The Commoner.

appointed minister to Mexico, the position he has coveted for many years. Later Judge Penfield resigned his position, and it is believed that he did so because his report concerning Ambassador Thompson was not approved by his superiors. It is claimed by some that the influence of the insurance magnates was exerted in Thompson's behalf, and that that influence is just at this time powerful because of the republican fight in New York state, where the insurance magnates as well as the president and Governor Higgins, were lined up behind Mr. Wadsworth, the successful candidate.

A NDREW J. AIKENS of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has for forty years given an annual codfish dinner in celebration of Forefathers' Day. The Springfield (Mass.) Republican says: As forty-one Puritans signed the famous compact on the Mayflower, Mr. Aikens invites just that number of guests to these dinners, all of them supposedly Mayflower descendants. The dinner was held at the Milwaukee club, and Judge Henry E. Howland of New York, in his letter of regret, told of two characteristic toasts given by a Kentuckian and a citizen of the Bay state. The gentlemen from the Blue Grass country, toasting his own state, proposed:

Here's to the state of Kentucky, The state where I was born; Where the corn is full of kernels, And the colonels are full of corn.

Then the man from the Bay state arose, and gave this toast:

Here's to the state of Massachusetts,
The home of the Sacred Cod;
Where the Adamses vote for Douglas,
And the Cabots walk with God.

If A MAN BUYS control of two life insurance companies and employs it in one case for his own selfish ends, how greatly does that effect disprove his professions of philanthropy in making the other purchase? Asking this question the Springfield (Mass.) Republican concludes: "Very greatly, we say." Thomas F. Ryan secured control of the Washington Life and the Equitable Life. The Republican points out that the investment policy of the Washington Life was changed as soon as Ryan's control was established. The company began to turn money from real estate mortgages into corporation securities. It bought considerable amounts of American Tobacco com-

pany bonds, a Ryan concern, through brokerage concerns operated by Ryan's sons. It bought Hocking Valley railroad bonds, Mr. Ryan being a director of that company. It bought Seaboard Air line bonds, Mr. Ryan being a director in that company. It greatly increased its cash account with the Morton Trust company, of which Ryan is vice-president.

TN THE OPINION of the Republican: "It is impossible to consider the facts disclosed regarding the Washington Life Insurance company without concluding that the Ryan purchase of Equitable control was dictated by similar motives, and that the purpose was to make use of the vast funds of the big insurance concerns. Mr. Ryan, as against such a charge, calls attention to the fact that his stock control of the Equitable has been trusteed beyond his immediate command and in the hands of men possessing the public confidence. This is true, but it is also true that before the stock was trusteed Mr. Ryan had placed a man of his own choosing in active control of the company. He may be said to be virtually the president and dominating director of the Equitable. If he ever wants to employ Equitable funds in his various speculative enterprises, it is not within the immediate power of the three trustees of the stock to prevent him. Obviously, therefore, the full rehabilitation of the Equitable in public confidence requires that the Ryan control be cast off. Nothing essentially has been gained by a 'reform' which substitutes a new set of Wall street interests for the Harriman set previously dominant in the management."

C HARLES A. KEENE, a watch merchant doing business at 180 Broadway, New York, recently—according to the Omaha World-Herald—swung this sign to the breeze:

GREAT PROTECTION SALE
WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES BOUGHT
IN ENGLAND
CHEAPER THAN IN AMERICA
AND BROUGHT BACK TO UNDERSELL THIS

MARKET
CHARLES A. KEENE
"WE PROTECT OUR CUSTOMERS AND NOT
THE MANUFACTURERS"

The World-Herald says: "This sign tells, in a few words, the whole story of the iniquities of a protective tariff, used not for the upbuilding of infant industries and the protection of American labor, but as a lawful method whereby the great trusts and monopolies, already enormously wealthy; may safely levy heavy tribute on the American consumers. The tariff duty on watches and parts thereof, under the Dingley act for the protection and strengthening of the American trusts is 40 per cent ad valorem. That 40 per cent is added to the price of watches to American purchasers. The same watches are sold to the citizens of foreign countries, and sold in large quantities and at a profit, without the 40 per cent being added to the cost."

WRITER IN A New York paper tells of having bought one of these American watches of Mr. Keene, who purchased them in Europe at the regular European price, for a third less than the price asked by New Yor': and Boston dealers for the same grade and mark. Commenting upon this statement the World-Herald says: "Such a tariff does not protect; it plunders. It is, in sober truth, a robber tariff. It serves every year to make larger and mightier and richer those great combinations of capital that are already the greatest menace of American democracy. What is it but mockery and pretense for Mr. Roosevelt and his followers to pose as enemies of the criminal trusts while still favoring and fostering the protective tariff that is constantly making them stronger and more dangerous at the expense of the people they are plundering? By what right do they pretend to class themselves with the enemies of graft when they are responsible for this greatest of all grafts operated with the legal sanction of the government?"

THE WASHINGTON correspondent for the Chicago Tribune, detailing some of the experiences of government agents in investigating the Standard Oil Trust, says: "'Rockefeller is a bigger man than Roosevelt,' was the constant cry of the Standard Oil people not only in New York but in Illinois, Missouri and Kansas as well. An effort was made, and successfully, too, to show that the 'system' was a bigger thing than the government of the United States itself. The extraordinary thing was that independent oil companies which were proved to have no affiliation whatever with the Standard Oil company, should refuse to fight it, and should also refuse to supply the government with the necessary evidence to secure indictment and conviction in the federal courts.'

"FALLEN IDOLS" == A TALK TO INDIANA DEMOCRATS

(Continued from Page 7)

because "we love music for the buried hopes, the garnered recollections, the tender feelings it can summon at a touch."

Search your own heart and see whether hidden there is not some memory tender and true that needs but a note of the music with which it is associated to bring it to life:

Perhaps the most stirring memory of my own life is instantly revived by that homely popular air "Just Tell Them That You Saw Me." On the night before the election of 1896 i stood at a window in the office of the Omaha World-Herald, a democratic newspaper in the city of Omaha and witnessed the republican party's parade. It was the most gorgeous affair of the kind ever seen in that city. Banners and bunting and flags made of the costliest material were flung to the breeze. Gayly plumed horses, finely decorated carriages and magnificently equipped floats were led and followed by men, some mounted and some on foot, and all screaming for the national honor and an honest dollar. Parenthetically it may be remarked that we know now that there wasn't an honest dollar in all the money expended for that vast display. From beginning to end, all along the line, was one blaze of high priced fireworks. It seemed that everything which could be utilized for display and bought with money had been obtained for that occasion.

Perhaps an hour later I stood at the same window and awaited the coming of another parade. I knew it would not be so gorgeous as the first, but it was the parade of my kind of people, and I watched for it with great interest. As this parade came in view the band struck up "Just Tell Them that You Saw Me, and They Will Know the Rest." The parade halted in front of the newspaper office. There was but one band, but it was doing faithful service. There was but one carriage drawn by two white horses, but in it was seated the democratic

nominee of that day—a man who, we were long ago told, had been finally disposed of, but who yet lives—so strong in the hearts of democrats that his name is a synonym for democracy; so strong in the hearts of Americans that his name is a synonym for Americanism; so strong in the hearts of those who know him intimately that his name is synonomous with honesty, courage and loving kindness.

In that parade there were no fireworks. Behind the leader's carriage and in an orderly disorder thousands of men were packed from curb to curb. Every man carried in his hand a small flag, and as the leader rose to bow his respects to the newspaper that had supported him, one of the most inspiring sights was presented. There was a solid mass of earnest, faithful men. From their hearts swelled a mighty volume of cheers for their leader and their cause, and the innumerable flags waved so in unison that it looked like a great gathering of men wrapped within the folds of their country's colors. The picture was at once pathetic and inspiringpathetic because there was such a contrast between those unadorned demonstrations and the expensive display of the opposition, inspiring because it demonstrated that men may rise to lofty heights of enthusiasm in a good cause and behind an honest leader without the incentive suggested by selfish advantage or the attractions of pomp and pageantry.

On that occasion I stood beside an old, gray-haired democrat. He had fought many a losing battle but had ever kept the faith. Tears trickled down his furrowed cheeks and so overcome was he with emotion that he sobbed. I shall never forget the sight of the thousands of democrats in the street below nor that of the old democrat at whose elbow I stood. I need not say I was strongly moved by both pictures.

Turning to me the old man said:

"We may be beaten tomorrow, my boy, but
I'd rather go down to defeat with those democrats and that leader than win with the other

fellows. We have at least made a good fight and we have nothing to regret. And though I may not be spared, you will live to see the day when this cause shall triumph."

I regret that the life of this faithful old democrat was not spared, but he spoke the truth when he said that those who battled for popular government in 1896 had nothing to regret. And the accuracy of the prediction that their cause would yet triumph is indicated by the signs of this day. The logic of history is inexorable. Nations as well as individuals pay penalty for their misdeeds and political parties are not exempt from the rule. The republican party has been successful far beyond its merits. With fetching pleas and stolen funds it has won many contests, but there now awaits that party a battle compared with which the contest of 1896 was but as a skirmish fire. The wellworn phrases of former years will no longer turn the tide. Campaign funds taken from the widows and orphans will no longer win the victory. The evils under which the people suffer are real and must be met with real reforms. The republican party being in control of every branch of the government has all necessary power. But with all its pretense it will fail to exercise that power in the public interests. It would be like carrying coals to Newcastle for me to tell you gentlemen that democrats are ready for the fray. I can read in your faces that the Indiana democracy is prepared.

The republican party will be held to account on its foul record. In 1906 it will lose control of the lower house of congress, and in 1908 we will elect to the presidency of this nation of freemen a man to whom "the greatest good to the greatest number" will not be an idle, empty phrase. In that day, in the language of another, "Democracy will be the King. Long live the

King!"
And long life, peace and prosperity to his faithful subjects—the members of the Jackson club of Lafayette.