

The Commoner.

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DOES HE BELIEVE IT?

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, referring to a man more or less prominent in politics for whom it has a very poor opinion, says: "The only place for him is in the bosom of the democracy, where they care nothing of what a man thinks, or whether he thinks at all, if he only votes."

This was not a hastily written paragraph, but appears as the concluding lines in a long editorial.

Does the editor of the Globe-Democrat really believe the statement thus quoted? If he does, then he is, indeed, a poorly informed man. We rather incline to the opinion that in writing these lines, the Globe-Democrat editor was in the same mood as when he referred to the republican party as the "party of God and morality."

WHY?

One newspaper dispatch, referring to the indictment brought against the Standard Oil trust by the federal grand jury at Chicago, says: "It did not take the federal grand jury a half day to discover that crime had been committed by the corporation." Yes and it would not take a federal grand jury, instructed by a determined prosecuting attorney, half an hour to discover that crime had been committed by John D. Rockefeller, Henry H. Rogers and other persons of flesh and blood.

Can any one explain why some of these men have not been indicted?

ENOUGH FOR HALL RENT

While Chairman Sherman of the republican congressional committee has prepared the dollar contribution to help on the republican campaign fund, Speaker Cannon has announced that the republican party will "stand pat" on the high protective tariff law. Dispatches say that dollar contributions are not pouring into the republican treasury, but the republican managers seem not to be greatly disturbed.

Maybe the committee won't suffer after all. Maybe the tariff barons will contribute enough to pay hall rent, at least.

ONLY THIRTY PER CENT!

Stockholders of the Wells Fargo Express company are quarreling, and the public has been treated to the revelation that the company's net earnings last year amounted to thirty per cent on its capital stock. That's a pretty fair return on the investment made. No wonder these great corporations are devoted to the "let well enough alone" slogan.



The Grand Old Protector of American Labor

THE BYZANTINE CAPITAL

Mr. Bryan's Thirty-second Letter

It is impossible to convey to the reader any adequate idea of the beauties of the Bosphorus at the point where Constantine located the capital of the Byzantine empire. The best way to approach it is by the sea, and as the traveler usually enters from the west, he sails through the Dardanelles, known in ancient times as the Hellespont, passes through the Sea of Marmora and enters the Bosphorus between Constantinople, on the one side, and Skutari on the other. The Bosphorus itself is between fifteen and twenty miles long and very deep. It is the connecting link between the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmora and the hills that jut into it on either side are nearly all covered with towns and villas. The water is as clear as the water of a lake, and fish may be seen at a great distance below the surface. A ride through the Bosphorus reminds one of a trip up the Hudson although the former has the advantage in the depth of the stream, in the transparency of the water, in the height of the banks and in the irregularity of the course. In fact, the channel contains so many curves that one seems to be passing through a succession of lakes.

A little more than half way between the Sea of Marmora and the Black Sea, on the north bank, is Therapia, the summer capital, to which the officials repair when the warm weather begins, and upon the same bank, about half way between Constantinople and Therapia, is Roberts College, an institution for boys, established and maintained by American philanthropy. It occupies a promontory which overlooks the Bospho-

rus at its narrowest point, the point at which Mohammed II crossed over from Asia, when in 1453 he succeeded in capturing Constantinople.

The Golden Horn is the name given to an arm of the Bosphorus which, leaving that strait a few miles from the Sea of Marmora, stretches northward five or six miles to receive a stream called the Sweet Waters of Europe. It may have been that the Golden Horn at one time rivalled the Bosphorus in beauty, but it does so no longer. Full of ships and boats of every description, from war vessels to canoe, and polluted by the sewage of two cities, it disappoints as much as the Bosphorus delights.

The city of Constantinople is divided by the Golden Horn, Stamboul, the Turkish city lying on the west, and Galata and Pera, the foreign quarters, lying on the east. Skutari stretches along the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus, and the navies and merchant vessels of all the world could ride in safety in the waters adjacent to these three cities.

In the seventh century, B. C., a colony of Greeks under the lead of Byzas settled at Cape Bosphorus, now the site of Stamboul, and in the rise and fall of the dynasties of the east, it has played an important part. Being on the boundary line between Asia and Europe and guarding the water communication between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean, it possesses strategic advantages which statesmen and warriors have been quick to recognize. The Persians always wanted it and several times captured it. The Greeks were continually taking it and losing it; Phillip