The trusts and corporations that are monopolies are quite willing to have a law passed giving national instead of state control of such corporations. They have seen the inter-state commerce law and the anti-trust legislation nullified by complacent Republican attorneys generals and feel that they would be safer in such hands than at the mercy of those states that have enacted laws against unjust combinations or under the common law which has power to suppress monopolies.

It is a preposterous proposition that congress could take away from the states the control of corporations that have been chartered by any state, that would be an infringement of state rights that even the most ultra federalist judge would not declare unconstitutional. It would be undemocratic and yet some few Democrats have proposed such a measure of relief from the extortions of the trusts.

The federal way to curb the trusts is to take from them the protection that a Republican tariff law has given them and thus enabled them to control the market. Independent Republican newspapers like the Washington Post, take this view of the situation. They see that some remedy must be applied or the people will revolt against the party of protection. The above named newspaper says:

There could be no effective national control of corporations without amending the constitution so as to make provision for it. That is practically impossible. No impairment of vested rights is, or ever can be, constitutional. Existing state charters could not be annulled by national legislation. As the trusts and combines now include nearly all the great industrial interests of the country, the proposed law would have but a limited sphere of operation. The only effective anti-trust work within the jurisdiction of congress is in the tariff legislation. Only a part of the trusts are, in any way, dependent on the tariff. But there are a few great trusts or combines that are abusing protection by demanding exorbitant prices for their products. They do not need, nor does labor need, the favor which they are abusing.

There is no parallel between federal control of banking and federal control of all business corporations. The law does not in direct terms prohibit state banks to issue notes. It simply puts a tax on such issues. State banks doing a deposit and loan business are numerous, and some of them are very prosperous. No constitutional amendment was required to open the way for national banking. Without such an amendment federal control of corporations would be impossible. And even with such an amendment all the state charters granted before its adoption would be void.

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THE PROTECTED TIN TRUST.

One of our infant industries is the tin plate trade and that it is growing out of its baby clothes and has become large and strong enough to enter into competition with its older rivals on the other side of the Atlantic is a matter of congratulation. The figures show that the exports of tin plates from the United States which in the ten months ending with April, 1899, amounted to only 133,355 pounds, and in the ten months ending with April, 1900, to 275,900 pounds, were in the ten months ending with April, 1901, 1,306,100 pounds. So, before long, we may hope that this product of the steel trust may also be placed upon the free list and thus bring about again the competition that it has wiped out by combining about all the tin plate mills in this country. There is also another very good reason for desiring competition and that is the deteriorated class of tinware that is being sold to the public, which, although the price appears cheap, is dear at any price, as the tin and lead coating which covers the iron that is sold for use for hedges. Later the sweet orange was grafted upon this harder stock, and trees representing the cross are growing vigorously in the department grounds in Washington and are now covered with blossoms. Should the yield this year be up to expectations, steps will be taken toward planting the new variety extensively in Virginia and Maryland.

There is a prospect, it seems, that Maryland and Virginia may be able to add oranges to their annual crops. The Department of Agriculture is making experiments that promise well for these states. Five years ago the first experiments were begun with the Japanese orange, which is extensively used for hedges. Later the sweet orange was grafted upon this harder stock, and trees representing the cross are growing vigorously in the department grounds in Washington and are now covered with blossoms. Should the yield this year be up to expectations, steps will be taken toward planting the new variety extensively in Virginia and Maryland.

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Little Financial Fable.

The new director was positively revolutionary in his devices. "Instead of paying all this money to detectives for catching defaulters," said he, "why not use it to effect such an increase of salaries as would place our help beyond the necessity to defalcate?" The old directors sneered wretchedly. "You evidently don't understand bank clerks," said they. "Why, if we were to raise wages that way, probably almost every man in the house would fall dead, and then what should we be?" This made the new director feel very foolish, of course.

Did Not Fancy Searching Power.

One morning our washerwoman, a lady of color—very dark color—came hastily in, and, without any preliminaries, exclaimed: "Sparatualist! What is sparatualism, Miss Cora?" My sister explained as well as she could and asked why she wished to know. "Well, you see," she went on excitedly, "Sarah—she's my daughter, you know, and she went last week to live with a lady what says she is a sparatualist; and she says if Sarah takes anything she'll know it. Sarah's going to heaven!"—Harper's Magazine.

STORY ON STOCKINGS.

Many Women Match Their Gowns with Their Hosiery.

This is the story of the woman and her stockings. It is a story that must be told in whispers for the world in general is never supposed to think that the woman wears anything more personal than hosiery. But the stockings of the woman this year are something to dream about. The desire for this footwear has come in with the demand for light and airy fabrics in dress goods, and the stockings are quite the thinnest of them all. There are no particular stocks. There are designs in purpose. The finest and most beautiful of hosiery is worn for all purposes. Naturally, the more elaborate designs of lace and embroidery are reserved for evening and dress wear, but stockings of the finest quality are worn for all sorts of outing purposes. It is natural that, with short skirts and low shoes there should be a desire for pretty stockings, and they come with fancy clocks, open work, and with embroidered figures in little neat patterns, as well as in more elaborate designs.

The most elaborate silk stockings have medallions of lace running up over the instep, handsome embroidery applied upon net, and vertical lines of lace set in with embroidered edges, and there are alternate lines of lace and open work. There are designs in roses, butterflies, bow knots, cupids, baskets of flowers, and the eagle and violets in the L'Aiglon stocking.

Many women like to match their gowns in their stockings, and there are tans and grays and blues. Blues always are in demand, for blue is a popular color; it comes nearly up to the black stocking, which is the most satisfactory in the long run. Rich stockings are sold to go with red shoes for house wear, and there are beautiful white stockings, which are sold to the bride and to wear with white shoes.

KEEPS KEYS OF THE JAIL.

Woman Has Charge of the County's Home for Malefactors.

Probably the only woman jailer in the United States is Mrs. Anna McDonald of Marysville, W. Va. She occupies the position of a deputy sheriff and has charge of a jail in which some of the most desperate characters are kept. She is a widow and lives alone with her two children in the jail, in which there are now confined two of the most desperate moonshiners ever captured in the state and one man charged with murder. She was appointed by Sheriff Isaac Lewis over several other applicants because of her great personal bravery and her skill in handling a rifle and a revolver. She does not know what fear is, she is a dead shot with either a rifle or a revolver, and has a killed a good deal of big game especially deer which she has very found of hunting. She will be 43 years old this month. She is descended from one of the original settlers of Grant county and has never been out of the county. Her husband died last year, leaving her dependent upon her own resources. The jail is at Marysville, but the county seat is at Petersburg, and when her prisoners are wanted in court she has to take them ten miles under her own protection, but none have ever escaped from her. Sam Self, one of the most notorious moonshiners the state has ever known, is now in her custody. Officers have been trying for many years to arrest him, but he always managed to elude them till a few weeks ago, when they slipped up on him at night at his home at the Smoke Holes. After his arrest he said that he had ten guns on his premises when he was arrested.

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Scheme to Annihilate Distance.

A description of the proposed express electric mono-rail line between Manchester and Liverpool was given to a committee of the House of Lords. The railway is constructed on an A-shaped platform, on which is laid the line which bears the carriage. Two sets of rails at the side, against which two sets of wheels operate, keep the car steady when running round curves at a high speed. It is intended to run these trains at 110 miles an hour, so that if a line were constructed between London and Liverpool the distance would be covered under two hours. There is no risk of collision, as by a system of blocking and signaling the trains are kept fourteen miles apart.—London Daily Mail.

There is a prospect, it seems, that Maryland and Virginia may be able to add oranges to their annual crops. The Department of Agriculture is making experiments that promise well for these states. Five years ago the first experiments were begun with the Japanese orange, which is extensively used for hedges. Later the sweet orange was grafted upon this harder stock, and trees representing the cross are growing vigorously in the department grounds in Washington and are now covered with blossoms. Should the yield this year be up to expectations, steps will be taken toward planting the new variety extensively in Virginia and Maryland.

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Little Financial Fable.

The new director was positively revolutionary in his devices. "Instead of paying all this money to detectives for catching defaulters," said he, "why not use it to effect such an increase of salaries as would place our help beyond the necessity to defalcate?" The old directors sneered wretchedly. "You evidently don't understand bank clerks," said they. "Why, if we were to raise wages that way, probably almost every man in the house would fall dead, and then what should we be?" This made the new director feel very foolish, of course.

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