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A NOTABLE INDUSTRIAL MOVEMENT.

The dispatches have reported that a committee of the Massachusetts legislature is in the south for the purpose of investigating the industrial situation there and inquiring into the inducements which make it more profitable for the New England cotton mills to do business in that section. This investigation was prompted by the fact that a number of New England cotton manufacturers, especially in Massachusetts, are contemplating the removal of their mills to the south, a few of them having already established cotton manufacturing plants there. One of the New England manufacturers, when asked for an explanation of this movement, said that labor at the south is lower than in the north, the mills are nearer the cotton fields, and there is a large saving in freight charges. There is also a material saving to be made in the cost of coal. Another manufacturer said that it was no longer possible to make plain sheetings and drills at a profit in the north. Against \$2 per ton for coal in the south, the manufacturers of New England must pay \$4 to \$4.50. Then the climate of the south is milder, and it does not require so much coal to heat the mills. The manufacturers there can buy their cotton off the market wagon, while those of New England must pay freight and brokerage. The difference in the cost of labor, however, is the most important consideration, and some stress is laid upon the fact that labor in the south is less subject to the control of organizations than in the north.

An industrial movement that causes a legislature to send a committee to make an investigation of the inducements in the south is certainly notable and significant. The cotton industry of New England is of great magnitude, and the loss of any considerable part of it would be a very serious matter for that section of the country. It would result in intensifying the agricultural depression there and increasing the number of abandoned farms; it would necessarily deplete population, and in short every industrial and business interest of New England would be unfavorably affected. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Massachusetts legislature should take a lively interest in the matter, with a view, it is presumed, to considering what may be done for counteracting the movement. This, it would seem, is likely to be found a pretty difficult problem. The advantages which the south offers in cheaper labor, coal and transportation, together with that of proximity to the cotton fields, cannot be overcome by any legislation, and if it is a fact that New England cotton manufacturers cannot now compete with those of the south, except, perhaps, in fine goods, there is no reason to expect that they will be better able to do so hereafter, while it is very probable that in time the south will make as fine goods as New England. Considerable importance is attached to the fact that manufacturers in the south are not hampered by the restrictions established by trade unions, but it is not to be supposed that labor in the south will always be as at present, so that this is a consideration of only temporary significance. The interest manifested in this industrial movement in New England will be shared by other portions of the country to which the prosperity of that section is important.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

In view of the proposal pending in the legislature to change the composition, tenure and appointment of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners for the city of Omaha, the various systems in vogue for governing the police in other American cities are of particular present interest. A great deal of valuable information on this subject has recently been gathered together and published in a little book entitled "How to Govern Chicago," which has been compiled by a practical municipal reformer of that city. The information is presented in a series of letters received from official authorities in reply to inquiries that had been mailed them. They show a remarkable tendency toward one form of police government—namely, by a non-partisan commission appointed by the governor of the state, although in a few cities the commissioners still hold office by favor of the mayor.

In Boston the department is governed by a board of police, created by act of legislature in 1885. The board is appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the council. Members of the board are appointed for a term of five years.

In Cincinnati all police powers and duties connected with and incident to the appointment, regulation and government of the police force are vested in the mayor and the board of police commissioners, consisting of four electors appointed by the governor for terms of four years, not more than two of whom are of the same political party.

In Milwaukee the board is evenly divided between the two great political parties, and its members are appointed by the mayor.

In Baltimore the police force is governed by three police commissioners, who are elected by joint ballot at the convention of the legislature, one commissioner being elected every two years. The mayor of Baltimore, however, Mr. Latrobe, writes that he would change this, if it were in his power, to a non-partisan commission of three appointed by the governor with the mayor as ex-officio member.

THE HOUSE SPEAKERSHIP.

Nobody seriously doubts, it is safe to say, that Thomas B. Reed will be speaker of the next house of representatives, if he desires to be. Among republicans, so far as known, no other man is thought of for the position. But some democratic newspapers have attempted to make it appear that there are deep dissensions among the republican members of the next house, and that serious splits are likely to occur over the speakership and organization of the house. These papers have asserted that Mr. Reed will have strong opposition to his election as speaker, and several gentlemen, well known to be earnest friends and supporters of the Maine statesman, have been named as rival candidates for the speakership.

The fact that Mr. Reed did not vote for the resolution of thanks to Speaker Crisp at the close of congress is by these democratic papers to have defamed many of his republican colleagues, a statement in which undoubtedly there is not an iota of truth. Mr. Reed had excellent reasons for his course regarding the Crisp resolution, and his refusal to vote for it was manly and honest. Crisp was one of the most aggressive and vituperative assailants of Reed when the latter was speaker of the Fifty-first congress, and refused to vote for the usual resolution of thanks to the speaker at the close of that congress. In the Fifty-second and Fifty-third congresses Crisp never lost an opportunity to show his dislike of Mr. Reed, and on more than one occasion went so far, in the exercise of his authority as speaker, as to visit indignities upon the ex-speaker. A conspicuous instance of this happened only a short time before the close of the last congress, when Mr. Reed having been directed to take his seat, and not proceeding to do so as promptly as Mr. Crisp thought he should have done, the sergeant-at-arms was ordered to conduct him to his seat. This arbitrary exercise of authority showed the strong feeling of personal antipathy on the part of Mr. Crisp toward Mr. Reed, and if there had been nothing more than this it would have justified Mr. Reed in refusing to vote for the resolution of thanks. So self-respecting man would, under the circumstances, have taken a different course.

There has been no intimation from any republican source of opposition to Mr. Reed as a candidate for speaker of the next house, nor is it at all likely that any opposition will be developed. During the last two weeks of congress there were a few new members in Washington, and it is stated that the general sentiment among them was that Mr. Reed would be chosen speaker without opposition. The men who might aspire to the speakership are all in favor of Mr. Reed. If there are any with whom he is not the preference they have not yet manifested it. So far as the rank and file of the party is concerned there can be no question that the sentiment is practically unanimous in favor of again placing Thomas B. Reed in the position to which he gave a commanding distinction it had not before possessed.

The course of Mr. Reed in the Fifty-first congress, which was so vigorously denounced by the democrats, has been fully vindicated. The wisdom and necessity of the principle and practice which he enunciated and carried out were acknowledged by the last congress, and will undoubtedly be a permanent feature of our parliamentary procedure. The man who had the judgment and the courage to inaugurate this important change is in no danger of being rejected by a republican house if he wishes to again preside over its deliberations.

A JERSEY STATE HOUSE SCANDAL.

The committee of the New Jersey legislature appointed to investigate the state house expenditures during the incumbency of the late superintendent of the capitol last week unearthed a mass of corruption and jobbery that has made even that ring-ridden state startle with horror. The evidence brought out disclosed the existence of a systematic and organized robbery of the public treasury, the spoils of which were apparently shared by state officials from the top of the ladder to the bottom. The bills for everything bought for the state house were regularly raised and bills frequently rendered for goods that were never supplied at all. All the way through the results of this investigation bear a striking resemblance to what was brought out during the trials of the Nebraska impeachables two years ago and show that the methods of looting state institutions are everywhere the same.

The testimony in the Jersey state house scandal uncovers a very detailed and nefarious transaction. A local druggist, to whom was entrusted a commission to deliver certain brushes, soaps and baskets, admitted that he added nearly 50 per cent to the regular prices, but denied that he paid any commissions "unless presents of \$100 worth of champagne and cigars could be called commissions." The carpenter employed at the state house testified that he had built two refrigerators for the superintendent at an expense of \$225 to the state, in which the presents of wet goods were kept during legislative sessions for the benefit of the superintendent and his friends. The bill for the lumber had been padded by adding an item for 3,000 feet never delivered. The furniture contracts, however, furnished a much richer field for operations. During five years the sum of \$123,000 was spent for furniture, the building at one time having been entirely stripped of its costly contents in order to manufacture an occasion for furnishing it anew. The book-keeper for the firm that received the greater part of this money tried to explain the accounts of his employers, but found that the books had been mutilated. He succeeded, nevertheless, in showing that prices had regularly been inflated by 60 to 100 per cent. Furniture paid for by the state was delivered at the homes of different state senators and other public officers, even the son of the last governor, who was acting as his father's private secretary, coming in for an expensive roll top desk and chair.

The New Jersey legislative investigating committee may have just entered on the trail and a further prosecution of its work may lead to still worse disclosures. The facts already at hand will be amply sufficient to base prosecutions of the guilty parties. The question is, will bootleggerism and official corruption fare as leniently now in New Jersey as it has in the past in the Nebraska state house?

OUR WHEAT COMPETITOR.

The great increase in the wheat production of the Argentine Republic during the last two years has been one of the most potent influences in lowering the price of that grain, and its competition in the markets of Europe has been more damaging to American producers than to those of any other country. From the Argentine wheat crop of last year there was exported to Europe more than 56,000,000 bushels, and the sale of this great exportable surplus by a country which did not produce wheat enough for its own use a few years ago has been a weight on the wheat market the world over. At the beginning of the Argentine season now closed it was reported that the wheat acreage in that country had been increased by 10 per cent in spite of the fact that the average price received by Argentine wheat growers last year was only 28 cents a bushel, and until recently it was the expectation that the Argentine surplus for export would at least be equal to that of last year.

A DUEL IMPEDS.

Chicago Tribune: A duel between Mark Twain and Max O'Rell, each using his own books as weapons and trying to read the other to death, would be about the right thing. Chicago Post: Only a professional humorist could take M. P. Bourget seriously. Mr. Clemens did this. He answered a dull line in one of Bourget's articles with a duller sneer at the women of France. M. Blouet cared naught for M. Bourget. But the sanctity of the marriage tie! Also the necessity of advertising oneself! He assailed Mr. Clemens in the North American Review, but satisfied with this, he now proposes that the melancholy Mark shall allow himself to be shot at. Most people find the jokes of Mr. Clemens and M. Blouet no laughing matter. But a duel between them, especially one for the honor of the women of France, would make the nations gay. By all means, pistols for two. While they are boozing each other the public can take a rest.

Chicago Dispatch: Max O'Rell is angry and spluttering like an angry pig. He says Mark Twain—our own old-served Mark, who has inflicted upon us so much lugubrious humor—has deliberately insulted the good women of Paris and threatens all sorts of dire things if it happens in this way. Paul Blouet recently printed a book in which he scored America and Americans unmercifully. Among other things he poked fun at the Yankees because they are so proud of their creators to point to with pride. He added that whenever a Yankee had a dull day he could "pass the time very pleasantly in guessing who his father was. And so the mark." It is a very pretty quarrel as it is. Quills and coffee for two!

THE SACRED CODFISH.

New York Advertiser: The ancient codfish, hoary and old, which for so many years has occupied a conspicuous position on the walls of the old chamber of the Massachusetts legislature, has been taken down and, with due Massachusetts solemnity, removed to the new halls of legislation. The relic has been nailed over the speaker's chair, but the appearance does not comport with the richly decorated walls of the new chamber, and a suggestion has been made to gild the sacred fish. Against this threatened sacrilege a protest was entered. We had as soon think of applying a coat of red paint to Bunker Hill monument, or redecorating Josiah Quincy's nose to a sky blue. The record of Boston has moved her codfish—the sacred cod of tradition and revolutionary days. It was in 1782 that the patriots of Massachusetts, after a triumph in their cod fisheries war with Great Britain, first caused the wooden chair to be suspended over the speaker's chair in the new house. For years it has hung in the glory of the old house of representatives, glaring out of its graven wooden eyes upon the statesmen who make their mark in the history of the state. It became necessary to transfer the sacred fish from its place to the new representatives' hall and the function was performed with fitting ceremony. The entire body of the fish was reverently laid on a bier and moved to the head of a triumphal procession to its new resting place, while all Boston caught its breath and grew feverish with excitement. It was a beautiful and impressive spectacle and Boston may well be proud of it.

PEOPLE AND THINGS.

New Jersey will please step aside and give Indiana the riot of a war. The consensus of opinion in Cincinnati is that an improvement in business has begun. The array of bunting bills in various legislatures, insure an abundant harvest of buncombe. The sacred codfish has been restored to its pre-eminence in Boston legislative halls and the country is no longer in danger of losing its equilibrium. The Hon. Charles A. Dana is too much interested in the Noyes about Washington to tunc his lute to the merry jingling name of Hinky Dink of Chicago. Collector of Internal Revenue Mize of Chicago makes the extraordinary prediction that the total collections of income tax in that city will not exceed \$1,000,000. The nifty colored dames and damsels of Cleveland resent the invidious questions of registration officers regarding their age. They are old enough to vote. Let it go at that. William Butcher, who has been parish clerk of Stratford-upon-Avon for thirty-two years, died February 20 at the age of 66, and will be greatly missed and mourned by visitors.

The weather bureau is about to issue a monograph on lightning and the best means of checking its ravages. Several people in Maine, Ohio and Indiana are willing to take the chances, however, of losing their lives. Prof. Blackie, the distinguished Scotchman, was a man of many eccentricities. One of them was his fondness for a Panama hat, which he wore on every possible occasion, even at times in his dining room. With this hat on his head and large dressing gown around him he was in his proper attire, as he considered it, for receptions. Congressman Sibley, who is to be the silver party's presidential figure head, is a tall and slender man of about 42 years. His face is beardless and he is said to have the grace of a cat. He has been known to lose his temper in striving to be alliterative. Mr. Sibley is a rich farmer and has an interest in several manufacturing industries. William Bourke Cochran, who sailed for Europe the other day, has been almost prostrated by the recent death of his pretty wife. They say, too, that the big, strong, vacillating Cochran is as tender hearted and gentle as a babe in his domestic life. In fact, Bourke Cochran has never put forward toward publicity the better side of him, and the New York public, even his intimates, would scarcely recognize the inner man. George L. Shoup, who has just been re-elected as United States senator from Idaho, was born in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, in 1835. All the denunciation that he received was that afforded at a village school. He settled on a farm near Galesburg, in Illinois, in 1852, but later went to Pike's Peak in search of gold. He made a great mark in the Colorado independent scouts during the civil war in fighting the Indians and re-joined the service as a colonel. He then went to Idaho, engaged in trade, served in the territorial legislature, was a delegate in congress and was made territorial governor by President Harrison. He was elected the first governor of the state of Idaho. He was next chosen United States senator, and as governor signed his own credentials for his new office.

A Comprehensive "It." Detroit Free Press: A large number of congressmen have just retired to private life, and no higher tribute can be paid to their personal integrity than in the statement that most of them are poorer than when they were elected. If the average congressman were as able as he is honest, this would be one of the best and most economically-governed countries in the world. Sugar Baiting Coar. Philadelphia Record: France proposes to take measures to protect her sugar colonies against the competition of Spanish colonial cane sugar, and against the product of the bounty-fed producers of Germany. The sweetest thing in the world seems destined to become the source of much bitterness among the nations. A Pointer for the Fious. St. Louis Republic: Religious journals which are attacking the senate and Sabatini's senate should remember that there is scriptural authority for working on Sunday if it is necessary to get an ass out of a pit.

With the evident increased efficiency of the fire force and the addition of a powerful steamer, it is not about time for insurance people to announce a reduction in premium rates? If such rates must necessarily be advanced because of inferior protection it follows that adequate protection must cause their reduction. But will it? A Chicago democratic organ says that there is no reason for the democrats of that city to enter the impending municipal campaign this year with anything but the brightest hopes. The danger is that they will make their exit with something even less substantial than hope.

Trilby makes her debut on the American stage at Boston. Of course the Boston entrance is the only path by which such an inspiring subject can be properly introduced to the intellectual circles of our society. Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

JAPAN'S DEMANDS FOR PEACE.

Basis for Negotiations All Prepared in Advance for Li Hung Chang. Independence of Corea Insisted On. Cash Indemnity and Territorial Cession Talked About in a General Way, but No One Knows How Much the Victors Will Ask. WASHINGTON, March 12.—The brief cable announcement from Japan that China has accepted the terms on which Japan is willing to conclude peace has renewed keen interest in the situation in the far east. Neither the Japanese nor Chinese legations have as yet any information that the negotiations have reached the advanced stage. It is stated by the officials at both legations that Prince Li Hung Chang, the Chinese peace envoy, has not left Tien-Tsin. His trip to Japan is to be accompanied with great pomp and ceremony and until he puts his signature to the treaty there will be no actual conclusion of peace and no cessation of hostilities. It is believed, however, that the general understanding on the terms of peace is for the purpose of paving the way to Prince Li Hung Chang's trip that it may not result in the humiliating failure which met the efforts of the last Chinese peace envoys. This is the view expressed here by several official diplomats most conversant with the situation. United States Ministers Dunn at Tokio and Denby at Peking have been in constant communication with a view to bringing the two belligerents together and it is not doubted that the general understanding on terms, if true, is the outcome of this mediation. The terms have ranged in the north and Japan has never stated just what she intended to do. It is known, however, that two of the demands are independence of Corea and a cash indemnity. The third demand is for territorial extension and as to this there has been a great difference of opinion even in Japan. The radical press demands a permanent cession to Japan of all the territory which has overrun by her army and navy. This would include the great naval stations at Port Arthur and Mowlee, and also the valuable stretch of territory along the north of Pe-Chi-Li. The more moderate element in Japan limits its territorial demands to the island of Formosa.

Should the radical demands be pressed it is believed the great powers of Europe will not be heard before the treaty is concluded. Russia has grown manifestly late at the suggestion that her eastern possessions were about to be hemmed in by a circle of Japanese territory. It is understood here that Japan has earnestly tried to learn Russia's purposes, but without entire success. It is believed, however, that Russia is chiefly concerned in securing a harbor in the north-east of Corea, as her present harbor at Vladivostok is closed by ice half of the year, while a Corea harbor would give her an outlet to the sea which is considered imperative as the island of Formosa is a part of the great Siberian railroad. The cash indemnity to be paid Japan is variously estimated at from 100,000,000 to 600,000,000 yen. At the present rate of exchange the silver yen is worth about 50 cents and the gold yen about \$1. It is not yet determined what coin will be used in paying. In either case it will make heavy inroads on the money metals of the world, as the total will be ten or twenty times greater than the proceeds of the United States bond sales. It is expected that China would have little trouble in borrowing the money, as the great creditor nations of Europe appear to be ready and anxious to advance funds on Oriental securities.

Tontogony Murder Mystery Resopens.

TOLEDO, O., March 12.—There was another sensation in the Tontogony murder when Nellie Hartung was released from jail. The release of Miss Hartung is the result of an alleged insufficiency of evidence to bind her over. Prosecutor Murphy and Mr. Troup, after going over the information in their possession, decided it was not enough to warrant further steps in prosecution. Sheriff Higgs is naturally displeased at the proceeds of the United States bond sales. In other case it will make heavy inroads on the money metals of the world, as the total will be ten or twenty times greater than the proceeds of the United States bond sales. It is expected that China would have little trouble in borrowing the money, as the great creditor nations of Europe appear to be ready and anxious to advance funds on Oriental securities.

Prisoner Cames Back at Life Officer.

KANSAS CITY, March 12.—Officer George W. Bowman of Little Rock, Ark., who arrived here yesterday to take back Charles Wilson, wanted for holding up a street car in that city a month ago, met an unexpected setback. When an attempt was made to serve the requisition Wilson immediately arranged to get out of the city on a charge of perjury, said to have been committed in Arkansas. Bowman was taken before a justice, but released on his own recognizance.

Traveling Salesman Found Short.

CHICAGO, March 12.—Samuel R. Beaumont, a traveling salesman for Nelson Morris & Co., the packers, has been committed to jail in default of \$4,000 on a charge of embezzling from his employers. The amount of Beaumont's shortage has footed up nearly \$7,000, and will Morris & Co. be checked by larger when his accounts have been reviewed. Beaumont came here about four years ago from Baltimore and is said to be a connection of the Bonapartes of that city.

It's the Little Things.

The picking out of the cloth, the preparation of it, the cutting, the trimming, even the buttons and the pocket linings—it's the little things—that go to make the perfect goods. Every care imaginable is taken in making up our goods, everything is thoroughly inspected, and then—when you get it of us it's good, and we are no higher priced than dealers who pay no attention to quality and buy of whoever is cheapest. We can't sell you a suit for four or five dollars, but we'll give you the best in the world for \$10.00 and up. But we started out to talk about little things. Well, we've just got in some of the nicest little things in the way of boys' furnishings and hats and caps that we've ever seen. Pretty and low priced. Our children's department is replete with novelties selected for spring, and we invite an early inspection. The many styles we are showing in gentlemen's shirts and neckwear seem to be just the thing, judging by the many praiseful expressions we hear on all sides—and hats, well, we just have the best hat department anywhere now. All the new spring blocks are in and our assortment is so varied in both style and price, that you will have no trouble in finding just what you want. If you don't see the hat you want ask for our Mr. Arthur, he's a practical hatter and has this department in charge.

BROWNING, KING & CO. RELIABLE CLOTHIERS CO. Your Money's Worth or Your Money Back.

It's the Little Things. The picking out of the cloth, the preparation of it, the cutting, the trimming, even the buttons and the pocket linings—it's the little things—that go to make the perfect goods. Every care imaginable is taken in making up our goods, everything is thoroughly inspected, and then—when you get it of us it's good, and we are no higher priced than dealers who pay no attention to quality and buy of whoever is cheapest. We can't sell you a suit for four or five dollars, but we'll give you the best in the world for \$10.00 and up. But we started out to talk about little things. Well, we've just got in some of the nicest little things in the way of boys' furnishings and hats and caps that we've ever seen. Pretty and low priced. Our children's department is replete with novelties selected for spring, and we invite an early inspection. The many styles we are showing in gentlemen's shirts and neckwear seem to be just the thing, judging by the many praiseful expressions we hear on all sides—and hats, well, we just have the best hat department anywhere now. All the new spring blocks are in and our assortment is so varied in both style and price, that you will have no trouble in finding just what you want. If you don't see the hat you want ask for our Mr. Arthur, he's a practical hatter and has this department in charge.

BROWNING, KING & CO. Reliable Clothiers, S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts

JINGLING JESTS.

Life: Miss Waterford—Can you write as well after a good, heavy dinner? Mr. Ingleth (sadly)—I really don't know. Atchison Globe: There are some good people who will not assist a man in his trouble until he has admitted that he brought it on himself. Pick-Me-Up: Mrs. Jones—Charles has an unpronounceable spirit. Mrs. Smith—Indeed Mrs. Jones—Yes, he was two hours unlocking the front door early this morning. Indianapolis Journal: 'Nethin' to say, my darnd, nothin' at all to say. In fact, you know, it's a damned nuisance when your mother is headed my way. Puck: Mrs. Devotee—People are expected to kneel at our church instead of merely resting the head on the front pew. Didn't you see the kneeling benches? Bachelor Brother—Yes, but I didn't see any trousers stretchers. Chicago Tribune: "What a cannibal you are," said the society humorist at the free lunch counter. "Oh, what you demanded the Georgia colonel. "What do you mean, sah?" "Eating a cracker, you know," retorted the colonel, making his escape through the side door. Cincinnati Tribune: The villain gnashed his glowing teeth with the grating sound of the breaking up of an ice berg. "Ha, ha, what do you mean, sah?" "I will bring you to the dust!" The proud beauty uttered a wan little smile. "Naw, sah," she whispered, "you are on the wrong tack. The man to win me must bring the dust to me."

A FOOLISH MAN.

London's Times: I told him never to come again. And—was it not absurd?—That most ridiculous man, He took me at my word. Why is it he's so far from keen? 'Twould fill me with dismay If women always had to mean Exactly what they say. HIS BEST EFFORT. Printer's Ink: He had written essays critical, and digests analytical. His articles political were very widely read. He'd filled tales of mystery, of travel, love and history. And his scientific treatises light o'er the land had shined.

He wrote about photography, geostrophy, stenography. He'd finished a biography of some distinguished man. His books upon geometry and mystic trigonometry. Were everywhere admitted to be on progressive plan. His tracts on modern sciences, mechanical appliances, Hydraulics, steam and railroads were indubitably received; His writings on morality were of superior quality. And were publicly commended, if they were not quite belittled. Then his verses so poetical, abstruse and rhetorical. Delighted those who patronize the poet as a fact. But the manuscript he thought the best, the one that money brought the best