

Politics of the Day

MCKINLEY AND THE TRUSTS.

Among many solemn assurances which President McKinley gave the people of the United States in his inaugural address two years ago, were the following:

"The declaration of the party now restored to power has been in the past that of opposition to all combinations of capital organized in trusts or otherwise to control arbitrarily the conditions of trade among our citizens, and it has supported such legislation as will prevent the execution of all schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies, or by unjust rates for the transportation of their products to market. This purpose will be steadily pursued, both by the enforcement of the laws now in existence, and the recommendation and support of such new statutes as may be necessary to carry it into effect."

Doubtless in March, 1897, there were people who believed that these utterances were sincere and candid. They were made in the most solemn moment of Mr. McKinley's life, with the Bible which he had kissed after taking the oath of office in reach of the hand that was uplifted to emphasize his promises. But how many people now believe that the President, if then sincere, has not since repudiated those promises and sold his administration to the very interests against which he assured the people he would enforce the law? Trusts capitalized at a billion and a half of dollars under his administration give answer to this question. The apathy of his Attorney General answers it, his own failure to even mention the trusts since March 4, 1897, answers it; and the people are driven to

appointment of a commission to investigate the trust question and to report a legislative remedy. In other States there are on foot movements which may result in restricting the operations of trusts. It is ridiculous to say that there is no preventive of this evil. If neither the State nor the Federal authority can protect the people from combinations to throttle competition and cripple commerce we have a very poor form of government.—Atlanta Journal.

That Beef Inquiry.

When the court of inquiry to look into the charges against the commissary department of the army was formed it was confidently expected that facts could be so manipulated as to result in whitewashing Alger. Fortunately for the soldiers and for the friends of the soldiers this expectation has proved unfounded and the beef inquiry will result in a vindication of Gen. Miles and a condemnation of Secretary Alger. Undoubtedly the Republican administration will be vastly disappointed in the results obtained and will do all it can to break the force of the indictment, but the people are familiar with the facts and that familiarity will have its results when the campaign of 1900 is on.

That much of the beef accepted by the commissary department and furnished to the troops in Cuba and Porto Rico was unfit to eat has been demonstrated by the evidence given before the court of inquiry, and thus Alger and Eagan have been condemned.

The question now before the Republican administration is what to do about it. Undoubtedly Alger should be forced to resign. Eagan is beyond the

UNITE AND CONQUER.



Democracy—"No factional fights; yonder is our common foe."—Chicago Democrat.

the conclusion that his intentions were a sham then, or have since been changed by corrupt influences.—Columbus Press-Post.

Bryan's Best Act.

Bryan made a ten-minute declining to attend a dinner of Perry Belmont and others. Not one of those fellows would have voted for him next year. They are his enemies, and he did right in giving them a blow they will not forget. He followed the example of Andrew Jackson. The same interests in Jackson's day tried to influence the President by banquets and all kinds of allurements. He told them to get out. Bryan will be nominated next year with the silver issue to the front. It is the only issue on which he can win, and I believe he will be victorious in the next campaign.

Hard Fight Ahead for Hanna.

Hanna is the embodiment and representative of the aims of predatory capital and he is to-day the most powerful man in the United States, with no exceptions. He is busy now organizing the fight to re-elect McKinley, under whose administration he knows the trusts will be free from prosecution, the railroads saved from any sort of regulation and an income tax impossible. He already is certain that he can deliver the goods, so far as the nomination is concerned, but we imagine he will know he has had a fight before election day.—San Francisco Examiner.

New Political Alignments Possible.

Taken altogether, the factors that make for uncertainty in the future of the Republican party and in the fortunes of Mr. McKinley are not only numerous but formidable. The democracy is having its internal troubles, but Democrats can console themselves with the thought that the slumbers of the enemy are disturbed by frightful dreams. The campaign of 1900 is not far away and still there is time for a political realignment that may be starting.—Minneapolis Times.

Republican Defeat the Cure.

At the present time the Republican party is effectively Hannaized. The Ohio boss is backed by the power of the patronage of the Federal administration and the immense wealth of the combined trusts, and, though a most respectable opposition may be aroused, it is difficult to see how he can be dislodged, except by a defeat of the Republicans.—Louisville Dispatch.

Trying to Curb Monopoly.

The Pennsylvania Legislature has passed a resolution providing for the

reach of further punishment from army sources, but he can be made to feel the hot indignation of the American people. So far as the administration is concerned, its rebuke will come from the people at the polls, and the result of the presidential campaign of 1900 should be the overthrow of the corrupt Republican party.—Chicago Democrat.

Pierces Even Hanna's Hide.

Senator Hanna's denial that he was ever present at any conference concerning army beef contracts and his vehement repudiation of "the contemptible insinuations of that man Lee" may create the impression in the public mind that this Falstaff "doth protest too much." Major Lee's casual questioning of Eagan appears to have pierced the Ohio Senator's ordinarily thick armor and brought forth a conspicuous howl of distress.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Political Potpourri.

Mr. Hanna says he had no part in the beef contracts. Mr. Hanna fries his fat; he does not boll it.—St. Paul Globe.

A European critic says the American soldier is not attractive in appearance. That critic should see the other fellow when the American soldier gets through with him.—Birmingham (Ala.) News.

Senator Platt remarks that Mr. Olney is too closely identified with great corporations to be an available candidate for the Presidency. This from Platt is something sublime.—Boston Herald.

The Republicans are enjoying the spectacle of squabbles among the Democrats. But they will learn that this means a live party with something to accomplish. The dead never fight.—Washington Times.

The citizen who is bitten in his ventures in trust stocks will not get much sympathy. No trust has been organized for benevolent or sanitary purposes and the fact is quite well known to everybody.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The Standard Oil Company declares that Ohio's Attorney General is carrying on a "malignant persecution of it." Has the Standard Oil Company no rights in Ohio? Has persecution gone to the lengths of refusing to accept its bribes?—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The President is quoted as saying that the newspaper criticisms of Secretary Alger applied to him as much as they did to the Secretary. This is true as gospel. For haven't we Mark Hanna's word for it that Alger made no move without first consulting the President?—Wheeling Register.

DEVOTED TO CHARITY

BARONESS HIRSCH, WHO RECENTLY PASSED AWAY.

Was the Friend of the Poor, and Spent Many Millions in Philanthropic Enterprises—Some of This Noble Woman's Many Beneficences.

One of the world's greatest philanthropists and one whose demise will be mourned by millions of Christians and Hebrews passed away at Paris in the death of Baroness Hirsch. The benevolent undertakings of this amiable woman and of her husband will bear fruit for many generations.

It is rarely that a husband and wife can be found who have entered into the spirit of a great work with such thorough harmony as did Baron and Baroness Hirsch. Through the latter lifetime of the Baron, and until he died on April 21, 1896, his wife was his best helper and adviser. Indeed, she was a



BARONESS HIRSCH.

thorough partner in his work, for much of her own personal inheritance of \$20,000,000 was devoted to charitable purposes. Since the death of the Baron she had carried on the work of putting into execution his plans, and had in many ways added to their scope and made them more effective.

Baroness Hirsch was a member of the family of Bischoffshelm, with which Baron de Hirsch had been associated in many business operations. She was a daughter of a member of the great banking firm of Bischoffshelm & Goldschmidt, which was long a power in European financial circles. It was in 1883, when the Baron gave up the business of making money and retired from the active management of his railroad and other enterprises, that he married Miss Bischoffshelm. Her own fortune, large though it was, was only a small factor as compared with his, and it was separately invested and used for separate purposes.

The Baroness was a strong, sympathetic and self-reliant woman. While her benevolence did not at all points coincide with those of her husband, in the most important matters the two were as one. Considering how fully the lives of the two were bound up in these various undertakings for the good of humanity, it can be truly said that the biographies of these two people from 1883 to the dates of their deaths can be written from their charities and from them only. What great means they had to support them in their work is well known. The Baron's fortune, when he stopped building new railroads from central Europe to the far east, was considered the only private fortune in Europe that approached that of the Rothschilds, and was estimated at about \$200,000,000.

Some Great Beneficences.

After the Baron's death the Baroness retained active connection with the various European charities, which she, with her husband, founded, but became better known than ever in America through the extension of her benevolence for the special benefit of the Jewish poor of New York. The work took three phases. First, there was the development of the Baron Hirsch trade schools, which were planned on unique lines, and have already done untold good in New York. Second, there was the Claire Hirsch Home for Working Girls, an institution which has recently been copied in other American cities, including Chicago. Lastly, there was a new Baroness Hirsch fund of \$1,000,000 created for the removal of the unfortunate from the New York Ghetto, and the transplanting of them in suburbs and agricultural communities, where their hard labor and willing work would accomplish good both for themselves and for the industrial community.

The Working Girls' Home had perhaps the stamp of the Baroness' individuality most fully impressed upon it. The idea arose from letters which the Baroness received in Paris in regard to the sufferings and wretched surroundings of Jewish working girls in New York City. After much thought she hit upon the right plan, to her mind, and at once made arrangements, through her American agent, to carry it out. She provided funds for the erection of a fine building as a home on 63d street, between 2d and 3d avenues, immediately back of the Hirsch Trade Schools, and added \$15,000 a year for running expenses. Before this building was erected she provided a temporary home on a smaller scale, so that there would be no delay in having the work begun. The plan was to give girls the benefits of a home, with pleasant and elevating surroundings, at the least possible expense to the inmates. Not a charity, but a place where poor girls could get the worth of their money and more, too, was desired. Arrangements are made so that girls out of employment can do housework for their board and room,

and at the same time get good training in domestic matters.

Other Beneficences.

Still more interesting from a sociological point of view is the work of actually ameliorating the condition of tenement life in the New York Ghetto. The Baroness provided first of all for careful investigation of the conditions by an expert, Dr. Milton Reitzenstein. Here, as usual, direction and control were provided for the poor Hebrews instead of degrading, direct charity. Through the fund provided by the Baroness the way has been made easy for small manufacturers, once in tenement rooms in the Ghetto, to secure sites and buildings in villages and towns near New York, and easy for their work people to secure homes nearby. Model tenements and model workshops are also in the program of this work.

Among the Baroness' many gifts to charity in Europe was a donation of 2,000,000 francs to the Pasteur Institute in Paris; a similar sum to found an asylum for the employes of the railroads of Turkey, in which her husband had vast interests, and large endowments for hospitals in London and Paris and other European capitals.

How many millions the Baroness expended in charities will never be known, for a considerable share of her beneficences were private. She despised notoriety and only when unavoidable was her name associated with her beneficences.

The only son of Baron and Baroness Hirsch died several years ago and they afterward adopted two boys. In her will the Baroness leaves several million pounds sterling to charity.

SHIPBUILDING AND IRON.

How the Metal First Came to Be Used in Nautical Construction.

The story of the use of iron as a material for the construction of ships is full of interest. Iron was long ago used experimentally for building boats; several references to these crude attempts will be found in the annual register of last century. Grantham quotes from a publication dated July 28, 1787. The writer says: "A few days ago a boat built of English iron by J. Wilkison, Esq., of Bradley Forge came up our canal of this town, loaded with twenty-two tons and fifteen hundredweight of its own metal, etc. It is nearly of equal dimensions with other boats employed upon the canal, being 70 feet long and 6 feet 8 1/2 inches wide; the thickness of the plates with which it is made is about five-sixteenths of an inch, and it is put together with rivets, like copper or fire engine boilers; but the stem and stern posts are wood and the gunwale lined with the same; the beams are made of elm planks.

"Her weight is about eight tons; she will carry, in deep water, upward of thirty-two tons, and draws eight or nine inches of water when light." It is extraordinary that such hints as these should have fallen dead. Was there no shipbuilder with an eye swift to witness the enormous possibilities latent in these little canal experiments? A small iron boat was launched in August, 1815. She was fitted up in Liverpool as a pleasure boat. Hundreds viewed her as a curiosity. She was sunk maliciously in the Duke's dock, as though some Daniel Quilp of a workman, foreseeing iron as an issue if this boat was suffered to go on hinting, had put an end to her. Her owner raised her and sold her for old iron; "but the loss of this boat," he says, "turned my attention to the practicability of making an iron boat which could not be sunk by any ordinary means."—Pall Mall Magazine.

FOUND A SATURN SATELLITE.

How Prof. William Henry Pickering Has Lately Distinguished Himself.

Prof. William Henry Pickering, who has just distinguished himself by discovering a new satellite of Saturn (or rather of bringing to light an old unknown one), belongs to a family of astronomers and has in every way served only to add to the fame already achieved by his relatives. He is a native of Boston and is only 41 years old. He was graduated from the Massachu-



PROFESSOR PICKERING.

setts Institute of Technology in 1879 and for six years thereafter was an instructor in physics in that big school. He began his practical work in astronomy by observing his first total eclipse at Denver in 1878. In 1887 he became connected with the Harvard observatory, and he has conducted the affairs of that institution with much skill and success. He established several plants in far-off places for watching the stars and planets, and his work in stellar photography has been of especial value. He has established stations at great heights on mountains, including that at Arequipa, in Peru.

The children of a poor man never care so much whether he forgives them for an offense, or not.

A silver lining may have a copper cloud.

AN UNHAPPY QUEEN.

Henrietta Most Unfortunate Among Europe's Crowned Heads.

Queen Henrietta of Belgium is one of the most unfortunate of crowned royalties. Her married life has been one of much unhappiness, and for the last twenty years she has been separated from her husband, rarely appearing with the King, even on state occasions. Her bitterness against her husband has been due to two circumstances; first, the appalling and flagrant immorality of his private life, and, secondly, his conduct with regard to the large fortune belonging to his sister, the ex-Empress Charlotte of Mexico, which he held in trust, and which he is understood to have squandered to the last penny in his Congo ventures and other speculations.

Nor have the Queen's children been a source of much comfort to her, for, while her eldest daughter is confined in an Austrian lunatic asylum, after having publicly eloped with her chamberlain, the Queen's second daughter, Crown Princess Stephanie of Austria, was made a widow through the tragedy of Meyerling.

There is some mystery in regard to the third and only remaining daughter, Princess Clementine, for each time a marriage has been arranged by the King between the Princess and some royal suitor, the Queen has invariably ended the matter by summoning the Prince to her presence and imparting some information to him, which not only resulted in the breaking off of the match, but induced the Prince in question to leave Brussels without seeing either the Queen or the Princess again. Among the suitors of the Princess whom her mother has treated in this manner are the Crown Prince of Italy, Prince Rupert of Bavaria and Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

Another cloud hangs over her life. In 1867, she lost her only son in such a sudden manner that his death was generally ascribed to poison. Queen Henrietta, in the density of her grief, laid the responsibility for the crime upon



QUEEN OF BELGIUM.

French agents, who believed that by removing the young Prince they were furthering the cause of Napoleon III., and facilitating the absorption of Belgium by France. Wild and unjustified as this belief may appear to-day to unprejudiced people, it led to Queen Henrietta making a solemn vow not to set foot on French soil, and considerably over a quarter of a century elapsed before she at length consented to accept a pressing invitation of her husband's uncle, the Duke d'Aumale, just before his death, remaining a couple of days at Chantilly, without, however, visiting Paris.

The Queen is passionately devoted to horses and music, the latter being an art which the King holds in abhorrence. She is renowned as one of the most famous four-in-hand whips in the old world, and possesses an extraordinary knowledge of the art of conjuring. In fact, she is a very gifted woman of high spirit and of high principle, whose entire life has been saddened and embittered by the depravity of her husband and by numerous domestic sorrows. Queen Henrietta is the sister of Archduke Joseph of Austria, the palatine of Hungary.

She Missed the Point.

Katherine de Forest, writing in Harper's Bazar, tells a story which illustrates the peculiar simplicity of mind of many French people. A French woman who wrote many clever novels, and who needed time in which to write them, was trying to explain to her new chambermaid, Marie, why it was that she must not be interrupted when at her work.

It was necessary, as she knew, to begin at the beginning and lay the foundation for the information she was about to convey.

"Now, when you are sewing," the lady said, "and you are called away from your work, you can go back and take it up just at the stitch where you left it. But if I am disturbed in my writing, I can't pick up again the thread of my thought in that way. You understand, don't you?"

The girl said she understood, and went away. Very soon she came back. "What is it, Marie?" the novelist asked. "Well, madame," said the maid, fumbling awkwardly at her apron, "if I don't know how to do anything but sew, it's because I was never taught to do anything but sew. If I'd been taught to write books, I could write books."

Chinese Taste.

The finest shops in a Chinese city are those devoted to the sale of coffins. Every Chinaman likes to provide for a swell time at his funeral.

Nothing makes a boy quite so proud as to be offered fifty dollars for a dog.

No man ever filed a kick because his signature to a petition was ignored.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

All Money Is Sovereign.

All money should stand on an equal footing and be interchangeable at par, and no inconvenience will ever be experienced by the Government in sustaining such a custom if we have honest laws honestly enforced. The first demand notes or "greenbacks" issued by the Government in 1861-'62 kept pace with the price of coin and never depreciated in value, because they were made receivable for all public dues, the same as gold. They were not even "legal tender," but they kept company with gold through all the period of the lowest depreciation of legal tender greenbacks. In March, 1863, when depreciation reached its average, gold brought 155 1/2 in legal tender notes, and demand notes brought 153, and this practical parity between the two kinds of money was sustained throughout. Legal tender greenbacks depreciated because, and only because, they were by special act of Congress excluded from payment of duties on imports and interest on Government bonds and notes. This act was forced through Congress by the influence of the bondholders and the agents of the Rothschilds. It was savagely attacked in a speech by Thaddeus Stevens, delivered in the House of Representatives on the 20th of February, 1862. Among other things, Mr. Stevens said:

"I have a melancholy foreboding that we are about to consummate a cunningly devised scheme, which will carry great injury and loss to all classes of people throughout this Union, except one. It (the legal tender act) makes two classes of money—one for the banks and brokers, and another for the people. It discriminates between the rights of different classes of creditors, allowing the rich capitalist to demand gold and compelling the ordinary lender of money on individual security to receive notes which the Government had purposely depreciated. But now comes the main clause. All classes of people shall take these notes at par for every article of trade or contract, unless they have money enough to buy United States bonds, and then they shall be paid in gold. Who are this favored class? The banks and brokers and nobody else."

Even at that early date the Rothschilds had their grip on the throat of our Government, and they were strong enough to force their measures through Congress. As a result of this scoundrelism and national robbery, the people of the United States paid, in gross profits to the national banks, between 1866 and 1893, a period of twenty-seven years, the almost fabulous sum of \$3,269,374,650, or \$496,138,576 more than the entire cost of the civil war; and they are still paying on the same account, while the banks have meanwhile doubled their holdings by means of the gigantic crime of '73. When you read these things you will understand why the Rothschilds want redemption planks in the platforms of our great political parties.

Which Will You Have?

The gold Republican says that what we need to secure prosperity is higher tariff, a gathering in of the greenbacks and ultimately their cancellation; in brief, more taxes and less money. The international agreement Republican says that we must have "more tariff," and also "international bimetalism"—if we can get it. The goldocrat says that all we need is less money; in other words, that the greenbacks and treasury notes should be destroyed, and the finances of the country turned over to the banks. The genuine American bimetalist says that what we need above all other things is more money, through the operation of the free coinage of both silver and gold. Which will you take as a primary proposition, leaving the other reforms to be considered in the light of future events and conditions?

Pardoned.

In the life of Henry Bradley Plant is a story which shows that mercy may sometimes temper justice to good effect, by awakening in an offender a loyalty which he has never before shown.

Mr. Plant was one day traveling in a baggage-car, when he saw an expressman, in handling a box marked "Glass," turn it wrong side up.

"Here," he called to the man, "That box is marked 'Glass,' and should be kept glass-side up, as indicated."

"Oh, I know it's marked 'Glass,'" said the expressman, "but I never pay any attention to that."

Mr. Plant said no more, but later, when the superintendent of the office was alone with the man, he asked him: "Do you know who that gentleman was who spoke to you about the box marked 'Glass?'"

"No, sir."

"Well, that was Mr. Plant."

"Then that means my dismissal!"

"I think it does. I shall have to dismiss you."

Later, the superintendent said to Mr. Plant, "I shall dismiss that man, of course?"

"No," said the president, "don't discharge him. Call him into your office, and impress it upon him that that is not the way the company does its business. He won't forget it."

He did not forget it. No more loyal employe was to be found in the company.—Youth's Companion.

The American Bible Society circulates the Scriptures in 96 tongues, besides our own speech; 28 European, 39 Asiatic, 8 Oceanic, 9 African, 9 American Indian and 3 South American languages and dialects.