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THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. [This department is conducted by the Secretary of the State Alliance to whom all communications in relation to Alliance work, short articles upon various subjects of interest to the Alliance, etc., should be addressed. Write plain and only on one side of the paper. Sign what you write and your articles but send us your name always.]

THE DEEP HARBOR CONVENTION.

Letter From J. N. Camp. SHELANDOR, IOWA, Oct. 7, 1899. J. BURROWS, Filley, Neb. MY DEAR SIR: On my return home from Topeka, whither I had gone by the grace of Gov. Larrabee, as a delegate to the Deep Harbor Convention, I found your favor of the 30th ult. awaiting me. I also found No. 15 of THE ALLIANCE, which appears to me a vast improvement in every way upon No. 1. I very sincerely hope you may make the paper a success, and certainly see no good reason why you should not do so.

I take this opportunity to speak to you of the Deep Harbor movement. I regard it as one of great importance to Nebraska and all her neighboring states and territories. The harbor contemplated would not only be the means of saving to them several hundred miles of land carriage in reaching tide-water, but would prove of incalculable advantage as a regulator of transportation tariffs. When we get trunk lines of railway to tide-water which will cut each other at right angles, competing for the carrying business of the trans-Mississippi territory, we shall then have reached a solution of our transportation problem.

The Topeka convention was a splendid body of men, did its business in good form and with admirable temper. If your state was suitably represented in all respects in that convention the fault would seem to lie with your governor who appointed the delegates. I enclose herewith a statistical pamphlet from which you may possibly gather a somewhat more definite idea of the purpose and scope of the movement than you have hitherto had.

I have not a particle of doubt that the proposed harbor will be obtained, ultimately, but I think not so soon as most of its active promoters hope. The commerce and trade of the trans-Mississippi country now affords the Atlantic cities the richest harvest ever reaped by capital since the world began, and the East will not see it diverted to the Gulf without a desperate struggle for its retention. All the railroads east of the Mississippi river, and some to the west of it, which follow the lines of latitude, will unite with the commercial interests of the East in opposition to the building of a first class port on the coast of Texas. The magnitude of that opposition can hardly be exaggerated. To meet and overcome that opposition is the great work for which preparation must be made.

FROM ENGLAND TO FRANCE.

GLIMPSES OF LONDON, PARIS AND THE BLACK COUNTRY.

A Memory of the Song of the Shirt. Where Dickens Found His Inspiration--In the Home of Hugo. Meeting Bartholdi and Seeing Buffalo Bill.

Journal of United Labor. The day following our arrival at Birmingham Sisters Durschlag, Dempsey and myself visited Chadley Heath and vicinity, commonly called the black country, where women make chains and nails, a full account of which will be found in my report to the Scripps League. Returning to the city I visited the Free Library, in which there are 90,000 volumes; also the Art Gallery, in which is a choice collection of paintings and sculpture, prominent among the latter a beautiful exemplification of Flood's "Song of the Shirt"--the form of a woman sewing, with a look of such hopeless despair on her face that it filled me with pity, while underneath are these lines:

"O God! that bread should be so dear And flesh and blood so cheap?" Perhaps the most striking object of interest to us in Birmingham was the New Street Station, said to be the largest railroad station in the world. It is covered by semi-circular roof of glass 2,200 feet long, 424 feet wide and 80 feet high. It covers 11 acres of ground, and contains 13 platforms. About 800 trains pass through daily. From Birmingham to London, a three hours ride, gave us an opportunity to see some very pretty landscape scenery. Arrived in London in a drizzling rain. An attempt to portray all the grandeur or misery of London in a three days' visit would be folly. But after a visit to the Strand, Trafalgar Square and Charing Cross, a ride up the Thames, past the Tower and Wapping Old Stairs, one could readily see where Dickens found the subjects for the life-inspired pen-pictures which have immortalized his name. A visit to Woolwich Arsenal, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, the Palace of Westminster (commonly called House of Parliament), the National Art Gallery, the Museum, Albert Memorial and Hyde Park will soon impress the visitor with the cause of an Englishman, no city on earth is worthy to be the rival of Paris. Beautiful and historic it is without a doubt, and more interesting in itself than any exposition. When we first arrived I think we all felt a good deal the way Mark Twain put it, that everything was "deliciously smelly." Streets made familiar by history and Hugo's novels at once claim attention: the Rue de Rivoli, Bois de Boulogne, Champs Elysee and Faubourg St. Honore; the Palace de Concordia, the Tuilleries Gardens and Arch of Triumph are objectionable, as seen, can never be forgotten. The fourteen days at Paris was fully occupied, and had it been double that time we would not have seen everything of interest outside of the Exposition. Besides our dinner on Eiffel Tower, where we met the great Bartholdi, who gave each one a small piece of metal to be worn by the Bartholdi statue, and the breakfast tendered our party by the American Minister, we were given a reception and a banquet by the members of the Workmen's Exchange and a reception and lunch by the Municipal Council in the city hall, which means the same as a city hall. It is a magnificent building finished in marble, onyx and gold. There are very many churches, foremost among which is Notre Dame. There is only one English speaking Catholic Church, St. Joseph's. The Exposition is wonderful. Just to look on from the outside, it covers a vast area of ground, 288,000 meters; and the total cost of laying out the grounds, erecting buildings, etc., was nearly \$6,000,000. Machinery Hall cost \$1,500,000. To view every exhibit and inspect every gallery means a walk of fifty miles, unless you are able to ground in one of the many bath chairs which are trundled about by men of all nationalities, but particularly the barefoot Chaman. The United States, with all her wonderful facilities, was most conspicuous by the absence of it, and we were so constantly showing. There is no doubt that, among all the interesting things the Exposition offers, the Eiffel Tower stands first. It is a massive iron structure, 984 feet high, containing 7,500 tons of iron. Its complete cost was \$200,000. It has four legs, covering four acres of ground. Two hundred feet up they consolidate and form the first landing, which has a seating capacity of four thousand, and is occupied by restaurants and stalls where souvenirs of the Exposition are sold. Two hundred feet further up is the second landing, where a printing press is in motion and a daily paper is printed, called the FIGARO. From this up to the third landing is over 500 feet. Above this are the drawing room, bedroom, dining-room and kitchen of Mr. Eiffel, and to which the public are not admitted. As I stood at the top of this great structure I was impressed not so much with its height, nor yet grand view of the surroundings, as with the dauntless courage and peril of the brave men who erected and completed it, placing every bolt and bar in proper place on this very height, yet not one accident among the workmen marred its erection. The only inconvenience in making the ascent of the Tower is that the passengers have to change cars en route, so that it takes from one to six hours to make the trip. On the last day of our stay in Paris it was decided to accept an invitation previously extended by Hon. W. F. Cody ("Buffalo Bill") to visit his Wild West Show in the evening. At our dinner Colonel and Mrs. Murphy of New York called on us and presented us with four large

cakes of genuine Yankee corn-bread, baked in Buffalo Bill's camp. They have worked indefatigably to secure a corn exhibit in Paris, but Congress failing to make a necessary appropriation they were disappointed. They hope, however, to succeed at the Exposition in New York in 1892. After doing justice to the gift of Colonel Murphy, escorted by himself and charming wife, we started for the Wild West grounds. After making the acquaintance of the "mama" of the tribe, as the lady is called who, by the way, is a Philadelphian, and viewing with a great deal of interest the quaint little tent in which the people live in this miniature village, we started for the great amphitheatre where the performance is given. On the way, however, our party spied a genuine American engaged in a genuine Yankee occupation. He was a Southern darkey selling peanuts. They rushed upon him pell-mell, and I do not think his peanuts would have long withstood the strain of their purchase had not the cow-boy, band struck up the "Star Spangled Banner" in the distance. The boys broke ranks, and like a crowd of school-boys let loose, headed for the music. We were accorded the seats of honor which the crowned heads of Europe occupy, and when Mr. Cody and his entire troupe appeared in the arena he called for three cheers for the American workmen, and any one who has ever heard an Indian whoop can imagine how heartily they were given. "Fly of our party ride around the ring in the old Deadwood coach, under a rain of firing that would make a man's life of but little value were it not instead of a sham. After the performance we met Dr. D. F. Powell of Wisconsin, Mr. Cody's foster brother, and well known in labor circles as labor's champion and friend; also the General Manager, Mr. Burke, and several others. Mr. Cody received us warmly in his tent, and expressed his determination to form part of the attractions of our Exposition in '92. On Sunday morning at 8 o'clock we bade our French friends good-bye, and started on our homeward route, which I will endeavor to describe in your next issue.

MRS. L. M. BARRY.

TARIFF NOTES. Will the republican party be wise and destroy Mr. Cleveland as a political factor by lowering the tariff in a manner which shall work confusion to trusts and relieve the burden of the people? It cannot crush Mr. Cleveland, but it can make that cause its own. [Chicago News.] The tariff is a tax paid by the consumer in an increased price of the article consumed. [Kansas Jeffersonian.] There is no reason why the manufacturers of woolen goods should be protected by tariff duties and the competition, that is not equally applicable to the producers of wool in this country. If the theory of protection is good for the former, it is just as good for the latter. It is both good, or good in neither. [New York Independent.] The woolen manufacturers are willing to let congress do what it will about duties on wool if it will, by prohibitory tariff, give them control of the market for fabrics. The people who buy and wear clothes will have something to say on this subject at the ballot box in 1892. [New York World.] It is an insult to common sense to affirm that the tariff enhances the price of wheat, corn, oats, cattle, hogs, horses or mules, poultry, butter and cheese, milk, hay, fruits, vegetables, cotton or tobacco leaf. The price of the farmer's products is fixed by the foreign markets, and the price of nearly everything the farmer buys is fixed by the tariff and its incidents. This is an ugly truth, but it cannot be wiped out. [Chicago Tribune.] Protection is a species of taxation by which the consumer is made to support the government, the wealthy producer or manufacturer is, by protective taxation, enabled to charge and obtain a higher price for his wares. [Mobile Bulletin.] If Cleveland and his tariff reform had won the day, our ears would have been stunned with the noise of the policy already stopped hundreds of looms, thrown thousands of workmen into hopeless poverty and wasted millions of capital. With what huge head lines the journals advocating the doctrine of protection would have been filled with these successive disasters, and with what pathetic language they would have called upon the people to witness the truth of their predictions? Each successive failure would have been pointed at as a successive disaster, and with what patriotic and unpatriotic support of the free traders on this side of the water, was done to ruin the fair fabric of American industry. [New York Journal of Commerce.] There is no use to try to fool the farmer and laboring men again. They will vote squarely against the robber tariff, and don't you forget it. [Dayton Workman.] About six thousand hogs have been shipped up to date for the present month from Kansas City to Mexico. None but the largest animals are selected for this purpose, and the average weight will not fall much below 300 pounds. This means an average shipment of hogs alone for less than a month of 1,800,000 pounds. This is the trade of a single city in a single commodity with the republic of Mexico, and the way to protect it is for the United States to allow Mexico the privileges which she is ready to extend to this country if she can count on a reciprocity of favors. [Kansas City Star.]

MORE MONEY.

A Behind-the-Times Paper Which Begins to See the Light. The Washington Sunday Gazette, says the Chicago Sentinel, which has heretofore kept itself within the shadows of the dead past so far as the money question is concerned, puts on its spectacles long enough to take a look ahead and utter the following: There is one feature of the political economy of the day that has not been settled by the recent election. Yet it is most essential to the well-being of the country--one that like the ghost of Banquo will not down at the bidding of a monometalist, and one that must be settled in no distant future. This feature is the more money one, commonly called "Greenbackism" and receiving that popular designation. It means that the prosperity of the people requires plenty of money. Money, be it remembered, is not value, as the advocates of a gold currency erroneously assert. It is but a representative of value. As such representative it may be made of anything from paper to gold. The sole value given, as money, to money issued by a government, is the credit of that

government. If the money so issued have an intrinsic value, it will command the value not as money but as merchandise. For example: When the Southern Confederacy was on its last legs, a dollar of the United States money was worth about one hundred thousand dollars of the Confederacy. After the Confederacy had fallen, its paper dollars were absolutely valueless except as paper. A gold dollar of the Confederacy, after that government had gone up, and consequently without credit, was just as valueless as money as was the paper dollar. It was not regarded as money, for it represented no credit of the government that issued it. But its commercial value was that of the amount of gold it contained, at the then ruling rate of gold value in London, and it would have commanded that value as merchandise wherever such merchandise was bought. This shows, we think, that money is not value in itself but is the representative of value. Now we have an immense amount of value in this country. The wealth, or the commercial value of the United States may be put, for illustration, at the round sum of sixty thousand million dollars. We use this sum merely to show the magnitude of our wealth. We have not less than sixty millions of people. We have not less than one thousand millions of money in circulation. We cannot carry around with us our houses, our farms, our mines, or forests when we want to transact business. We must carry with us a representative of that. That representative is what the common consensus of the people may decide on, or for safety and uniformity, what the government shall decide it to be. To confine it to gold or to limit it to an amount utterly insufficient to carry on business without suffering a pecuniary loss, the money market will not do it. We must increase the money supply of the country.

The Sunday Gazette comes near the truth in the above. It says "Money is but a representative of value." That is right. Now would not money issued by the government on land security, first mortgage, say to one-half or one-third of its value, be a representative of value? Would it not be such quite as much as a gold or silver certificate and much more than a paper currency based on gold alone with not over a quarter enough gold to redeem it? THE RESULT OF LOW WAGES. About the middle of this century, Sir John Lubbock, an eminent Englishman, wrote as follows, viz. "There is likely to be an effort made by the capital class to fasten upon the world a rule through their wealth, and by means of reduced wages, place the masses upon a footing more degrading and dependent than has ever been known in history. The spirit of money worshippers seems to be rapidly developing in this direction." This language seems prophetic in the light of such facts as these: "In London, March 19th, 1887 there were exclusive of lunatics in asylums, patients in hospitals and vagrants, 103,714 paupers officially reported in her care; and it is said some 48,000 helpless distressed vagrants hide away in her dens and slums; 60,000 families, or 240,000 souls, manage to eke out an existence in her cellars; 20,000 saloons are supported by 600,000 dry goods; 80,000 women are driven to prostitution, and 250,000 women get but \$1.50 per week. The income tax returns show that 57,000 persons own three-fifths of all the wealth of the kingdom."

The above official facts constitute a literal fulfillment of the prophetic words of Sir John Lubbock. From the state of New York a farmer writes: "In the last twenty-five years the price of produce has been reduced one-half, while salaries, interest and transportation remain about the same. United States bonds which were bought for 40 to 50 cents on the dollar, are now paid at \$1.00 to \$1.30 and no taxes, while in New York state real estate pays line-thirths of all the taxes. While the farmer has been devising ways and means to rob in him of his hard earnings. The millionaires on the one hand and the struggling farmers on the other tell only too well how they have succeeded. What is the cause of all this? Legislation. What is the cure? Legislation. When will the cure be brought about? Never, so long as farmers continue to vote for money sharks and corporation lawyers."

The Australian System in Connecticut.

Little Connecticut has adopted the Australian ballot. Says the Chicago Herald: "So long as open ballots prevailed in Connecticut the factory owners were enabled to drive their employees to the polls in gangs and vote them as they chose. This they systematically and in the most shameful manner did from year to year. No considerations of decency balked them; no efforts of the opposition sufficed to prevent them. When coercion failed money was employed with equal shamelessness. Wherever these things are not to be a factory hand may now, like his neighbor, prepare a ballot in secret, cover it with an envelope and place it in the box without disclosing its nature to a living soul. No heeler or overseer can intimidate him, for these wretches are not allowed near the polls. Bribery, also, becomes a matter of very much greater difficulty, for, though the henchmen of the protectionists may contract for votes, they can no longer assure of their ability to deliver the goods. The new plan of elections in Connecticut is essentially the so-called Australian plan, which is now offered to the people of Iowa. Not only its adoption in the latter state would be productive of some startling results. The above constitutes a very cogent argument in favor of the secret ballot. We hope the Alliance men of Nebraska will demand of their next legislature the passage of this law. Stock shipped to Allen Root, care of Bell, Collins & McCoy, Omaha, by members of the Alliance, will realize from \$4 to \$5 more per car for their stock. Give the agent notice when shipped of Iowa. Not only its adoption in the latter state would be productive of some startling results. The above constitutes a very cogent argument in favor of the secret ballot. We hope the Alliance men of Nebraska will demand of their next legislature the passage of this law. 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