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idual laborer, but from every other individual. "Belong to the trust, or obey it," will be absolutely the only possible outcome if the encroachments of these rapacious monsters are allowed to go on unresisted. In every village, every town, every city, every state, the American people are harassed and insulted and robbed and oppressed by the hundreds of monopolies and trusts that the individual citizen is reduced to a state of indignant but remediless impotence.

From a republican nominee one does not expect a great deal upon the labor question; and would be disappointed if he did expect it. But from a democratic nominee one naturally hopes for a deliverance. Judge Parker's formal letter does not recognize that such a thing as the labor question exists. He offers no solution of the trouble; and upon the calm tide of his smooth rhetoric there is no suggestion that civil war smolders in many a region of our Christian republic, where capital and labor have taken each other by the throat. It is true that Judge Parker thinks that tariff and reform would benefit the wage-earner. So it would, if it were of the right sort. But Cleveland, once upon a time, sounded the slogan of "tariff reform" and, after one defeat, was elected to do the work. Arthur Gorman was the master-builder who framed the measure which was to lessen the burdens of the oppressed and when Arthur Gorman got through with the job the burdens of the oppressed had merely been shifted from one shoulder to the other. The great warm-hearted senator from Missouri, George G. Vest, wanted coal put upon the free list, in order that cheaper fuel could be had by the people; Arthur Gorman opposed the measure stubbornly in the senate. When the sugar trust wanted a better rate than the Dingley bill was about to give them, Senator Elkins brought Havemeyer and Gorman together in personal conference; and the trust got what Havemeyer came for.

And Arthur Gorman is Parker's manager! The "tariff reform" of the democratic nominee must, therefore, be taken with care, and to the Parker letter of acceptance should be attached the Gorman tariff act of 1894 as "Exhibit A," and the speech of General Joe Wheeler against that measure as "Exhibit B."

What Watson Would Do

If I were president, I would recognize that capital and labor have reached a dangerous antagonism. My utmost influence would be used to establish a national bureau of arbitration. I would ask combined capital to choose one man; union labor to choose another; and I would, myself, as chief magistrate, chose a third. Such a board of arbitration should have jurisdiction over labor troubles, and would become a power for good.

That something must be done, and done soon, should be clear to all. A few more Colorado situations would precipitate the rule of the soldier, paid by the corporation, or by the taxpayers whose state officials are owned by corporations.

Majority Rule

The people's party advocates the initiative, by means of which the people can originate and pass such laws as they desire; the referendum, by means of which they can veto such legislation as they disapprove; and the right to cancel the commission of such public officials as have given dissatisfaction.

One of the evils of the present system is that the people are not consulted when laws are to be made; they only hear of the legislative acts after they are published. Even fleet-footed lawyers find it difficult to keep pace

with the changes constantly being made in the statutes.

The initiative and referendum would correct most of that; and the imperative mandate and right of recall would do a great deal toward keeping public officers faithful to trust. To cancel the commission of the public servant who has been recreant to duty is mild enough punishment. If such a power be not given the people, then our statutes should make the betrayal of public trust punishable with the heaviest penalties. We shoot the private soldier who deserts to the enemy. The extreme penalty is supposed to be necessary to deter others from deserting. But when a senator or representative or governor or judge sells his vote, or his decision, to the enemies of the people, in violation of solemn pledges made to the people who elected him, is his crime less grave than that of the deserter who is shot?

Cleveland and Shiras Should Have Been Impeached

If Cleveland had been impeached for that mysterious bond deal, and Shiras rebuffed for his flop on the income tax, rascality in high places might have slackened its gait and mended its ways.

The people's party favors the election of all officers by the people. For one thing, this would bring the federal judges to their senses, and take out of their inflated souls the idea that they are earthly editions of Jehovah. The life-term in office is so undemocratic and so inherently vicious that it is a matter of astonishment that our forefathers established it. It is safe to say that they failed to realize their peril. Jefferson alone saw the deadly danger which lurked in this autocratic body of men, and warned the people of the

(Continued on page 14.)



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