-THE-WEALTH MAKERS.

OWS:

nen of the republic.

damned, doesn't it?

not be forthcoming.

to say:

New Series of THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT.

Censolidation of the

Farmers Alliance Nebraska Independent

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY

The Wealth Makers Publishing Company, 1130 M Street, Lincoln, Neb.

"If any man must fall for me to rise, Then seek I not to climb. Another's pain I choose not for my good. A golden chain, A robe of honor, is too good a prize To tempt my hasty hand to do a wrong Unto a fellow man. This life hath woe Sufficient, wrought by man's satanic fee; And who that hath a heart would dare prolon Or add a sorrow to a stricken soul That seeks a healing baim to make it whole y besom owns the brotherhood of man.



Publishers Announcement.

Publishers Announcement. The subscription price of THE WEALTH MAKENS IS 51.00 per year, in advance. AGENTS in soliciting subscriptions should be very careful that all names are correctly spelled and proper postoffice given. Blanks for return subscriptions, return envelopes, itc., can be had on application to this effice. ALWAYS sign yeur name. No matter how often you write us do not neglect this import-int matter. Every week we receive letters with incomplete addresses or without signa-ures and it is sometimes difficult to locate hem.

hem. CHANGE OF ADDRESS. Subscribers wishing o change their postoffice address must always ive their former as well as their present ad-ress when change will be promptly made.

JUDGE CALDWELL showed himself a grand man, a man who places the rights of man above the so-called rights of money, when he declared the workers must be paid just wages if not a cent of interest or dividends was paid.

WHEN willing workers cannot find work it indicates criminal legislation they will not carry them through to and lack of legislation on the part of Omaha unless their fare is paid. It is and lack of legislation on the part of our lawmakers. It also indicates wicked selfishness, or inexcusable ignorance of what is right and equitable, on the part of those who use the ballot.

THE stockholders of the Union Pacific railroad system, investigation discloses, paid into the treasury of the company but two cents on the dollar which the people have been, in freight and passenger charges, expected to pay dividends on. What can maximum rate laws do with corporations which are in their stock so inflated?

THE WEALTH MAKERS.

work.

The

IF OHBIST CAME TO OMAHA. The Omaha Christian Advocate over Massillon, Ohio, and started in the people are never able, are never paid claims to be "published by authority of direction of Washington. Another enough to buy back all the wealth they the General Conference of the Methodist cloud, and another, rose over the frown-Episcopal church." We hope, however, ing Rockies, and portentous gatherings make an extra price for American tion dissolved the conflicting injunc- bonds and borrow money of the bankthat the Methodist church laity, at least, of uscertain force and future from goods, unload our glutted markets and have enough of the spirit of Christ in various directions, like the Massillon them to indignantly condemn the anti- cloud, are seen converging on the nachrist teaching of the editorial in its tion's capitol. And, somehow, "confilast issue headed. "The Ers of the dence" seems to be losing its grasp on Blatherskite." It reads in part as fol- everything it thought secure.

solid ground held down by legal titles, and farther ballasted with bonds and On to Washington marches Coxey and his victorious army of 280 at the present writing. If he does not succeed in getstocks and mortgages and notes and gold, and laws compelling rent and writing. If he does not succeed in get ting to the capital city with his un-rivaled aggregation of deadbeats it will net be the fault of the daily press, which has boomed him and puffed him and given him every possible advertisement interest and dividends, -somehow the basis of this seems quivering. Is it the trand of a tramping army soon to pass by and be forgotten? Or is it the be-News of his enterprise has been teleginning of fearful natural convulsions graphed to the ends of the country, and thereby all that floating element of that shall destroy the old and with ingood-for-nothings that abound and al-ways have abounded in every land on finite pain and sorrow give birth to a new world of righteousness? the face of the earth are attracted to his The daily press has been having standard and help to make a demon-stration that is entirely out of propor-tion to the real status of the working

great sport over the ragged regiments under Coxie and his lieutenants. But

the men are orderly and respectable. How does this kid-gloved "divine" They are not beggars or professional know that Coxey's Commonweal Army tramps, but intelligent citizens of the is an army of deadbeats, made up of a working class who simply ask for "floating element of good-for-nothings?" justice, for natural rights which this Has he gathered such information from government was framed to secure to the daily press reports? Certainly not. weak and strong alike. And there are The associated press has not described four millions in like condition watchthem as professional beggars, and they ing the head movements of the army. 'have done no violence.' But even if they The entire working class stands watchare (to drop into clerical language) 'poor ing also, and a mighty army will spring sinners," would Christ consider them up to defend them if the men in autho-'good for-nothings?" The church rity dare to deal with them as criminals teaches that they have "souls to save," There is therefore stealing over those even when it permits their bodies to be who began to laugh a serious, an anxious look. From one of the old party Concerning General Kelley's regiment dailies we select words of soberness:

of unemployed, which last week was on A million men in this republic today bid Coxey's army God speed on to Wash its way and yesterday passed through ington. Some say it openly, some will not speak it out, some feel that the no-Omaha, this unchristian editor went on tion pressing on the leader's brain is chimerical, and it may be, but the time may come apace when laughing at this A band of several hundred tramps congregated in San Francisco and by cowardly policy enough money was raised there to force them on the town sort of thing will be changed into sobs, and the jeers of the populace into the of Oakland. Oakland sends them to

wallings of sorrow. Ogden, and thus they hope that each city, moved by selfishness the most wicked, will help them on to the next. The Union Pacific officials declare that Coxey's army may only be a bit of the comedy, a farcical side play, while the mighty drama, with its tragedy, is pre-paring. But let the murmuring of the discontent that is heard like the rumbling thunders of an approaching storm, sincerely hoped that they will abide by this decision and that the money will go on, and no one can foresee the stu-pendous revolution that will follow the swift wings and the wide swath of cy-This statement that Mr. Kelley's men clonic devastation. A million men today in America are restless under what are "tramps," in the common meaning they feel to be the goadings of centralizof the term, is unqualifiedly false. They ed wealth. False pelitical economists feed the flickerings of the flame by a are simply unemployed men, as moral, as respectable, as worthy men as any fuel of justification for their conditions of mind and heart, inciting their souls unselected 1,000 men at work. And to a resentment of their wrongs. their rights are not simply the right to starve or live upon charity. The press

on to say:

are not accused of violating any law or feel that there is something wrong, and duced, and as the usurers wish to accommitting any offense." General Kelare just waiting to be swept on a tidal of popular demonstration.

But a few days ago a cloud appeared "over production" to pass away. Our ordinate branch of the government in- afraid the people would have too much produce: but sometimes foreign famines the superior court by write of prohibi- government to issue interest-bearing increase for a time the demand for

> Had Thurston's statement been true. that under Republican rule 'every honest, capable, deserving man could find the higher court. employment every day of the year at fair wages,' equitable wages, he might well have gone on to say, as he did in the next sentence:

In that statement is embodied the whole wisdom of true political economy That country is prosperous which fur-nishes employment to its people; and true national weaith is not measured by money in bank, but by the employment of the people. Search the wide world over for a prosperous community, and you will find it, not where goods are cheap, but where labor is dear. Not low-priced manufactures, but high-priced manufactures, but highcan statesmanship.

If Thurston is right as to what constitutes the wisdom of true political economy and American statesmanship and he is-the course of the Republi-

can party has shown no wisdom, no statesmanship. Away back in the '60s it began to retire and burn up the people's money, money they had fought for and redeemed the country with, and as fast as they retired the greenbacks they chespened labor; they began to produce cheap goods and cheap men. In the 70s they demonstized silver, also, and by sudden aweeps and steady downward movements they have been depreciating men and appreciating money ever since.

The tariff talk about protection for American labor, and higher wages to follow high tariffs, is all humbug, wages having been continuously falling since 1873, lowered under and notwithstanding the tariff, by the infamous narrowing down of the currency to a gold basis; making not only cheap men but millions of virtual slaves.

There is only one way to provide every honest, capable, deserving man opportunity to work every day in the year of every year that he wishes to produce wealth, and that is, to cut off from the wealth makers the drain of rent, interest and dividends which monopolists now draw from them. Let each individual worker have the money value or an equitable exchange for what he has produced, and the demand on the market will just equal the supply, each year and forever. The interest The trail of the serpent is seen in the rent at dividends which are subtracted last sentence above, but the writer goes from the pay of the workers leave them correspondingly short of money to buy

Good men by the hundred thousands back of each other what all have procumulate, the goods which their money

Populist governor. But the villainous

the vindication of Governor Waite by More than that. On the night of

April 6th the Bar Association of Denver met, the largest meeting in the history mitted in thy name! of the Association, the subject for dis-

cussion being, "The Power of the Executive." Over fifty of the city's legal luminaries were present and all shades and colors of political belief were represented, but with most remarkable unanimity Governor Waite's whole course of action, including his calling out the militia to put down the revolting rebellious police force of Denver, was upheld. "It was the almost unanicourt in the State had power to enjoin the Governor or otherwise seek to in-

fluence his discretion."

The discussion was opened by Prof. W. H. Smith of the law school, who read a carefully prepared and exhaus-tive paper, quoting decisions and au-thorities, from the reports of other states and from the supreme court of the United States, all of them strongly combatting the slightest pretense on the part of the judiclary to any right to interfere in the slightest degree with either of its co-ordinate branches of government in the exercise of their DOWERS.

Several prominent members of the voiced plainly the opinion of about the whole Denver bar when he said:

"Any judge who will cringe to the party lash is a disgrace to the memory af Coke and Story and Marshall. The varying decisions of the district judges and even our supreme court in the recent troubles were most unfortunate. They have given rise to a suspicion in the minds of the public that party "pull" can influence the courts, and such a thought, though it be but a breath, is an awful thing for the community. For my own part I think from the first the district court was wrong. Governor Waite had an absolute right to call out

the militia if he thought the emergency required it. When he decided there was such an emergency and issued his call, that settled it, and no court in the state could question it. A resolution condemning the action

of the courts in interfering with the executive was passed with but three dissenting votes. This, notwithstanding the well-known fact that lawyers are extremely slow-the very last, to condemn the judiciary.

Now will the partisan press publish this vindication of Mr. Waite, the The only surprising thing about it is,

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vading the domain and assuming the standard money to measure values and prerogatives of another, until finally facilitate exchanges. You wanted the tions of the lower courts and justified ers instead of coining it. And you hide or pronounced legal the acts of the your monarchism, your despotism, your treason, your merchandise of the liberpolitical slanderers make no mention of thes of the people, your personally profitable subserviency to Shylock kings and tyranny, under the cloak of Republicanism! O Lincols and Sumner Republicanism, what crimes are com-

POINTED POLITICAL SQUIBS.

We are sorry to learn that farmers hereabouts who sowed their oats before the late freeze are having to re-sow on account of a thin stand.

A good deal is said about Brad Slaughter, the chairman of the Republican state committee, never wearing a necktle, but nobody seems at all conmous opinion," says the News, that no cerned about the fact that he always wears a collar.

> Let us rejoice over, and be thankful for, the few things that come, in these dark days, to bless and encourage labor. The general distribution of rain over Nebraska, for the last few days, is not, however, due to the McKinley bill, Pill McKinley, or the Democratic administration, but it may offset some of the combined cussedness of all three.

As Nosh said to the Camel, so we say to the governor's private secretary, "if you want to get in out of the wet must get a hump on you," for Malfileu is now several laps ahand. O, you don't want to tackle McKeighan or any other Association spoke strongly in the same Populist again. Well, if that is the way line and there was no voice raised in you feel, your storehouse of wisdom opposition. Mr. H. C. Van Shaack will soon be full. It is only the burnt child that dreads the ne. -

> O' Johnny M. Thurston my Joe John O' Johnny M. Thursten my Joe John O why were you not there in your town, When your party so needed your relp. 'Twill be many, many a day John, An the leaf of your life will be brown, John When 'twill worse hief your political yelp. I mean if you were right down here John, When you spoke at the Lansing that night. And said to the "boys" "yete straight." But it seems to an honest man, John, That there is only one rule of right. And what is good for your town John Would be equally god i for your state.

In discussing a local affair, of the Breckenridge Pollard character, heard a prominent young society man of this city remark that it was only about one in one hundred that ever came to the surface. This may be true, and no doubt in a measure is true; but is it not a fearful condition of moral corruption to contemplate? And yet professionally good men continue to act and to vote with the old party machines

Omaha is just learning that politics. or at least old party methods, wont build up, and make a prosperous city, and has had a citizens meeting of her best men, of all parties, to so resolve. and to plan for a business campaign. Populist Governor? Of course not.' It we failed to see the name of John M wishes as many as possible to believe a Thurston trying to dispose of his pat-

THE stockholders of the Union Pacific paid into the treasury \$400.650, and upon this sum issued to themselves \$36,762,-300 of stock, and then made schedules and passenger rates to compel the people to pay dividends on this vast sum of decreed Dundy enjoined its execution.

THE plutocratic way of making slaves is to monopolize the earth and its enerthe unemployed start out penniless to as moral and orderly. seek employment they arrest them as vagrants and compel them to live on prison or poor house fare, and work for the property owners for their board. "O say, does the star-spangled panner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

MRS. GOFF of Kearney writes us that the women of Kearney have organized a club to study and discuss political. financial and other questions. Good. tention to an article which we reprint this week from the Woman's Tribune. showing how the Colorado women vote. As the ballot was given to the women and acquaint themselves with the way equal suffrage works.

REPRESENTATIVE BOEN, the Minnesota Populist congressman, has introduced 314 per cent, and the salaries There is reason and equity in such a from me, a carsed." bill. While wages and prices have for twenty years been falling the salaries of government officials, from president enough to really favor it.

lev himself says there is not a tramp or professional beggar among them; and the demand which these men and those to make peaceably in Washington, is, "government employment for the unemployed." Two thirds of the 1,200 watered stock. And the first maximum men with Kelley are men who have rate law which the people legally learned a trade. There are also representatives of the different professions

dispatches say they are "peaceable and

orderly," and that they are "men who

among them, including a chaplain of the regiment. General Kelley is a Christian, if we may judge by his gies and compel the working class to works, a man who sacrificed a lucrative take care of themselves and earn profits position to help his suffering unemfor their masters. By keeping part of ployed fellow-workers. The men under the workers unemployed and starving, him are under perfect discipline, and can party in Nebraska, the most emithey can reduce wages and prices far not a drop of liquor is drank by one of nent mouthpiece of the political mabelow the value produced. And when them. And they are intelligent, as well chine and the corporations, never fail- sources. We have it in this language

from them.

An Englishman has just written, "If Christ Came to Chicago," Christ has come to Omaha. He comes That means help for the industrial always in the person of the poor, the enancipation movement. We call at- needy, the oppressed, the cast out -and the mouthplece of the Methodist Conference says, "Away with him! Let him starve! Let him be crucified! We have all the poor (Christs) we want of our sister state by the Populists, and here, and if Christ comes with and in the news regarding the voting is given the poor, he may not enter our city. by the Denver Republican, all our read- We don't want to save such 'good for- in every day of the year to do an honest PARTISAN TRADUCERS AND ANARers should rid their minds of prejudice nothings,' and 'aggregated deadbeats." day's work for a fair wage," says John.

writer of "The Era of the Blatherskite" and so much of the church as he speaks duced a bill in the House to cut down for, are, despite their professions, bookthe pay of all government servants ed straight for hell, the judgment being that all their prosperity unparallelled man. In each case the lawless element whose salaries exceed \$1,000 a year. upon their treatment of General Kel-His bill would reduce the pay of the ley's and Christ's poor who came to president from \$50,000 to \$25,000; sal them. Came to them and received no aries of \$5,000 to \$20,000 would be re- welcome, no sympathy, no assistance. "Inasmuch as ye did if not to one of the from \$1,000 to \$5,000. 25 per cont. least of these, ye did it not to me. Depart way as strikes had greatly multiplied, acting concertedly.

WE WANT NO KINGS.

There is a new sort of panie spreading. publican terin, there was, also, we re- the authority vested in him by the peadown, have been kept up, have even A despised minority has been demand- member, a most terrible pante and lack pie of that state. The Republican of power to fool a suffering people. been raised. The same salaries and ing righteousness for years, as Noah did, of employment, and millions of idie robels, the armed anarchists, they have pensions are now at least double the and the hiroling press has jeered and American citizens tramped over the without question or criticism supported. farther political use of a plundered proburden on the people that they were rediculed. The politicians have laugh- country looking for work and begging and charged all their anarchistic acts ple does not disgust and enrage Teller twenty years ago. But who expects od and lied, and sold and bought, as for food; and more than a score of states to the man who was elected and em- and the western anti-goldbug Republithe present Congress will care for the usual. The monopolists have builded passed Republican tramp laws, making powered by the written law to do just cans high and low, and does not force workers and cesi taxpayers when a bill their thrones and altars higher and every destitute man who left home to what the lawless, banded together, re- them into the Faople's party, it will be in the interest of equalizing burdens higher upon the bodies and souls of look for work a lawbreaker. would draw money from the men who living, sweating, starving multitudes raust make the law? No one but a and the mighty have felt secure. They severe period of business depression, city police. Governor Walte called out "Standard" silver money. Standard Populist would think of introducing have declared unanimously that, with multitudes, in addition to the usual the state militia to execute the law, - the value measure. Why, then, you ways was and will be.

masses do not believe in the integrity accumulations stand for remain in the of our millionaire lawmakers at Wash- market to glut it, and so work for unington, whose seats in the national leg- just pay must periodically cease. under Mr. Coxey are making, and going islature only in exceptional cases represent statesmanship. In our great ing. fills the air, and doubt looks askance to the press for some means of relief, and ing of discontent over real or imagined wrongs, were there only secular forces to ballast the nation, well might we cry, 'God pity the Republic!'

EQUITY THE REAL PROTECTION.

to produce enough to satisfy their need, account of a little trouble his corpora- forced to face the prospect of doing -these men, this Crane, or Shank, or tion was having with their 22,000 em- business on a cash basis, instead of unwhatever his name may be, speaking ployes who were objecting in court to der the credit system as heretofore.' for a great church, calls "tramps," and an arbitrary reduction in wages. But A strike of the money owners, the draws the holy Pharisaical robes away the maker and mouther of smooth bankers, can thus reduce millions to In it said:

> Only one year ago the prosperity of our country excited the wonder, envy and admiration of the civilized world: of the year to do an honest day's work for a fair wage.

Sounds well, doesn't it? Under Republican rule "Every honest, capable, deserving man could find an opportunity We have but to turn to the words of If that doesn't convlct him of being the

what could.

know they were all independent and tive was either a Populist or an Alliance larif that has not yel been repealed. For as the Populist cause of the outbreak, twenty years wages and prices And been when in two of the states the anarchists,

such a bill, or be honest and fair minded the tariff excepted, overything is as it al- wage-lowering, out of work contingent, liepublican partisan judges then inter- black-hearted debt-doublers, aid you approve the movement, ist alone to urge being obliged to quit work for the fored, enjoining the Governor, one co. shut the mints against it? You were others to join its ranks and move on to

accumulations stand for remain in the Thurston to the contrary notwithstand-

WHAT this paper and the Populists amid this vast restlessness, this foment every where have said, charging the cause of the panic and consequent fearful suffering to the refusal of the bankers to loan money a year ago, refusing the credits necessary to sustain the credit system of production and exchange, is undeniably true, is histori-John M. Thurston is the champion cally true. But some of our subscribers' oratorical prevaricator of the Republi- Republican neighbors (to whom we trust they loan THE WEALTH MAKERS may like confirmation from Republican ing to work politically and profession- of the Minneapolis Tribune: "And so This company of honest, upright, ally in their interest. He was unable the money owners inaugurated a strike temperate, intelligent citizens, who ask to attend the recent meeting of the which has not ceased at the present in the national Republican platform at training for a presidental race. not charity but employment, a chance National College Republican league, on moment, and the Western debtor was Minneapolis." sentences sent the League a letter, and beggary, to absolute dependence. A strike of the bankers brings credit

structures down with a crash, throws millions out of work, reduces the markand the secret of it all was this: That et price of every product of the farm, of every honest, capable, deserving man every unmonopolized commodity, and dollars, dangerous, must not be coined, could find an opportunity in every day correspondingly reduces wages. Which etc., that gold alone is sound, honest all proves that the money power is a monster power that must be shorn of must on demand be redeemed; and yet,

CHISTS

The old party press has manufactured the world's Savior, to the ruling of the champion liar outside of Congress and for its readers through misrepresentacourt of heaven, to prove that the the daily paper offices, we do not know tion all possible political capital out of the lawlessness which has shown its The trouble was, the people did not teeth in three states where the execu-

> sprang from the Republican tariff, the has been upheld and the executive cited falling, and notwithstanding the Thur- those resisting authority and trampling sten assertion of constant work and fair under foot the law, were Republicans,

and the demand for goods and labor was The entire unprincipled partisan press

Then in the 'sos we had another less resisted by an uniswful armed budy of either in intolligence or character.

lie. It is in the misrepresenting, reputation-destroying, deceiving, misleading voters. It was his old patent, "vote business, and it is never known to undo the ticket straight, boys." its devilish work, or to give the public the truth after it has misrepresented and wronged a political opponent.

THE SHYLOOK REPUBLICAN LEAGUE

The National Republican League has been called to meet in Denver, the object being to bamboozle the silver producing states back into the Republican "the use of both gold and silver as chasing and debt-paying power of the his constituents in general for an endollar, whether of silver, gold or paper, dorsement of his private as well as pub-

Ignatius Donnelly, commenting on this hypocritical talk to silver men about "the use of gold and silver" and "standard money," well calls it, "awful impudence and matchless mendacity." Sherman and nine-tenths of the Republican party (a majority of the Democrats also) vote against silver, declare money, in which all sliver and paper the compliment that Johnny was ready the scamps, the thieves, the debt-doublers, the slave-makers, the red-handed

political murderers approach the people G. M. Lambertson, who relieved Goverthey have robbed most, the states they nor Crounse, for a brief time, as assisthave largely depopulated, and issuing a ant secretary of the treasury, imagines national call, say:

The League chooses to open the new contest with this convention held on the slopes of the Rocky mountains and invites the Republicans of the United States, to assemble in this great unde veloped, resourceful western country and renew their fealty to the party for the preservation of past schlevements Republican convention meets we shall and organize for greater victories in the future. In response to the public demand for Republican restoration, national prosperity and an administration distinetly American in policy.

And the goldbugs with a thin wash of sliver on their wings, the Shylocks of trudging on through snow and mud on at no time equal to the supply. In the has been belaboring Governor Waits of two worlds, will be there in the persons '70s, under Republican rule and a Re- Colorado for firmly insisting on using of their smooth tongued, bambooxing politicians. But they will find the limit

> if this scheme to bamboosle and make fused to permit him to do. The law was because they are individually lacking American Congress, may well pause in

The damage to the womanly (?) affec-tions of Madeline Pollard, which were so lacerated by the blue grass Congressman, Breckenridge, has been estimated by a Washington jury to amount to the sum of \$15,000.00; but who is going to estimate the damage the trial has inflicted upon humanity in general, by giving it a glimpse of the so-called igher American life through an acciranks. The League reaches out its arms Breckenridge filed his sworn answer to dental rent in the velvet curtain? to all "who believe in sound money" and the charges. He will now no doubt file his sworn schedule in answer to an exestandard money," and that "the pur- cution in the hands of the sheriff, and shall be at all times equal,' as pledged lic acts. He may, however, only be in

**

In the first Congressional district, Republican candidates are sprouting fast, regardless of the cold weather. We learn that Church Howe, after being out of politics for the last twenty four hours has reentered the field, and that Field himself, who was butchered a Standard money! What is it? John few years ago by Bryan has begun to show signs of returning life, and will enter the race as a convaiescent or a corpse, and Jesse Strode has mounted his congressional steed and will stride It is not honest money, but fifty cent into the ring. And then Johnny Watson will offer himself a living sacrafice up on the congressional altar, and will ask the Secretary of Agriculture to return to pay him as a member of the last legislature, by voting for him for United States senator, when enough votes for his election was secured. And that his tall, gold-tipped form, would

be a good conductor of congressional lightning But four at least out of the five of them will receive a stroke of summer lightning that will effectually scorch their aspirations, and the more uclucky one who receives the nomination, will be sittl worse secrebed with an early November frost. When the expect another proof of the proverb that all the good die young.

..... The Coxey army, like John Brown's oul, still goes marching on. Somo are nearing the capitol, and Others are foot, while some, like common cattle, are being borne castward by the un willing corporations at less than cattle

rates. The speciacle is certainly an anomaly in human, and especially in rates. American, affairs. Towns and citics are contributing to their comfort and support not, as we believe, through any love or respect for the men or the movement, but to avoid a worse esimility, as they imagine their stoppage and dirtribution among them would be American people, and especially the their mailness and folly, and begin to seriously try to salve the oft repeated question, where are we at? While few are to be found bold enough to openly

its strength.