

# THE CUP THAT CHEERS.

It's Not Popular in Washington's Official Circles.

President Harrison Never Served Wine at His Receptions—Attorney General Miller's Famous "Indianapolis Punch"—A Temperate City.

[Special Washington Letter.]

During the first session of the present congress the country was surprised and aroused by the charge, openly made by Mr. Watson, of Georgia, that a member of the house of representatives had been in an intoxicated condition while making a speech upon the floor of the house. The charge was investigated by a committee composed of members of the house, and, after taking voluminous testimony, it was decided that the charge was without foundation. Nevertheless, the impression prevails throughout the country that there is a great deal of social tipping done in Washington; and there is something of truth as well as exaggeration in that impression.

It is true that it is customary in society here, as it is in the social circles of other cities, to have wine at banquets and receptions; but it is not true that this custom is always observed in official circles.

It is well known that the present administration is dominated by the influence of a home-loving, God-fearing, temperate man. The views of Mrs. Harrison on the subject of temperance were of such a pronounced character that from the moment of her advent into the white house all alcoholic liquors were banished. However, at state dinners, in obedience to the custom of a century, wines have been served; but the guests, knowing the sentiments of their host and hostess, touched them very sparingly. On the president's private table wine is never served; indeed so rigid is the rule in this respect that the use of liquor is never allowed in the preparation of a dish.

Mrs. Morton, the wife of the vice president, never has served anything in the nature of an intoxicant at her Wednesday afternoon receptions. For those who do not care for hot tea and chocolate there is always prepared a large bowl of cafe frappe. At her evening card receptions, however, when the company is smaller than when the general public is admitted, as is the case on Wednesdays, a bowl of punch is placed at one side of the square entrance hall. Mrs. Morton is an abstemious woman, and, while declining to prescribe any set course of action for others, is personally opposed to the indiscriminate serving of punch at afternoon receptions, or indulging in wines at luncheons and dinners.

Postmaster General and Mrs. Wanamaker have found an agreeable substitute for punch in a fragrant compound of orangeade and fresh strawberries. They have the courage of their own convictions in the matter of serving liquor in any form, even at their cabinet dinners, where nothing stronger than Apollinaris water is allowed.

Attorney General and Mrs. Miller have also made a departure from the usual order of things by introducing, instead of punch, a compound for which they alone have the recipe. Although frequently importuned to impart the secret, they laughingly refuse, avowing that none but themselves can properly brew "Indianapolis punch," in which raspberry vinegar and lemon juice predominate.

Speaker Crisp and ex-Speaker Reed are abstemious men, and their families are like unto them in this regard. Secretary John Foster, of the department of state, and Secretary Charles Foster,



MON. THOMAS E. WATSON, OF GEORGIA.

of the treasury department, have lived temperate and commendable public and private lives in Washington. The late secretary of the treasury, Mr. Windom, was a pronounced temperance advocate. In fact, the temperance sentiment seems to prevail in the entire administration, and the legislative circles as well. It is very clear to my mind that the popular impression concerning tipping in Washington is erroneous, because it is exaggerated. It is true that individuals here, as elsewhere, indulge in strong drink.

A few members of the house of representatives are drinking men; but they do not usually indulge their appetites during the day, and hence are not under the baneful influence while congress is in session. They surrender to their unfortunate desires only at night. These individuals, however, should not be regarded as fair examples of the social circles of official society in the national capital.

In a public address recently delivered here, the speaker—Gen. Cutcheon—asserted that the social customs of Washington were responsible for much of the evil resulting from the use of intoxicating drinks. Men and women, he said were tempted beyond what they were able to bear, lost their moral balance, and drifted into lives of sin. He knew of "no other city in the country where there was so much wine drinking."

This is unfair, and untrue. Nearly everyone of our priests and pastors has denied the truth of the statement made, mainly because it is an exaggeration. An Episcopal rector, who has long resided here, says: "It seems to me not only

unfair, but impossible, to institute comparisons between cities in regard to a matter like intemperance, of which it is so difficult to obtain accurate statistics. Excessive drinking takes many forms, some of which never show themselves to a casual observer. Though I have seen many cities of the United States I have intimate acquaintance with only one besides the city of Washington. So far as external appearances go, there is certainly much less intemperance to be seen in the streets of Washington than is visible publicly in New York city. Aside from inherited tendencies, the two chief causes of intemperance among ordinary men seem to be idleness and



THE SOCIAL CUP.

want. A great many of the poor resort to drink because they are in want of good sustaining food. Certainly there is much less of this sort of drinking in Washington than in any other cities in this country."

That last sentence contains more than a modicum of truth. It seems to cover the case completely. There is very little enforced idleness and consequent want in this city. Only those who will not work are idle and penniless. The seat of government being here, and over one and a half million dollars being disbursed here every month, gives us considerable of a circulating medium in excess of the amount usually available in cities of equal population. Hence, there is less idleness and want here than in other cities. Consequently there is less drunkenness.

"I am very sorry that such a statement was made by a prominent man," says a Catholic priest who has been traveling in the west for some time. "Statements of that character have given Washington an undeserved bad name. While traveling I have been grieved to hear exaggerated and unwarranted statements made against the social customs of the capital. Every patriotic American should have the reputation of this city at heart, and be guarded against making destructive criticisms which are calculated to belittle the national capital in the opinions of the people of the country."

While denouncing and refuting the allegations concerning the condition of social and official circles in this particular, I am constrained to admit that there was much original foundation for the thought of the country concerning the tipping habit in Washington. Before the war, during and immediately after that struggle, it was customary and not unbecoming for men to drink freely, deeply and sometimes excessively. It was almost always expected, when gentlemen were introduced, for one or both of them to follow the introduction with an invitation to take a drink at some bar. A well-known newspaper man who has been here for many years, recently said to me: "Gen. Rawlins and I were here as army officers, in common with many others, with nothing to do but draw pay for several years after the war, and we played billiards four or five hours every day, just to kill time. Between games, we were constantly meeting friends and being introduced to newcomers here, with the result that I acquired the drinking habit, which has clung to me ever since and minimized my usefulness. I am glad to be able to say, however, that there is ninety per cent. less drinking in this city now than there was twenty-five years ago."

My own experience here corroborates and emphasizes that statement. The growth of the temperance sentiment throughout this country has been kept pace with by the growth of a similar sentiment in this city. The temperance workers throughout the republic may thank God and take courage, for every effort put forth by them in their own communities has a reflex influence upon the social life of the governmental city. Members of congress, senators, cabinet ministers and all public officials here feel that the eyes of the people are upon them; and they know that the hearts of the people are inclined towards sobriety and temperance.

SMITH D. FRY.

Why He Was Followed.

He was going home to his wife and family. It was growing dark. His road from the station was a lonely one, and he was getting along as fast as he could, when he suddenly suspected that a man behind him was following him purposely. The faster he went the faster the man went, until they came to a churchyard. "Now," he said to himself, "I'll find out if he's after me," and he entered the churchyard. The man followed him. Vague visions of revolvers and garrotes grew upon him. He made a detour of a splendid mausoleum. Still the man was after him, round and round. At last he turned and faced the fellow, and asked: "What the dickens do you want? What are you following me for?" "Well, sir, do you always go home like this? I am going up to Mr. Fitzkrown's house with a parcel, and the porter at the station told me that if I'd follow you I should find the place, as you lived next door. Are you going home at all to-night?"—Melbourne City and Country.

Natural Doubt.

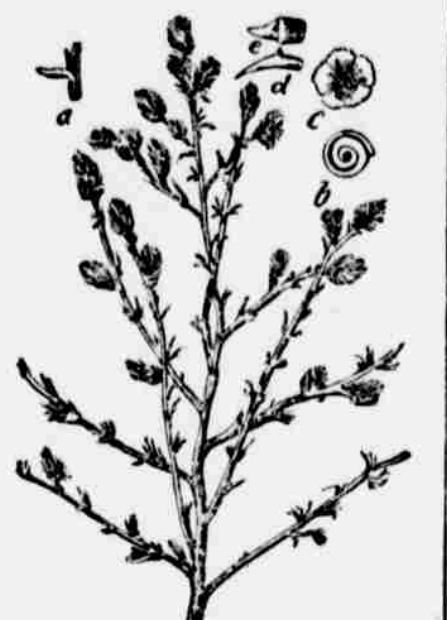
"Hallo, Vanderloin, on some of your people coming in on this train?" "Yes; I'm expecting a sister of mine." "Sister, eh? By birth, or refusal?"—Truth.

# AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

## THE RUSSIAN THISTLE.

Its Introduction and Occurrence in Several Western States.

Prof. L. H. Pammel, Ames, Ia., writes to the Orange Judd Farmer: Not long ago there was some discussion concerning the introduction of the Russian thistle in the northwestern part of this state. It has appeared in several places in Iowa and is causing some alarm. It was stated that it is the common saltwort found along the Atlantic coast, but it now appears that this weed is not the native Salsola kali, but a variety, and is known as Salsola kali var. tragus, which is shown in the accompanying illustration reproduced from the report of the department of agriculture issued for the year 1891. It is not a native of the United States but of Russia. In some way it was brought to this country. How will never be learned. It has become a formidable pest in the wheat fields of the Dakotas. Mr. S. W. Narregang, president of the Dakota Irrigation Company, writes in the department of agriculture report for 1891, in response to an inquiry from Dr. J. N. Rose: "They grow much longer than the specimen, often three times as large, forming plants which are six feet in diameter—as large as a large wagon wheel. In reply to your question as to the time of first appearance I would say that we first saw it three years ago. Since that time it has steadily increased, until the greater portion of South Dakota east of the Missouri river is infested with the thistle, particularly the strip of country extending from Eureka, Campbell county, southeasterly to Sioux Falls, which is covered thickly with this weed." The same writer states that some farmers have left their land



RUSSIAN THISTLE.

because of it. A competent authority, Prof. T. A. Williams, in the Dakota Farmer November 1, 1892, says: "There is a story often heard throughout Dakota that it was introduced here by Russian immigrants sowing it for sheep feed. We have not been able to get at the truth of this statement nor to find just where the weed was first introduced." He pronounces it the worst weed in South Dakota. In this connection it should be noted that when young the plant is used as forage for sheep. This weed is an annual, grows vigorously and produces an enormous number of seeds which are scattered over the prairies, because of its tumbling habit.

Another important feature of the weed is that it comes up after the wheat is cut. Dr. Rose, in the report referred to, suggests that farmers in the western states take timely action to eradicate it. In Nebraska a bill for its extermination was introduced, but it failed to pass. It is impossible to say just how far this weed may spread. There are numerous cases on record where some plants promised to be very troublesome, but for some unknown reason they failed to spread. But this weed seems to be thoroughly adapted to the soil and conditions in southwest Iowa, northeast Nebraska and the two Dakotas. We may well regard it with suspicion. The remedy to be applied is to cut off all of the young plants and do not allow any seed to mature. But this requires concerted action. Waste places as well as the fields must be guarded.

## FACTS FOR FARMERS.

It is not always meanness that makes a cow breachy; it is frequently hunger.

As the kerosene emulsion may be kept in the barn ready for use, and is so cheap and effective, it leaves little to be desired and less excuse for lousy cattle.

Prof. W. A. Henry found by experiment that it cost \$2.61 to produce a hundred pounds of gain with lambs, \$3.03 to secure the same gain with pigs of about the same age.

It is cheaper to make a good road than to make a bad one. The money expended on the wear and tear of your wagons, of your horses and harness is enough to make a good road.

The axiom "A penny saved is worth two earned" is practically illustrated by feeding unthrashed oats to cows and calves. Try it once and you will never waste time, money and labor in thrashing oats.

Of course, after milking your cows all summer you know what each can do, and whether you are milking them at a profit or a loss; so you will have no trouble in telling which ones to sell to the butcher.

PURE bred live stock is a leading educator. The man who once begins breeding becomes a student of animal life. The result is a humane and intelligent man with a prosperous and progressive family.

THOUSANDS of trees are ruined by overbearing when young. The greedy grower thinks it great luck to see a tree heavily loaded at two, three or four years old, but it is growth that a tree wants at that age, not crops of fruit.

## A TALK ABOUT CATTLE.

The Three Grades Usually Kept by American Farmers.

We may class cattle that are usually kept on the farm into three grades or kinds: Those for milk, for butter and for beef. In a great measure they are distinct, as the animal that excels in beef production is rarely the most profitable for butter or milk. While a cow may give a large quantity of milk and yet be an unprofitable butter animal, it is well settled among the dairymen that the general purpose cow has not yet arrived.

Some that are raising breeding animals to sell will insist that their particular breed or strain will fill the bill for a general purpose animal, yet a careful trial will be sufficient to convince anyone that the best results in any particular line are secured only with the special purpose animal.

There are plenty of animals that will average well in milk, butter and beef production and will excel in none, but it will be a waste of time and money to get up a herd of this kind. For a butter cow what is wanted is a medium-sized cow, rather under than over size, not an extra large milker, but one that will give a good average yield 11 months in the year, giving her a month to go dry before calving, and from which at least 250 pounds of butter can be made in a year. A first-class butter cow will make even more than this, giving as much as a pound of butter a day on an average. If she converts her food into butter, it is evident that she cannot convert it into milk or beef, and in nearly all cases a cow that gives a large quantity of milk cannot give extra rich milk or make a profitable beef gain in flesh.

The first thing to determine is the special purpose for which the cattle are to be kept and then select and breed those that are best adapted for this purpose. If milk is an item, select a breed that gives a large quantity of milk. Often it is possible to keep cows and sell the milk to better advantage than to manufacture it into butter. Some families can grow a good quality of beef to better advantage than either milk or butter, and then a beef animal is one that converts the food supplied into growth or gain of flesh. In either case, by the selection of a good sire, bred in the direction wanted and with sufficient individual merit to transmit his characteristics to his offspring. In this way, by carefully selecting the cows, a gradual improvement can be made in the direction desired. But it is hard to select and feed for a general purpose animal, as such animals rarely prove much above the average in any one quality.—St. Louis Republic.

## MILK RECEPTACLES.

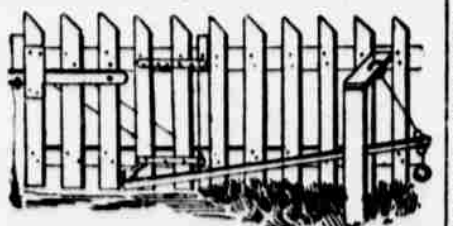
The Importance of Keeping Dairy Utensils Clean and Sweet.

In no other work is there as great a demand for cleanliness as in the three parts of the dairy business, milk, butter and cheese. The most attention is needed to maintain the cleanliness of the milk receptacles, such as pails, pans, cans and churns. In the first place there should be a sufficient supply of pans that those emptied and washed in the morning need not be used until evening or the next day. After washing they should be placed in the sunlight until used. On cloudy days they can be thoroughly dried about the stove and not nested when they are wet, and allowed to thus remain for several hours, as in that condition they cannot dry, and when separated at night they will give off a disagreeable odor, and the warm milk placed in them is certain to be contaminated. All tin dairy utensils should be first washed in boiling water, then thoroughly rinsed in clean cold water, and turned bottom side up to drain and dry until again used. All vessels about the dairy should be cleaned as soon as emptied, and not allowed to stand neglected for hours thereafter. The shelves, benches and racks upon which the pans are set should be washed with soap and water every time they are cleared. Even a few drops of milk allowed to remain on them to mold or gum up with butter fat would prove unhealthy, and detrimental to the milk in the same apartment. Where only a few cows are kept the same scrupulous cleanliness should be observed. The surface of the butter in the tubs should be covered with a cloth saturated with strong brine, both during and after the filling is completed. Locate the filled tubs in a cool, dark portion of the cellar, examine once a week, and if the brine is found oozing through the staves, it should be wiped away and not allowed to remain and stain the wood, giving it a most uninviting look.—American Agriculturist.

## SURE GATE CLOSER.

A Contrivance That Will Prevent a Great Many Annoyances.

The annoyances resulting from open garden and lawn gates can be avoided by the contrivance shown in the accompanying illustration drawn from a sketch sent us by R. C. Hollins, of Ken-



A SELF-CLOSING GATE.

tucky. This gate closer will not only close the gate every time it is opened to the usual width, but if the gate is swung completely back to the fence, it will also hold the gate open. This is a great convenience, as all realize who have tried chains or ropes with weights, and self-closing hinges or springs. With self-closing gates, the carelessness of children and callers will be overcome, and the trees and plants saved from injury by trespassing cattle and swine.—American Agriculturist.

AFTER the ducks begin to lay it is safe to count upon an egg every 24 hours, but as they do not lay in nests, the safest plan is to confine them every night or many of the eggs will be lost.

## THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS.

Why Protection Was Defeated in the Late Election.

If President Harrison had the same felicity in personal intercourse as in public speech and with the pen he would be a marvel of politics. His latest instance in point was a little passage in a letter written, apparently, with no thought of publication.

Speaking of the late campaign, he said of himself: "I was a leader imprisoned, and save from the little visit to Mr. Reid, I knew or thought but little about it." That is undoubtedly true. His devotion to the invalid wife by his side was such as to make every thought else remote from his thoughts. But even if he had been on fire with eagerness for the fray, he would still have been "a leader imprisoned." The proprieties of the situation forbade his taking part in the campaign, and that of itself was a very great loss. No one who recalls the wonderful series of speeches made by Gen. Harrison at his home in 1888 can doubt that his silence during the last campaign was an incalculable loss to the republican cause. How much influence his speeches would have exerted no one can tell, but they certainly were a less great and irreparable. No one could take his place. The vacancy remained unfilled. That little speech at Mr. Reid's home was hardly up to the Harrisonian standard. The shadow of impending affliction was upon it.

But the latter part of the letter is especially felicitous. The failure of protection as an issue last fall was due to the fact, as he puts it, that "the wage-earner has refused to share his shelter with the manufacturer," adding, with rarest felicity, "he would not even walk under the same umbrella." That expresses it exactly. The wage-earners are men of intelligence. At least they know enough to know that under free trade American industry would be paralyzed, or compelled to go on, if at all, at greatly reduced wages. But a wave of special animosity to capital and enterprise swept over the country, and when passion is at the front considerations of prudence are thrust into the background and sacrificed with mad eagerness. How much of this prejudice was due to the Homestead strike is a matter of uncertainty, but all agree that it was a powerful factor.

It is not worth while to dwell upon the mistakes and misfortunes of the last campaign, except as they point a lesson. The manufacturers of this country might as well understand that they cannot afford to defy the enmity of the wage-workers. On the contrary, they must realize the fact that the people rule in this country and that to incur the enmity of their employees is to court disaster in one form or another. The ultimate success or failure of protection is still undetermined. Four years more and another election will be upon us, and the result of that election will undoubtedly turn, as did the last one, upon sentiment. If the manufacturers rely upon hard times and starvation to bring the wage-workers to their side they will be disappointed. Protection is a mutual benefit, as is perfectly plain, but bodies of men, like individuals, need only to have their animosities touched with the torch of hate to make them forget their own interest in an eagerness to get even. The story of Samson's pulling down the temple illustrates universal human nature under the goad of exasperation. The manufacturers of this country as a class are fair-minded men, and have only to take counsel of their unimpaired common sense to restore good feeling between themselves and the wage-workers.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## IMPATIENT DEMOCRATS.

Impetuous Place-Hunters Clamoring for Office.

A good deal of silly and irrelevant talk is now heard among democrats concerning the rapidity with which, in European representative governments, a revolution in a general election is reflected in the management of public affairs. We are told that a defeat for the party in power in England or France would result in an immediate change of administration and policy. The cabinet would resign at once, and a new one, formed out of members of the victorious party, would be put in its place. This is true, but it is not pertinent. Things cannot be done that way here. The constitution forbids it, and the present usages must continue to prevail until the constitution is altered. We have no cabinet in the British or French sense. Even if the president and all the members of our cabinet had resigned the day after the election, the democratic accession to power would not have been hastened to the extent of a single hour.

The sensible thing for the impatient democrats to do is to try to mold sentiment in favor of a change in the constitution which would make the terms of the president and of congress begin on the first day of January immediately following their election, and to have the first stated session of congress commence at the opening of its term. This would call for pretty quick work in the counting of the votes for president, it is true, but the change would not present any difficulty of this sort in regard to congress, for the legislature to choose the new senators would meet in December. By this means the government could be kept in "close touch with the people." Beaten presidents and congresses could not lag superfluous on the stage of affairs. The will of the people, as indicated at the ballot-box, would be put immediately into execution.

Changes of this sort in the constitution have often been suggested, and so far as it pertains to congress this change would certainly be wise. Such a scheme would undoubtedly secure much popular support. Even as it pertains to the president the proposition would also command considerable favor. This is an age of "reform." There is a large element of the population who would abolish any political usage that is old and put something different and hitherto untried in its place. Hundreds of thousands think that the mode of electing presidents is too slow and

cumbrous; tens of thousands say that the idea of having a president at all is antiquated and absurd, and that a commission or board should be put in his place. Then there are others who would abolish the senate as well as the president. Nobody ever saw an age in this country more favorable to new notions in politics than this. Let the exultant and impetuous democracy pitch in according to constitutional methods for the required changes in the system of doing things, for the president and the republican members of congress are going to hang on to their offices until the term ends for which the people elected them.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## LOOK OUT FOR SQUALLS!

Speaker Crisp's Public Humiliation Means Trouble.

The direct and studied insult offered to Speaker Crisp at the Reform club banquet to Grover Cleveland in New York evidently marks the beginning of a factional fight in the democratic ranks. Crisp is the third officer of the federal government. He was invited to attend and his invitation so worded as to lead him to construe it as requesting him to speak. He prepared a speech, furnished it, by request, to the Associated Press for transmission by telegraph and was left sitting, like a bump on a log, not being called upon by the chairman.

This means a declaration of war by Cleveland and his personal satellites upon Tammany and its friends. Crisp received Tammany's support for speaker—hence his public humiliation. Cleveland believes that his election was due to his personal popularity. He knows he can have only this term in the presidency, and proposes to run things to suit himself. He is affiliating with the mugwump pharisees, and evidently intends to punish Tammany for its opposition to his nomination at Chicago.

This means a terrific factional fight in the democratic ranks. The republicans will witness it with amusement, and hope for the same result as that of the famous fight of the Kilkenny cats.—Toledo Blade.

## CURRENT COMMENT.

Democratic reform is really in danger. Too many cooks spoil the broth, is an old saying that applies here.—Iowa State Register.

The attack on pensions which is being made all along the democratic line indicates the turn that the economy of the Cleveland administration will take. The old soldier has no democratic friends.—Albany Journal.

President Harrison's own fidelity to the interests in his charge and his intense devotion to his country were never more apparent than in the message which rounds out his administrative acts.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Secretary Foster is right in insisting that the reserve should now be over one hundred million dollars in gold, but there is no prospect that the democratic house will reduce expenses so as to permit any accumulation of revenue.—Philadelphia Press.

If the Reed rules be not adopted by the next house, the so-called "high tariff" faction of the democracy will block the way against the free trade or dominant element of the party. That Reed code is very useful in a crisis.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The republican party has never been a cowardly organization, trimming its sails with every change in the popular breeze, and, although the principles which it laid before the country have been for the time being rejected, it will not betray them. Indeed, if it were to give up its protection faith it would lose the one great article of its creed which gives it political identity.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

A good many vest buttons have been flying off since it was reported that Cleveland had offered Dave Hill the position of secretary of state. But while the merriment is boisterous it is a solid fact that Cleveland could hardly do a more polite thing for himself and his party than that. Even if Hill should be offered the place and would decline, Cleveland would gain strength for his tact. It would be very politic indeed for him to effect this rapprochement and show his magnanimity. It is probable, however, that the tomahawk is not to be buried so easily.—Minneapolis Journal.

In his Reform club speech Mr. Cleveland departed from glittering generalities long enough to say: "If we redeem the promises we have made to the voters of the land, the difficulty of our task can hardly be exaggerated." This statement is interesting for two reasons. One is that it indicates a doubt on Mr. Cleveland's part whether any attempt will be made to live up to the ante-election democratic promises, and the other is that it reveals his belief that his party promised more than it has the ability to perform. The "plain people" will be disappointed to learn that the vision of good things held before them during the campaign is never to be realized. Under these circumstances they are not inclined to agree with Mr. Cleveland that the democratic triumph should "reinstated their faith and their confidence in their countrymen."—Troy Times.

## Congressional Extravagance.

The World objects to the appropriation of \$16,000,000 by the house of representatives for rivers and harbors. When the last river and harbor bill was pending it was intimated that none would be offered at this congressional session. But that bill, in addition to the appropriations made outright, contained provisions for contracting for a great deal of work for which funds are now required. This is one of the legacies of a democratic house elected on the issue made against "the republican billion-dollar congress," and which, after spending \$44,000,000 more than the aforesaid "billion-dollar" body did at its first session, left untold contingent charges against the treasury. To what enormous heights the appropriations of the present session will attain Providence only knows, but the people will know soon enough for their personal comfort.—N. Y. Mail and Express.