

Kentucky is the first State in the Union for raising hemp and also for raising things with hemp.

According to Prof. Hazen, the heated term from July 28 to Aug. 17 of last year extended over a larger region and gave abnormal heat for a greater number of consecutive days than ever before recorded.

Germany and Spain are now connected by a submarine cable twelve hundred and fifty miles long, the ends of which are at Emden and Vigo. It is the first link in a series of lines to be first extended to Brazil and to the United States by way of the Azores.

A Havana dispatch says that at a bull fight on Sunday "a hundred Spanish soldiers climbed into the ring, cut off the tail of the animal and finally killed the bull with machetes. The scene was harrowing." So the Spanish soldiers really are good for something after all.

An amateur musician residing in Hermann, Mo., not long since received a fine zither which he imported from Germany at considerable expense. His consternation was great, however, and his disgust supreme when he ascertained that the instrument had been made in Chicago.

A daring Canadian has just been compelled to pay four dollars and thirteen cents for a stolen kiss, and he declares that it was worth the money. Still, such recklessness is not to be encouraged, particularly in the hard times that now prevail through the province beyond our northern border.

A person would scarcely believe it, until pains had been taken to count them, that there are 17,392,186,944,515 different sounds in the human voice, but it is true. These effects are produced by fourteen direct muscles, which give about 16,000 different sounds, and thirty indirect, which produce the remainder.

David Livingstone's father was a thrifty Scot. One day David brought home the word that a heavy tax had been put on tobacco. His father was just filling his pipe when the sad news was broken. "If we have to give it up," he said, "we may as well begin now." And he knocked the weed out of his pipe, but the pipe in his pocket, and never smoked again.

American society has never been young. It was born old, in the sense that the men who made up its first elements were trained in independence and free government. They began where England left off. American society is not an infant experimenting with a new thing, but a grown man adjusting his business to new conditions as they arise.

Remarkable reports are current about a new kind of steel invented by Samuel Maxim at his experimental laboratory at Wayne, Me. The inventor believes it to be identical with the ancient steel of India, which is alleged to have been far superior to any steel known to metallurgists in modern times. It is said that a small blade made from the Maxim steel possesses the power of cutting glass with as much ease as if it were chalk.

Persons with weak lungs and a tendency toward tuberculosis may take a hint from glass-blowers. By the continuous exercise of their calling their lungs and chests are greatly developed, and they can often inhale 300 cubic inches of air, a difference of five or six inches between inspiration and expiration being of frequent occurrence. With this class of artisans consumption is of very rare occurrence.

Missouri boasts of a railroad five miles long, on which the consumption of fuel is reduced 50 per cent, as compared with other roads. It extends from Exeter to Cassville, and in one direction steam is used and in the other the motive power is gravity. Every morning a locomotive hauls passenger and freight cars to Exeter, which is on the "Frisco" line, and during the day, as trains arrive on the "Frisco" line, the passengers and freight are put on board the short line, the cars given a push, and then they run downhill until they reach Cassville.

That sturdy Christian and sensible human, Cardinal Gibbons, when importuned for an opinion upon the everlasting subject of the Sunday newspaper, said: "I desire to give you, my brethren, two admonitions regarding Sunday papers. First, select none but the best, such as are clean, possessing a high moral tone, and which will give you food without poison. Second, resolve not to read Sunday papers till you have first assisted at divine service and heard the word of God. As on communion day you do not break your fast till you have partaken of the holy eucharist, so let the voice of your heavenly Father be stamped in prayer on your heart and memory before you give your attention to things terrestrial." That is certainly the last word on this question, and any decent newspaper in the country can say "amen" to it.

The idea of a court granting a divorce to a man and ordering the woman to pay alimony to him is very repulsive to Americans, no matter who or what the woman is. The action of the Bel-

gium tribunal before which the Chancy case was tried, in granting the Prince \$15,000 a year from the American heiress who married him and then deserted him, will stand as the most remarkable in the annals of divorce decisions. It is not stated whether the decision gives the poor Prince the privilege of marrying again and continuing to claim the alimony.

Consul Wallace at Jerusalem reports to the State Department that according to the consular records of his office it appears that there are 530 citizens of the United States residing in Palestine. Of this number 438 are Jews who are only nominally Americans, having lived in the United States just long enough to obtain citizen papers and passports. The majority of these emigrated from Russia to the United States and thence to Palestine. The Spofford colony or "Overcomers," as they call themselves, have recently been increased by an addition of 117 Swedish Americans, mostly from Chicago.

A study of the world's oldest people reveals some strange facts. According to our last census, 4381 persons over 100 years were found, and of these 2,583 were women. In France in 1855 there were only sixty-six men and 147 women over the 100 mark. The figures for Great Britain are not available, but in London in 1861 there were reported twenty-one centenarians, of whom only six were men. This would seem to put the United States immeasurably above all countries on the score of longevity, quite at variance with the popular idea that we work ourselves into early graves. These facts should also have some little bearing upon women as life insurance risks.

Gen. Roy Stone, chief of the road department of Washington, makes the ingenious suggestion that schoolboys be used to keep country roads in repair. He points out that as the chief roads of each county are patrolled twice a day by schoolboys old enough to perform some labor upon them the experiment be made of keeping a few tools at the schoolhouses, and instructing the lads in removing stones, filling up ruts and holes. He suggests the organization of schoolboy road leagues and the awarding of small prizes for the best kept thoroughfares in each county. It would be valuable knowledge for the boys if properly taught and would result in a few years in a vast improvement in the condition of roads which now often prevent a fuller school attendance.

The "type-writer prism" is an ingeniously wrought scientific adaptation of a well-known principle in optics, and its object is to render the writing of a type-writer visible to the operator as it is being written, thereby doing away with the necessity of lifting the carriage to inspect the work. The principle of the device consists of a prism of pure optical glass as long as the line to be printed. It is carefully ground and polished, and is fastened to the carriage of the machine beneath the impression roller. Two of its three sides are flat, and the third is a strong cylindrical convex curve. The curved side is in view of the operator, and the writing is visible on its surface. Not only is it perfectly reflected, but the writing is presented right side up, and in a normal position to the eye, magnified to any desired extent. A metal pointer shows the exact spot on which the next character written will appear.

An enterprising resident of a Southern Pacific island has set out or is about to set out to take possession of another island, which is described as being "about 1,000 miles from the coast of Guatemala." It appears that nobody else has shown any disposition to possess this island, and the "enterprising resident" aforesaid proposes to raise the Hawaiian flag as soon as he lands and establish a new kingdom. The real interest in this project centers in the fact that the island about to be seized from obscurity is to be tendered to Idiokalani as a headquarters for a rejuvenated reign. It is expected of course that at the beginning the Queen will be obliged to rough it a trifle, since there is nothing tangible to reign over except the land, and it may be that she will become lonesome for a few subjects, but all these little discrepancies can be corrected with time. The affair in its present condition consists of an island, a Queen and an enterprising discoverer, and as soon as the three get together it will be time to discuss details for the future.

It is somewhat unfortunate that an Astor heiress should be revealed in the lonely garb of a chambermaid in a Missouri hotel at a time when one of the illustrious heads of the family is making such conspicuous headway among the crowned heads of Europe. It cannot fail to be disquieting to Willie Waldorf just as he is about to assume the responsibilities of a British subject and while he is enjoying the lordly distinction of a pronounced case of gout to learn that one of his cousins is engaged in the extremely democratic occupation of changing pillow cases for the delectation of chance travelers who may "put up" at this Sedalia hostelry. The young woman has the presumption not to be ashamed of her occupation and says she prefers to earn her own living until she can obtain her fortune rather than depend on the charity of her family. But this can bring no consolation to Willie. He will be able happily to sever himself entirely from any formal relationship with the United States, but there is no way for him to escape formal, unless by some special edict of royalty he is permitted to start an entirely new Astor family with an entailing ancestry.

FAX THE BIG TRUSTS

SHOULD PAY FULL RATE ON WATERED CAPITALIZATION.

Flagrant Injustice of Making the Poor People Bear the Brunt of Taxation—Trusts Pay but 1-200 of 1 Per Cent.

Oppressive Discriminations. One of the things that make the People's party directly opposed to the old-line parties is the discriminative oppressions in one form or another that these old-line parties encourage; oppressions that are downright unjust and diametrically contrary to the announced policy of this Government as framed in the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution.

One of the largest and most flagrant injustices of this description is what every taxpayer sees whenever he looks into the matter. He learns with very little trouble that, as a rule, this Government, while declaring opposite principles, while declaring every man equal before the law, in point of fact taxes the great plain people to sustain the rich. In other words, in all parts of the country, the great plain people, as distinguished from the wealthy, bear the brunt of taxation.

Now for the facts. The Lexow committee, intentionally or otherwise, developed a pretty large fact. Each and every leader of the trusts investigated to date, without any exception, and the testimony in this particular is exhaustive and unquestionable, has declared in clear and emphatic language that the trust he represents is not over-capitalized, but is capitalized at its actual cash value. That every trust or corporation called such, has no watered stock in it, but every dollar of such stock is represented by actual cash value in one shape or another.

That is, upon oath, these trust magnates confess and assert that the actual market value of their capitalization, be it what it may, is founded upon strict tangible assets having a like cash valuation to-day.

That is a big admission from the standpoint of the legislative tax assessor. It will be news to him. For it has been the constant cry of these trusts to the Legislatures that their capitalization was not a tangible asset, but meant something else; particularly what was not mentioned. For this Lexow information our public should be grateful, as these now remain no further question as to the real status of capitalization; at least of all existing trusts or corporations.

On top of this information comes a highly valuable column article in the Philadelphia Item, entitled "Against Trusts," which gives some exceedingly instructive particulars concerning the taxation and proposed taxation of trusts in the State of New Jersey. By a little figuring, it is there shown that these big trusts pay in taxes to that State only one-two hundredth of 1 per cent. per annum upon any capitalization in excess of \$5,000,000, which sum covers pretty much all the big trusts.

Recalling the testimony of the trust magnates, that their capitalization is real cash value, put this beside what these same trusts pay that State in taxes, and compare it with what the great public pays the same State in taxes.

Where ordinary people are taxed an average of about 3 per cent. on real and personal property at an assessed valuation of from a fourth to two-thirds of its cost, these trusts pay one-two hundredth of 1 per cent., or about one-six hundredth less than the people.

City and county taxes—included in above 3 per cent.—for these trusts is not here mentioned, and cuts no figure here; as any real and personal property they possess of that kind, while something, forms too small a part for this notice. Practically all they pay per annum is the above one-two hundredth of one per cent.

A similar reduction, but slightly less in amount, is granted in that State, and nearly all States for that matter, to corporations of lesser capitalization. Those having less than \$3,000,000 capital—in New Jersey—pay one-tenth of one per cent. on such capital; those between \$3,000,000 and \$5,000,000 pay one-twentieth of one per cent. per annum.

So here it is clearly proved by the law of that State that the smaller the taxpayer the larger the percentage of his or her taxation. And this ratio of difference above given holds right through down to the worker whose whole property is a trifle of furniture, on which he must pay a tax of about three per cent. on as large an assessment as the assessor as he dares make and feel secure that he will come out whole at a sheriff's sale for he must make any deficiency good out of his own pocket.

Mr. H. O. Havemeyer, the president of the sugar trust, before the Lexow Committee, was asked: "What proportion of your sugar is made in the State of New York?" Mr. Havemeyer replied: "One-half." "Then," asked Mr. Lexow, "as your capitalization is worth its price, why do you not pay the State a tax on \$30,000,000?" Of course Mr. Havemeyer was compelled to evade the question, so the matter was dropped.

The above described ratio of increased taxation proportioned to the impetuosity of the taxpayer, would suggest the advisability of Congress appointing something like the Interstate Commerce Commission under a similar law, for the purpose of compelling each State to tax all citizens alike. For if it be an unjust discrimination for railways to charge less for a long haul than for a short haul, low fare more unjust to the public it is to be taxed so flagrantly unjustly as above set forth.

Another point. If the people wish to get rid of stock watering, let legislatures tax all watered stock precisely at the rate they do all other personal property. That would quickly end the whole business, as well as a vast amount of gambling now taking place on the exchanges.

Two Inaugurations.

This is a conservative estimate of the cost of the McKinley inauguration to the President personally, to the citizens of the District of Columbia, to the visitors and to the Government:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Cost. Items include Mr. McKinley's special train, Mr. and Mrs. McKinley's hotel expenses, Mrs. McKinley's ball gown, etc.

Total personal expenses, \$4,800. Cost of ceremonies at the capitol, erection of platforms, decorations, etc., at public expense, 5,000.

Cost to Government in salaries of pension officials and clerks temporarily hired, though under pay, during use of pension building for festivities, 70,000. Estimated cost in loss of services, re-transfer of records, tracing or replacing lost records, 15,000.

Total cost to Government through this inauguration, \$90,000. Expenses of citizens of the District of Columbia on account of ball, music, printing, etc., guaranteed and raised by subscriptions, 50,000.

Cost to private parties for erection of reviewing stands, 88,000, less \$4,300 paid for privileges by speculators, 3,700. Estimated amount paid by private parties for seats at inauguration ceremonies, parades, etc., 80,000.

Cost of transportation to visitors from out of town testified by railroad officials—Pennsylvania Railroad, 80,000; Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, 30,000; Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, 20,000; Southern Railroad, 10,000; total number of visitors, 140,000, at an average per capita transportation cost of \$100, 1,400,000.

Cost of lodging and meals to visitors at \$5 each, \$40,000. Cost of tickets to inaugural ball, 50,000. Six thousand papers, wine, etc., average of \$2, 12,000. Flowers, 5,000. Public carriages at \$2 per call, 20,000.

Total expenses of visitors, \$2,407,000. Grand total, \$2,555,500. Thomas Jefferson was the first President inaugurated at Washington.

The inauguration was of the simplest kind, yet full of dignity. Here is the expense account:

Personal expenses of Thomas Jefferson on his inauguration as President, None. Cost to Government, None. Expenses of coaching and stage parties to the national capital and entertainments there, \$5,000.

Protect the Wage Earners. The veto of the immigration bill by Mr. Cleveland may result in the making of a better bill by the new Congress. The one vetoed mainly evaded the true issue, although it leaned in the right direction. The true issue is, that the present business and moral condition of this country necessitates that immigration be wholly or largely restricted. Free immigration brings all workers for salaries or wages in direct competition with a much lower grade of wages abroad. Foreigners allowed to come here without limit, mean lower wages or no wages at all for Americans. This is aside from the evils we invite through the enterprise of steamship companies who get fares for bringing over here the refuse of foreign countries.

The only way to restrict immigration is to restrict. An educational test only meets the issue part way. It does not protect our country or our workmen as both need. Our country is now overrun with foreign cheap labor. Americans cannot advance their moral or moneyed condition in the face of it. These constant arrivals from abroad reduce the average level of the whole country. It should be stopped.

The way to stop it is after the manner we stopped the Chinese. Another way would be a heavy tax per head. But with our gates open, we continue to invite still harder times in all lines of trade. The inciters of the present open law are the trusts, the steamship companies, large railway companies, for fares and service, and port-house politicians. No one else is benefited. This country is not large enough nor prosperous enough to take care of the foreign hordes who are annually coming into it, without serious detriment and painful injury to the United States as a nation.

A Good Senator. With the new administration, Senator William A. Peffer retires to his editorial sanctum, and the Senate of the United States and the public generally lose a most valuable statesman, which at the present critical period they can ill afford. Few Senators have worked as hard and as conscientiously in behalf of the people as Senator Peffer; he allowed no occasion to pass without giving the Senate and public to understand that the financial administration of this Government is in a sad plight, and that unless remedied be forthcoming soon, trouble ahead is a foregone conclusion.

For want of better and more convincing arguments to prove Senator Peffer to be in error in his general view of public finance, for a time in certain papers was common practice to ridicule the Senator's whisks, as if this were an argument in refutation of the Senator's platform. If this practice proved anything, it proved the futility of its advocates, and their complete inability to answer the Senator's charges of fraud and corruption. For the public good, it is to be hoped that the Senator's retirement from the Senate will prove only temporary, and that he will soon return to confound oppressions in vigorous language; for his only fault, if that be a fault, has been his moderation and gentleness of speech when his facts and argument justified the use of plain, ringing words.

Principles Never Die. The principles advocated by the Populist party will never die. They are eternal. They will survive when the United States itself has fallen into decay and passed away. Populists will turn their faces to the future, and profiting by the mistakes of the past they will take up the banner of equal rights, throw its broad folds to the breezes of heaven and defend it against all comers as in the past. They are used to defeat; but they will never surrender—Corsicana Truth.

Shattered "Confidence." Willoughby, Hill & Co., the big Chicago clothiers, bumped up against a dose of goldbug "confidence" last Saturday calculated to shatter their faith in Hanna's promises. The "waves" swept over them and completely washed them off the deck. They sent a delegation on the "Blaze of Glory" train to the inaugural to inquire into the matter, but McKinley gave them cold comfort.

Will Make Judas Envious. It is said Cleveland proposes to devote the rest of his life to the study of religion. Having stolen upwards of \$20,000,000 he can afford to; but goodness, how envious Judas Iscariot must feel when he thinks of Grover's new plans—Denver Road.

Populist Pointers. Direct legislation will purify our politics. Boodle seems to be running this country.

Both of the old party machines are founded on pie. The greatest trust in this country is the money trust.

We would like to see a few farmers in Congress for a change. American workmen seem to have more brains than backbone.

Whoever opposes direct legislation opposes government by the people. When farming becomes profitable every other legitimate business will flourish.

If the banks persist in speculating on credit, they should be required to furnish the credit.

The gold reserve is now more than \$140,000,000, but prosperity seems to have no connection with it. The declaration of independence seems to have no part in our government except on the 4th of July.

It is reported that nearly half the people of Liverpool receive charitable relief. And this is in gold-standard England.

The annual product of gold is rapidly increasing, and the goldbugs may want it demonetized themselves within a few years. When a man borrows money out of a bank he has to give security. Why should not the bank give security when a man deposits money with it? India is afflicted with what scientists call the bubonic plague. It is almost as fatal as the financial plague with which the United States is afflicted. It costs England more than \$100,000,000 annually to support her navy, but there are three or four trusts in the United States that cost the people a greater sum. The men who "know all about finance" have had things their own way long enough to prove that they cannot be trusted with the regulation of the currency. Our revolutionary fathers said in the declaration of independence that a people have a right to "alter or abolish a government," but the plutocrats call that kind of doctrine anarchy. Who is right? The promises of politicians are a weak plyform on which to build the hopes of the republic. Let us have the referendum and the imperative mandate. These will unhorse the scheming politicians. Cleveland's jumping-jack, Mister Eckels, says it is only the "rotten banks that are failing." Why, of course, how could a sound one fail; but there are no sound ones, therefore only a part of the rotten ones are failing. Nothing is sound that is based on confidence and does most of its business on credit. Incubators for Babies. Incubators for babies have long been in use in Paris, says Invention, and are occasionally used in London. But the most perfect babies' incubator in England is to be seen at the East End Mothers' Home, in the Commercial Road, London, under the care of Dr. M. Cursham Corner. This was the gift of a very rich lady some four or five years ago, and as at first presented it was warmed by oil, and required constant care that the temperature did not run too high. Since then gas has been applied to it, with a highly ingenious valve which automatically keeps it at any heat required. This, in usual practice, Dr. Corner fixes at 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and finds that the little ones rapidly gain the strength they need. So beneficial is the incubator that in several instances the doctor attributes a healthy childhood, after the most critically feeble infancy, to its use, and can point to more than one actual marvel of baby growth due to the equable and gentle warmth afforded to the immature little frame.

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Josh Billings' Philosophy. We all pray for long life, but a short one is the safest. Clarity, whose author is unknown, is like manna from heaven. The man whom prosperity makes proud adversity will make insolent. Enuff is happen so, but we have no standard to measure the quantity. Cunning begins by cheating others, and all ends by cheating itself. Civilized people are alike; their postures are alike, they all look alike.

No-to-Bac for Fifty Cents. (Over a dozen years ago, you will find No-to-Bac for fifty cents in every drug store. It is a sure cure for all kinds of ailments. Care must be taken to get the genuine. Get it from the manufacturer, J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.)

When heating a furnace for your job, do not forget that there is some danger of your being thrown into it.

There is a vast difference between being able to say prayers that sound fine and having a broken and contrite heart.

Why It Is Necessary

To Take a Spring Medicine

Your Blood Must be Made Pure or Impaired Health is Sure.

Firmly based among the important principles of hygiene and health is the acknowledged necessity of a good Spring Medicine.

The necessity is found in the impure condition of the blood at this season, owing to the same causes that vitiate the air in cities, stores, shops, houses, factories or schoolrooms; a very lively eating and drinking too rich and hearty food; late hours and social indulgences. Many years of test have proved that Hood's Sarsaparilla supplies the season's demand as nothing else does.

So easy to take and so readily assimilated, the purifying, vitalizing and enriching elements of Hood's Sarsaparilla—combined from Nature's own storehouse of vegetable remedies for human ills, pass into the system and do their work of purifying and vitalizing the blood, which carries new life and vigor to every organ and tissue of the body. The effect is often magical. The weakness is soon driven off, that tired feeling disappears, the nerves are built up, the appetite restored.

Remember, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best in fact, the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. Price, 25c per bottle.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take for constipation. Price, 25c per bottle.

W. L. DOUGLAS \$3 SHOE. BEST IN THE WORLD. For 12 years this shoe, by merit alone, has defeated all competitors. Indorsed by over 1,000,000 wearers as the best in style, fit and durability of any shoe ever offered at \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50. It is made in all the LATEST SHAPES and STYLES and of every variety of leather. One dealer in a town given exclusive sale and advertised in local paper on receipt of reasonable order. For W. L. DOUGLAS, Boston, Mass.

100,000 Miles of Practical Testing. Not a single 1897 Columbia bicycle was offered for sale until practical road tests were made with 30 of the new models. Each was ridden from 1500 to 10,000 miles, 100 miles a day, mind you—over the roughest roads in Connecticut. Not a single break in any part of the thirty, 1897 construction thoroughly proved.

Columbia Bicycles. ARE STANDARD OF THE WORLD. \$100 to all alike. POPE MFG. CO., Hartford, Conn. Greatest Bicycle Factories in the World. Catalogue free from any Columbia dealer; from us for one-cent stamp.

TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER. WILL KEEP YOU DRY. Don't be fooled with a mackintosh or rubber coat. If you want a coat that will keep you dry in the hardest storm, buy the Fish Brand Slicker. If not for sale in your town, write for catalogue to A. J. TOWER, Boston, Mass.

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