

An American Lord.

A significant item is going the rounds of the press. "Little William Vincent Astor, who was born the 15th day of last November, is the richest baby in the world, as he is the heir to \$150,000,000." And this is recorded of a child born in that country of which Thomas Jefferson said less than three quarters of a century ago: "We have no very rich among us." What vast progress must have been made to produce such results. What wonderful increase in man's power over the forces of nature must have been caused by the inventive genius of the age to make it possible for one father to so enrich his offspring. What a glorious thing it is to be born in this age when fortunes have been so piled that babes may rest under silken canopies and laugh at the old terror that man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward, and sneer at the idea that man shall earn his bread in the sweat of his brow.

But there is an unfortunate reverse to this picture. There were other babes born in the month of November last year. There are other mothers who thanked God for their great joy, and other fathers who learned something more of life and its responsibilities when they felt the first touch of that bark that had been "launched on the other side, and slipped from heaven on an ebbing tide." But these others did not enter a world for a life of leisure and criminal idleness. It was not for them to break the laws of nature and receive their daily bread in hands unstained by toil. No greater natural gifts were given to the descendant of the pelt peddler than to the little one who brought happiness to the day laborer's tenement. Both shall hear the same promise of reward for filial obedience and love. If their lives show honor to father and mother they shall be long in the land the Lord their God hath given them. But one will roll in luxury while the other slips from his mother's lap to enter a protected workshop when he should be playing in the fields.

There is too wide a chasm between the babes born on that November morning. It is too wide for the welfare of either. Too wide for the safety of institutions under which such differences can exist. Too wide for the honor of that faith which rests upon promises made impossible of realization by the very existence of babes inheriting so many millions standing as a perpetual barrier between children of nature and nature's gifts. While such conditions exist there can be no rest for the reformer, no surrender of his demand that laws tending to increase the power of monopoly shall be repealed in the interest of nature's safety and honor.—Chicago Times.

Light Ahead.

The American farmer has been seeding his mortgaged ground for many years and giving up the price of his products to usurious money sharks—that is to say, what the railroads have not taken for transportation to market. He has grown poorer each year, while the non-producing vultures have been accumulating billions. Now, when he finds himself at the absolute mercy of a heartless, grinding plutocracy, and stops to look about him and see the causes which have led to his condition, the corporation "hiring screams in his ear, "keep your hands on the plow; you don't know anything about politics and have no right to inquire into such matters. We'll attend to the ship of state, as we have nothing else to do, while you have your debts to pay and your families to feed. Toil on and keep silent, for you have no time to spare in acquiring political knowledge. We'll tell you how to vote when election day comes." But the producer will please copy.

finds it necessary to do a little thinking and acting for himself. The two old political machines have outlived themselves and their operators will be compelled to hunt a new job. The people have rebelled against the oppressive money power and refuse to submit longer to extortion and robbery. This is an excuse for the existence of a great reform party and the assurance it has of sweeping the country. The people realize their power and feel that the time has arrived for them to exercise it. The farmer will leave his plow and the laborer will pause in his toil long enough this year to destroy the leeches which are sapping their very life-blood. Prosperity, happiness and relief from a galling slavery to English gold-grabbers will follow the victory of the party of the people.—Southern Alliance Farmer.

Government Can Make Money.

"If government can make money why should it tax the people for means to pay its expenses? Why shouldn't it start its money printing machine to work and turn out money enough to pay all bills as they accrue?" These are some of the questions which People's party advocates will have to answer. They are usually propounded by men who have given the subject of money no thought and who do not realize that money is not wealth, but only its representative. The financial student will readily understand that the Omaha platform, of all the platforms this year, is the only one whose financial plank is strictly consistent with good sense and a true conception of what money really is. It will be noticed that, after demanding money of the people at a tax not exceeding 2 per cent by the subtreasury or a better system, it concludes as follows: "Also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements." Why does it qualify this demand by inserting the words "for public improvement?" Why not include all other expenses? The answer is plain enough. When the government engages in public improvement it is engaged in adding to the wealth of the country, and since the only legitimate function of money is to stand as a representative of wealth, it is perfectly consistent with reason and good sense that it should strike the money necessary to defray the cost of such improvements. If the government builds a \$20,000 postoffice anywhere in the country, what it does is to apply labor to material in bringing the \$20,000 property into existence where nothing existed before, and it is not only right to strike the money to represent this amount of wealth but it is wrong to use any other money for such purpose. On the other hand the expenses of government incurred for other things than public improvement are incurred, not in the production, but in the consumption of wealth; thus, presidents, congressmen, governors, legislators, foreign ministers and the whole host of government employes, are not wealth-producers, the duties they perform do not and cannot add one cent to the material wealth of the country. On the contrary all government officials are, and of necessity must be, consumers of wealth created by others and for which they can give no adequate return of intrinsic value. Hence it follows that consistency demands that the government should collect from the people money sufficient to represent the amount of wealth which the officers and employes of the government consume. This is the penalty which labor must pay for having to be governed.—National Economist.

Still They Come.

St. Peter—Who are you?
Shade—Hamlet, the Dane.
St. Peter—You come up pretty often.
Shade—Well, I can't help it. Actors

WING SHOTS.

BY J. B. ROMINE.

If increasing the tariff on any article reduces the price, according to McKinley, how much will it be necessary to increase the tariff in order to get the goods for nothing? Some republican please answer

The republican papers have claimed from the first that the alliance men in the south would vote the democratic ticket, but since the recent election in Alabama, and the political upheaval all over the south, they now acknowledge that the democratic party is badly split, and claim that the result will be to strengthen the republican party in the south. They are as much mistaken in this last proposition as they were in the first. The result of breaking the solid south will be the almost total annihilation of both the old parties, and a reorganization of the cotton, corn and tobacco raisers, of all colors and creeds, into one great people's party which will sweep the south like a political cyclone. Yes, at last the "solid south" is broken.

The people's party is displaying some political strategy in the fight now on hand. It uses the republican party in the south to help down their old enemy—the democrats—and it uses the democrats in the west to down their old enemy the republicans. It is a little like the negro's trap, open at both ends and "catch the coon a goin' and a comin'."

When the republicans and democrats unite, the people discover a good sized African in the wood pile.

Independents, stand by your colors. The light of reason and education is breaking through the dark clouds of prejudice and ignorance. The great political deep is breaking up and the sunlight of hope brightens the pathway that leads to a better state of things in this country. The solid south is broken up and the toilers of all colors are rallying under the banner of home protection and fireside defense. On with the battle. Victory is ours.

If the principle of protection is wrong, as the democrats claim, how do they justify a tariff for revenue? How would it do to abolish all tariff tax and support the general government as we do our county and state, by direct taxation?

The Rules.

At each session of congress the house spends more or less valuable time in perfecting a set of rules by which it is governed. Sometimes weeks and months are consumed in this task. To the general public it appears that these rules are made to facilitate business, but that is not the case; they are made for the sole and only purpose of obstructing the transaction of business. To such an extent has this been carried, that under the rules nothing could be done if a few members saw fit to stand in the way. In fact when congress wants to transact any business, the rules usually are suspended in order that business may be transacted. Just think of the absurdity of spending the hard-earned money of the people in building up a code of rules that are so burdensome and imperfect that when it is desirable to transact any legislation it must be thrown aside to permit its being done.—National Watchman.

Suffering Children.

"No laughter permitted in this mill. Children who sing will be discharged." Such are the rules of the mills where children spend seventy hours a week. Think of it mothers!—Philadelphia Labor World.

We wonder what Jesus Christ would say if he should happen to visit the mills where the above rules are posted. Would he repeat what he said two thousand years ago in old Jerusalem: "Suffer little children to come unto

is the kingdom of heaven," or would he tear down the rules, scourge the taskmasters with a rawhide, and get himself locked up in the Bridewell two months for disorderly conduct?—Ex.

Chicago Express: The Jew Ickelheimer, who is helping to gather in the \$100,000,000 in gold here for Austria's honest money basis, says the scheme might hurt silver, but that don't matter. "The average man, for example, a professional man, does not worry if he gets a few cents less of metal in the coins of currency. It is only the business man or politician who takes notice of these things, and then they are only used for politics." Holy Moses, what a

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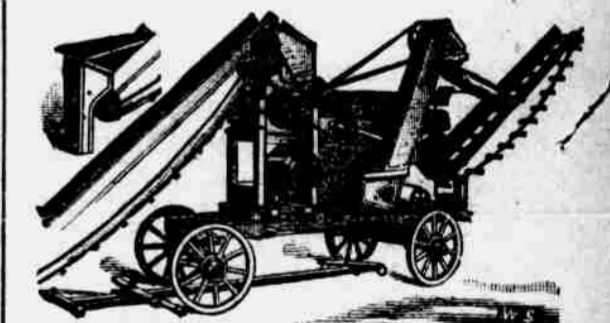
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