LAUNDRYMEN'S HUMOR.

A BACHELOR DESCRIBES SOME FEATURES OF MONGOLIAN LIFE.

A Chinaman Who Became a Slave to His Voice—Hop Wah as a Joker—Fond of a Social Glass—Told in Confidence—"Sam Su" and Chinese Sandwiches.

"The first Chinaman I ever had dealings with," said the old bachelor, "was a little weasened up fellow, not more than five feet high, who had a store on Washington street. Next door to him was an Italian shoemaker. Lee, for that was the laundryman's name, was a most taciturn individual, even for one of his race, but he had a peculiarity. He used to sing, not only in his shop, but also, in a lower voice, when he was walking along the street. It was when he was hard at work upon the bosom of some refractory shirt that he could be heard at his best, or, as some might put it, at his worst. Lee's voice was not a pleasing one, even when exercised on the lower notes only, but when he had got warmed up and essayed to reach the higher key it was positively heart-rending. How his subordinates, of whom he had two, stood it, is beyond human comprehension. Lee's voice grew upon him, and when I last knew him he was a perfect slave to it.

"My next laundryman was a character. He was about 20 years old, fairly good looking, judged by the American standard, and spoke English quite fluently. He answered to the name of Hop Wah, but I always called him Hop for short.

SOMETHING OF A JOKER.

"By degrees, and when I had satisfied Hop that I had no intention of patronizing his rival across the street, for whom he entertained a profound yet pitying contempt, he told me some of his history. He had been ten years in America, and about six years in Brooklyn. I asked him one day if his parents were alive. He replied that he believed his mother was, and added, 'Old man dead long time.' Then he laughed quite merrily, as if the elder Hop's decease was a good deal of a joke. He went to Sunday school regularly, and this accounted for his proficiency in the English language. He went to Mott street quite frequently, too, as he informed me, and in his way I think was a rounder. Happening one afternoon to notice a 'God Bless Our Home' motto of the regulation pattern fastened to the wall alongside of a Chinese almanac, I asked him if he was a Christian. He shook his head very emphatically, and then laughed so that I thought he would fall off his high stool. When I said that it seemed queer to find a Christian motto in a heathen place of business, he winked at me with great deliberation and remarked, jerking his thumb in the direction of the card, 'Catch trade; everything goes.' Certainly there were no flies on Hop, and his knowledge of current slang was both profound and aptly applied. By and by he got more mottoes, and in a short time the shop inside looked like a reform school.

"One very cold afternoon last winter he was about half frozen when he called at my room with the week's washing. As he laid down the bundle he made some remark about the temperature which sounded vaguely like an expression used by unregenerate Christians and proceeded to rub his hands vigorously. Noticing that he looked affectionately upon a glass of hot whisky and water which I had just brewed for myself, I asked him if he would have one. Hop didn't mind if he did,' and I, the manner in which he got away with the steaming beverage I was led to believe that it was not by any means his first attempt. After this I got into the way of offering him a horn whenever he happened to find me in, and I can't recollect that he ever refused. One of his weekly visits was made the day before last Christmas. I was feeling at peace with the world myself, and when Hop had got away with his customary refresher I suggested that another would not hurt him. He agreed with me, remarking quite airily that he 'would have to go one,' and helped himself to his second drink, an even larger one than the first, and that was no tablespoonful.

GROWING CONFIDENTIAL.

"Not to be outdone in generosity he offered me a cigar, which he took out of his hat, and which I declined, having already had experience of likewise cigars. I think Hop must have struck hospitality in other quarters before reaching me, for after the second glass of whisky he took a chair by the fire and put his heels up on the mantelpiece. He was remarkably good humored and growing confidential. Said he was about tired of work, and thought that he would soon go back to China, where he would marry and settle down to a life of ease. At the reference to marriage he stuck his thumb among my ribs and chuckled after the fashion of Asiatics. When he arose to go I saw plainly that in addition to his large bag of clothes he would have to carry home with him a very well developed jag. He waved his hat at me as he left the room, and I heard him trying to whistle as he went down the first flight of stairs. At the head of the second flight he lost his balance and fell headlong, striking the street door as if he had been shot out of a catapult. He was not hurt, at least he did not appear to be, for, picking himself and his bag up, he let himself out, and from the window I next saw him tacking rather unsteadily down the street in the direction of his home. He made no reference to his mishap when he called again, nor did I say anything, but Hop got no more whisky.

"Early in the new year he called one morning before I was up, carrying with him a bottle of rice brandy, 'Sam Su,' as it is called in China, and some Chinese sandwiches. He said it was some kind of a feast day among his people and he wished me to have a share of the good things going. Finding the Sam Su too rich for my stomach, I placed it on top of a convenient ash barrel in the street. If any one drank it, I pity him sincerely. The sandwiches were quite a novelty and taken before breakfast I found them to be quite appetizing. Instead of bread slices of lemon were used, and in place of meat or cheese green ginger, slightly sprinkled with salt. These sandwiches, Hop subsequently informed me, were in great demand in his own country by gentlemen who had made a night of it. Last May Hop sailed for Hong Kong, taking with him in the inside pocket of his silk blouse $2,000 in American gold. He called to wish me good-by, and expressed his hope that if he should ever return to Brooklyn, which, however, was not likely, I would again favor him with my custom."—"C. R. C." in Brooklyn Eagle.

Not Qualified to Judge.

Teacher—Now, if you stand facing the west, will the north be to your right or left hand?

New Scholar—I'm sure I don't know, ma'am; I'm a stranger in these parts.—Lincoln Journal.

WHEELING THROUGH EUROPE.

A Bicycle Tourist Tells How Enjoyable Such Traveling is.

One scarcely realizes, till he has tried it, how little is the expense of a bicycle trip through Europe. To the practical American wheelman the first question is, "What does it cost?" From the experience of one who has been through the Trossachs of Scotland and the cathedral towns of England, who has ridden up the Rhine and climbed half a dozen or more of the Alpine passes in Switzerland, and has spent nearly a month each in the cities of London and Paris, the cost is found to have been little more than it would have been to have continued in the dull routine of home life. To be sure, there is the lost time of those who have only salaried incomes. Once over here, while the traveler by ordinary means of conveyance is debating whether to go second or third class or to buy Cook's tourist's tickets or the regular ones, the wheelman selects an independent route and, without waiting upon the manner of going, goes. Besides, the going, instead of being a matter of great expense, as it sometimes is by steam or horse power, on the contrary, over the perfect roads of Europe, is a means of enjoyable exercise that not only does not decrease the bank account, but increases the stock of physical health. After nearly four months, or 1,600 miles, of such delightful traveling in the present case, the limited letter of credit is still found so bulky that a ride through southern France, along the Riviera, down through Italy and over to the Pyramids is to be undertaken soon.

But as to the cost, so far, in dollars and cents. While the English hotels are, as a rule, I think, more expensive than those on the continent, yet in either case, my expenses did not average over $2 a day. In fact, through Belgium and Germany they were but $1 a day. A wheelman travels so independently that he is not always obliged to stop over night at the larger cities, and I often could avoid them by riding eight or ten miles further to some small inn. I found plenty of good food and a comfortable bed for half the money. Such a mode of traveling does not allow of the putting on of any great amount of style, but my chief ambition was to see rather than to be seen of men. In London there are plenty of good, respectable, private boarding places to be found for $1 or $1.25 a day. To find them one needs only to inquire of some friend who has made an extended stay in London, or to apply to some American living there. I found a good place on Euston road, within a mile and a half, or a four cent omnibus ride, of Fleet street, for $7.50 a week. That included the room and attendance, a meat breakfast at 8:30 and a four or five course dinner at 6:30. The luncheon at 12, if had, was extra, but it was usually more convenient to take a light luncheon wherever I happened to be.

It is proverbial that Frenchmen like Americans better than almost any other class of foreigners, and this was, perhaps, shown to be so one afternoon when I was riding out in the Bois de Boulogne, that beautiful park of 2,200 acres just outside the fortifications towards the west. I was riding slowly along, listening to the music of the Grand Opera orchestra, which, to many of the listeners, must have been in pleasing contrast to the sound of the German shot and shell heard there so short a time ago, when a policeman stopped me and ordered me to go another way. I did not understand which way, but turned about and rode off. In about half an hour I met the same policeman in another drive. This time he was mad. He gesticulated wildly and talked so fast I could say nothing. Finally, when I could get in a word, I said I did not understand, and could only speak English. "You are an Englishman!" he said in French I could understand, but without cooling down any. "No," I said, "I am an American." "Oh," he replied quickly, "pass on," and he stepped aside with a wave of his hand, as pleasantly as could be. I happened, I have since found out, to be riding in some of the drives from which we are prohibited. Many of the English and German wheelmen use little sleigh bells fastened to the handle bars as warnings to pedestrians, but in Switzerland, where the noise of running water drowns all other ordinary sounds in so many localities, I found that my shrill whistle even was insufficient, and nothing but the most throat splitting yell would clear the road of the numerous pedestrians. Here in Paris the wheelmen have adopted the tram car horn, an instrument with a rubber bulb for forcing the air through, and, really, one blast from those pneumatic levers is enough to lift a whole regiment out of the road.—George B. Thayer in New York World.

Simple Method for Reanimation.

At a meeting of the last congress of German scientists this subject was discussed, and Dr. H. Frank mentioned that there are but two ways to stimulate the heart—electricity and mechanical concussion of the heart. The first is considered dangerous by him as it may easily destroy the last power of contraction remaining in the organ. But what is termed "pectoral concussion" is decidedly preferable.

Dr. Frank's method is as follows: He flexes the hands on the wrist to an obtuse angle, places them both near each other in the ileocaecal region, and makes vigorous strokes in the direction of the heart and of the diaphragm. These strokes are repeated from fifteen to twenty times, and are succeeded by a pause, during which he strikes the chest over the heart repeatedly with the palm of his hand. In favorable cases this method is early successful, and sometimes a twitching of the lids or the angles of the mouth appears with surprising rapidity as the first sign of returning life. As soon as these symptoms are noted, the simple manipulations above described must be earnestly continued and persevered in from a half to one hour, for, with their cessation, the phenomena indicating beginning of return of life also cease. Generally, the face assumes a slight reddish tint, and at the same time a faint pulsation may be felt in the carotids. By this method Dr. Frank has seen life return in fourteen cases, among whom were such as had hung themselves, drowned and asphyxiated by carbonic oxide, and in one case by croup.—Herald of Health.

Aid to Memory.

Dumley (overtaking Brown on his way home to dinner)—Aren't you rather late to-night, Brown?

Brown—Yes—washerwoman—washerwoman. I've had a hard day's work—washerwoman—washerwoman.

Dumley—What are you mumbling "washerwoman" for?

Brown—So that I wouldn't forget to advertise for a washerwoman in this afternoon's paper. My wife told me to keep repeating washerwoman, and I've kept it up all day, and (suddenly) by thunder! if I didn't forget it after all. Washerwoman—washerwoman—blank—washerwoman.—New York Sun.

MOUNTAIN COMMERCE.

STREAMS ARE THE PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS IN EASTERN KENTUCKY.

How the Mountaineer Gets His Supplies. The "Push Boat" and the Method of Navigating It—Traveling Up Stream on the Big Sandy.

Among the many novelties which the stranger finds among the mountains of eastern Kentucky few will interest a man of a practical turn of mind more than the public highways. The mountain roads, except where a mountain gap is to be crossed, are the mountain streams. In consequence there is scarcely a cross road or four corners in this county outside of this, the only village in the county, but wherever a creek forks or a brook enters a creek the road forks.

Under Kentucky law the county judge decides where and how new roads shall be laid out. The ordinary mountain road is laid out six feet wide, and the roadway proper must be graded not less than two feet wide. But Judge Wagner, of this county, is an enterprising citizen, who desires to improve the country, and in consequence he has refused to issue any order for a year past for roads less than nine feet wide. This may seem narrow to northern farmers, who lay out private lanes at least a rod wide, but in a country where traveling is done on horseback, and where the vehicles for transporting goods of any sort, even in summer, are narrow sleds, the nine foot road is a novelty which has set the county to talking.

THE CREEK BED ROADS.

Of course there are necessarily wagons wherever logging is done, but the log wagon sticks to beds of the streams, which are invariably wide and hollow, while the public highway winds along the bank of the stream and runs in the actual bed of the stream only where the configuration of the mountain sides on each bank of the stream makes it necessary. When the logging is done no effort is made to keep open the highway formed. These creek bed roads are excellent in warm weather and low water; in winter and spring they are impassable for weeks.

The creek beds were originally selected for highways because very little labor was needed to make a highway out of a creek bed. There is not such a thing in Pike county as a big nigger head rock. The beds of the streams are of sand or sandstone, and there is never a rapid or waterfall of such descent as to bother a team.

Another very good reason for utilizing the creeks as roads was the fact that all the imports and exports of the mountains have been necessarily carried in and out on the rivers. The mountaineer's supplies have been brought up from the Ohio river ever since there was any one on the Ohio to sell them. As all creeks run by the easiest and generally the shortest route to the rivers, it was natural for the mountaineer to follow the creek down to its mouth to get his supplies at the stores which were located along the river.

THE "PUSH BOAT."

The rivers are not very trustworthy highways. The steamboats on the Big Sandy very often get started up for Pikeville, the head of navigation, only to get stranded on a bar, or to find themselves left in a pocket between bars by the sudden fall of the water. Out of this uncertainty regarding the length of a steamboat's journey to and from the headwaters of the rivers has grown the craft, very novel to northern eyes, called the push boat. No better craft for the water could be imagined.

The push boat is a scow 7 feet wide, 60 feet long and 18 inches deep. At one end is a windowless house high enough for a man to stand upright in and 5x8 feet in area. This is the cabin. There is a sort of a quarter deck abaft the house, and above this sweeps the tiller end of a long steering oar, which the pilot wields by walking to and fro on a shelf built half way up on the stern.

The merchandise is piled on three wide planks that run, like keels, the length of the boat, so as to cover a large part of the boat's bottom; but a clear gangway of at least fifteen inches in width is left along on each side of the merchandise, no matter how great the load. These gangways are also floored by planks laid bilge-keelson fashion.

A boat like this will carry twelve to fifteen tons dead weight of goods on a draught of eight inches. There are over 100 of them regularly employed on the Big Sandy, and the cargoes carried up consist chiefly of the goods kept in the country stores. At certain seasons, particularly in the fall, down cargoes can be had.

SHOVING A BOAT.

When the boat is loaded the skipper climbs to his shelf and grasps the tiller. The crew of four men cast off the ropes and pick up their push poles. These poles are about ten feet long and from an inch and a half thick at the upper end swell to two inches thick at the bottom, where they are shod with a short pike. Two of the crew stand on the starboard bow and two on the port, one behind the other, and facing aft, place the lower ends of the push poles on the bottom of the stream, the upper ends against their outboard shoulders, and then, throwing their weight against the poles, they walk aft. As the poles cannot slip along the bottom, the boat is forced forward. The push boat is a horizontally acting treadmill. Of course, the men walk aft on the bilge planks, which are left clear of merchandise, so that they can walk there freely. It is distressing to a stranger—it makes him feel as if his own back was about to break—merely to look at the men as they shove the boat along; but the Big Sandy boatmen are a hardy and cheerful race, and not only do not fret and chafe over their toil, but even walk away to the tune of some rollicking love song or ditty which they have learned from the favorite artist of a traveling theatrical troupe at Catlettsburg.

The men get $1 a day each and board. The day runs from sunrise to sunset, and in that time four men will shove a boat from thirteen to fourteen miles up stream on the Big Sandy. The pilot is usually the owner of the boat. He gets seventy-five cents a hundred pounds for general merchandise brought from Catlettsburg to Pikeville, a distance of 100 miles. Flour he brings at $1 a barrel. It is only when the boat has a full cargo and a prosperous passage, the boatmen say, that the push boat owner gets any return on his investment, which, however, is not great, for a good boat costs but $60 or $70.—Pikeville (Ky.) Cor. New York Sun.

Thought He Could Stand It.

"You would be sorry to lose your sister, wouldn't you, Johnny?" asked the visitor suggestively to the little boy who was entertaining him in the drawing room.

"Nope," replied Johnny. "I guess I could stand it, Mr. Hankinson. Maw says I've got to wear short pants till after Irene's married."—Chicago Tribune.

Legend of the Pipestone Quarry.

This blood red stone has a peculiar significance, and is an object of veneration to the Indian. Since taught by "Manitou" (the Great Spirit) warlike tribes have gathered here in peace, to worship, dig the stone and smoke the calumet. Relics of camps may be traced in great numbers, by the stones placed in circles, now nearly buried from sight, except when prairie fires sweep over them. Legends say that a remnant of red men were driven from a deluge to the top of this rocky crest, where an eagle had built her nest, and that the rising waters swallowed all but one maiden, who clung to the eagle for safety. When the waters receded, the Great Spirit found a cliff of rocky warriors turned into shining jasper! In solemn wrath he vowed that henceforth the tribes should meet here only in peace, that no war whoop should be heard, no bow and arrow or tomahawk should be seen at this rendezvous, but hereafter the tribes should assemble here each year to wash off their war paint in the lake, bury the hatchet and smoke the peace pipe, in token of which the maiden and war eagle should sacrifice a milk white bison—a rare and sacred beast, and an object of ceremonious and mysterious sacrifice.

It was laid on the altar of jasper, when lo! the flames of heaven descended, as lightning, connecting the stem of Manitou's pipe with the altar, from whence rose sweet incense, the blood of the sacrifice staining the crag a crimson stain. The eagle also joined in the compact by leaving five eggs, which turned into huge bowlders of stone, watched over by two female genii, who remained in the grottoes between those eggs, and alternately sleep and watch the sacred quarry. Then Manitou broke open the quarry for his children, and taught them how to carve the calumet and smoke it as a pledge, after which he left his own impress on a commanding pinnacle of rock in the form of a human face and then vanished from their sight.—Helen Strong Thompson in American Magazine.

Does More Injury Than Benefit.

We are partly bamboozled by tradition. From our youth up we are deafened on all sides by advice to "read and improve our minds." The inference is that the mind is improved by reading. But that inference is open to the most serious question. For my part, I should be willing to hazard the statement that twice as many minds have been injured than have been benefited by it, and not a small proportion of the former have been made entirely worthless by the practice. It is just like dram drinking—it is intellectual dram drinking, and "intellectual" is scarcely the word to use in that connection.

One reason is, no doubt, that the drams in question are, for the most part, of very inferior stuff. But even if it were of the best stuff imaginable, the detrimental effect would remain. The finest Madeira, if swallowed in sufficiently copious doses, will produce delirium tremens; and the most unexceptional books, if they are also too numerous, will bring on mental dyspepsia. The mind becomes a mere sack to hold other people's ideas, instead of a machine to generate ideas of its own. And the ideas thus acquired are of no use to it. The mind has lost the power to work them into the flesh and blood of wisdom. They remain a heterogeneous and incongruous mass. Foreign material, whether physical or intellectual, should be taken in with discrimination and moderation, and thoroughly assimilated. Unless you need and like it, you cannot make it yours; whether you swallow it or not, it really stays outside of you.—Julian Hawthorne in America.

The Mews of London.

A peculiar feature of London, to begin with, are the so called mews. The name mews originally applied to the royal stables, though whether on account of the characteristic melody of the cats that congregate around such establishments, or for some more classical cause, has never been explained. It gradually came to be adopted for the alleys in the rear of fashionable mansions on which the stables open, and, in fact, for any street of stables. The mews of London are streets sui generis. They cut in half the blocks on which swell residences make a pompous frontage, and their aspect is as much more picturesque and homelike, as it is less imposing than that of the grimly grand palaces of which they are adjuncts.

In the quarters of London in which aristocracy still lingers, the mews still preserve much of their old character, and are the abiding places of stable helpers and genteel poverty. In the deteriorated parts of the town they are squalid and seeking nests of misery and want, where human beings harbor like rats and probably often do not see the light of day for years. I can imagine nothing more horrible under the sun than the Whitechapel mews, unless it be the dreadful inner courts and no thoroughfares which still further complicate the ramifications of these mazes of misfortune and vice.—Alfred Trumble in Pittsburg Bulletin.

Carving a Restaurant Steak.

Two young gentlemen a little the worse for wear dropped in one Saturday evening at a certain Clark street restaurant, and, after consulting the bill of fare rather hesitatingly, each ordered a sirloin steak. In due course of time the steaks were delivered to the consignees, and they proceeded to carve them. One of the young men angered the waiter, after repeated onslaughts on his steak, by calling for an ax. The other young man was calm and unmoved. After vainly endeavoring to cut his steak while in a sitting posture he arose, poised his knife and fork and addresssed his friend as follows: "You just keep your eye on me now. Years ago I used to dissect remains over in a homeopathic medical college on the West Side, and I'll 'do' this steak if it kills me. I am the great prodissecter. Watch me and wait for the big show!" and the young physician cleverly separated the component parts of both steaks in a masterly manner, although it was plain to be seen that his incidental remarks had exercised a rather depressing effect upon the appetite of his young friend.—Chicago Herald.

Why She Took Lessons.

Julius Eichberg, the well known Boston musician, tells this story of an early experience: One day a lady somewhat advanced in years came to make arrangements for taking private lessons in singing. At the end of the second lesson the teacher felt constrained to tell her that her ear was not true. She received the remark very coolly, and at the next lesson sang as badly as before. "I am afraid," said Mr. Eichberg, "that you can never learn to sing in tune." "Oh, it doesn't matter," was the surprising answer. "Doesn't matter!" said the astonished teacher. "No," said the pupil. "I don't care anything about music, but my doctor said that singing would be the best thing for my dyspepsia, and so I decided to take lessons."—New York Sun.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The republicans of the United States, assembled by their delegates in national convention, pause on the threshold of their proceedings to honor the memory of their first great leader and immortal champion of liberty and the rights of the people, Abraham Lincoln, and to cover also with wreaths of imperishable remembrance and gratitude the heroic names of our later leaders who have been more recently called away from our councils, Grant, Garfield, Arthur, Logan and Conkling. May their memories be faithfully cherished. We also recall with our greetings and prayer for his recovery the name of one of our living heroes whose memory will be treasured in the history both of republicans and of the republic. The name is that of the noble soldier and favorite child of victory, Philip H. Sheridan.

In the spirit of those great leaders and of our devotion to human liberty, and with that hostility to all forms of despotism and oppression which is the fundamental idea of the republican party, we send fraternal congratulations to our fellow Americans of Brazil upon their great act of emancipation which completed the abolition of slavery throughout the two American continents. We earnestly hope we may soon congratulate our fellow citizens of Irish birth upon the peaceful recovery of home rule for Ireland.

WE AFFIRM OUR UNSWERVING DEVOTION to the national constitution and to the indissoluble union of states to the autonomy reserved to the states under the constitution, to the personal rights and liberties of citizens in all states and territories in the union and especially to the supreme and sovereign right of every citizen, rich or poor, native or foreign born, white or black, to cast one free ballot in the public elections and to have that ballot duly counted. We hold a free and honest popular ballot and just and equal representation of all people to be the foundation of our republican government and demand effective legislation to secure the integrity and purity of elections which are the fountains of all public authority. We charge that the present administration and the democratic majority in congress owe their existence to the suppression of the ballot by the criminal nullification of the constitution and laws of the United States.

We are uncompromisingly in favor of the American system of protection. We protest against the destruction proposed by the president and his party. They serve the interests of Europe.

We accept the issue, and confidently appeal to the people for their judgment. The protective system must be maintained. Its abandonment has always been followed by general disaster to all interests except those of the usurer and sheriff.

We denounce the Mills' bill as destructive to general business, labor, and the farming interests of the country, and we heartily endorse the consistent and patriotic action of the republican representatives in congress in opposing its passage. We condemn the proposition of the democratic party to place wool on the free list and insist that the duties thereon shall be adjusted and maintained so as to furnish full and adequate protection to that industry.

The republican party would effect all needed reduction of the national revenue by repealing the taxes on tobacco, which are an arrogance and burden to agriculture, and the tax upon spirits used in the arts and for mechanical purposes, and by such revision of the tariff laws as will tend to check imports of such articles as are produced by our people, the production of which gives employment to our labor, and release from import duties those articles of foreign production, except luxuries, the like of which cannot be produced at home, there shall still remain a larger revenue than is requisite for the wants of government, of internal taxes rather than surrender any part of our protective system at the joint behest of the whisky ring and agents of foreign manufacturers.

AGAINST PAUPER AND LABOR TRUSTS.

We declare hostility to the introduction into this country of foreign contract labor and of Chinese labor alien to our civilization and our institutions, and we demand the rigid enforcement of existing laws against it and favor such immediate legislation as will exclude such labor from our shores.

We declare our opposition to all combinations of capital organized in trusts or otherwise to control arbitrarily the condition of trade among our citizens and we recommend to congress and the state legislatures in their respective jurisdictions such legislation as will prevent the execution of all schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies or by unjust rates for the transportation of their products to market.

We approve legislation by congress to prevent alike unjust burdens and unfair discrimination between states.

PUBLIC LAND LEGISLATION.

We reaffirm the policy of appropriating the public lands of the United States to be homesteads for American citizens and settlers not aliens, which the republican party established in 1862 against the persistent opposition of the democrats in congress, which has brought our great western domain into magnificent development. The restoration of unearned land grants to the public domain for the use of actual settlers, which was begun under the administration of President Arthur should be continued. We deny that the democratic party has ever restored one acre to the people, but declare that by the joint action of republicans and democrats about fifty million acres of unearned lands, originally granted for the construction of railroads, have been restored to the public domain in pursuance of conditions inserted by the republican party in the original grants. We charge the democratic administration with failure to execute laws securing to settlers title to their homesteads and with using appropriations made for this purpose to harrass innocent settlers with suits and prosecutions under the false pretense of exposing frauds and vindicating the law.

ADMISSION OF TERRITORIES.

The government by congress of the territories is based upon necessity only to the end that they may become states in the union; therefore, whenever the conditions of population, material resources, public intelligence and morality are such as to insure stable local government therein the people of such territories should be permitted, a right inherent in them, to form for themselves constitutions and state governments and be admitted into the union. Pending preparation for statehood all officers thereof should be selected from bona fide residents and citizens of the territory wherein they are to serve. South Dakota should of right be immediately admitted as a state in the union under the constitution framed and adopted by her people, and we heartily endorse the action of the republican senate in twice passing bills for her admission. The refusal of the democratic house of representatives, or partisan purposes to favorably consider these bills is a willful violation of the sacred American principle of local self government, and merits the condemnation of all just men. The pending bills in the senate for acts to enable the people of Washington, North Dakota and Montana territories to form constitutions and establish state governments should be passed without unnecessary delay. The republican party pledges itself to do all in its power to facilitate the admission of the territories of New Mexico, Wyoming, Idaho and Arizona to the enjoyment of self government as states. Such of them as are now qualified as soon as possible, and others as soon as they may become so.

THE MORMON QUESTION.

The political power of the Mormon church in the territories as exercised in the past is a menace to free institutions too dangerous to be long suffered. Therefore we pledge the republican party to appropriate legislation asserting the sovereignty of the nation in all the territories where the same is questioned, and in furtherance of that end to place upon the statute book legislation stringent enough to divorce political from ecclesiastical power, and thus stamp out the abominable wickedness of polygamy.

The republican party is in favor of the use of both gold and silver as money, and condemns the policy of the democratic administration in its efforts to demonetize silver.

We demand the reduction of letter postage to 1 cent per ounce.

In a republic like ours, where the citizen is the sovereign and the official the servant, where no power is exercised except by the will of the people, it is important that the sovereign people should possess intelligence. The free school is the promoter of that intelligence which is to preserve us a free nation. Therefore, the state or nation, or both combined, should support free institutions of learning sufficient to furnish every child growing up in the land the opportunity of a good common-school education.

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

We earnestly recommend that prompt action be taken by congress in the enactment of such legislation as will best secure the rehabilitation of our American merchant marine, and we protest against the passage by congress of a free ship bill as calculated to work injustice to labor by lessening the wages of those engaged in preparing materials as well as those directly employed in our shipyards. We demand appropriations for the early rebuilding of our navy, for the construction of coast fortifications and modern ordinance and other approved modern means of defense for the protection of our defenseless harbors and cities, for the payment of just pensions to our soldiers, for necessary works of national importance in the improvement of the harbors and channels of internal, coastwise and foreign commerce, for the encouragement of the shipping interests of the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific states as well as for the payment of the maturing public debt. This policy will give employment to our labor, activity to our various industries, increased security to our country, promote trade, open new and direct markets for our products and cheapen the cost of transportation. We affirm this to be far better for our country than the democratic policy of loaning the government's money without interest to "pet banks."

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The conduct of foreign affairs by the present administration has been distinguished by inefficiency and cowardice. Having withdrawn from the senate all pending treaties effected by republican administrations for the removal of foreign burdens and restrictions upon our commerce and for its extension into a better market it has neither affected nor proposed any others in their stead. Professing adherence to the Monroe doctrine, it has seen with idle complacency the extension of foreign influence in Central America and of foreign trade everywhere among our neighbors. It has refused to charter, sanction or encourage any American organization for constructing the Nicaragua canal, a work of vital importance to the maintenance of the Monroe doctrine and of our national influence in Central and South America, and necessary for the development of trade with our Pacific territory, with South America, and with the further coasts of the Pacific Ocean.

FISHERIES QUESTION.

We arraign the present democratic administration for its weak and unpatriotic treatment of the fisheries question, and its pusillanimous surrender of all privileges to which our fishery vessels are entitled in Canadian ports under the treaty of 1818, the reciprocate maritime legislation of 1830 and comity of nations, and which Canadian fishing vessels receive in the ports of the United States. We condemn the policy of the present administration and the democratic majority in congress towards our fisheries as unfriendly and conspicuously unpatriotic and as tending to destroy a valuable national industry and an indispensable resource of defense against foreign enemies.

The name of American applies alike to all citizens of the republic, and imposes upon men alike the same obligation of obedience to the laws. At the same time citizenship is and must be the panoply and safeguard of him who wears it, should shield and protect him whether high or low, rich or poor, in all his civil rights. It should and must afford him protection at home and follow and protect him abroad in whatever land he may be on a lawful errand.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

The men who abandoned the republican party in 1884 and continue to adhere to the democratic party have deserted not only the cause of honest government, but of sound finance, of freedom and purity of the ballot, but especially have deserted the cause of reform in the civil service. We will not fail to keep our pledges because they have broken theirs, or because their candidate has broken his. We therefore repeat our declaration of 1884, to wit: The reform of civil service auspiciously begun under republican administration should be completed by a further extension of the reform system already established by law to all grades of the service to which it is applied. The spirit and purpose of reform should be observed in all executive appointments, and all laws at varience with the object of existing reform legislation should be repealed, and that the dangers to free institutions which lurk in the power of official patronage may be wisely and effectively avoided.

The gratitude of the nation to the defenders of the union cannot be assured except by laws. The legislation of congress should conform to the pledges made by a loyal people, and be so enlarged and extended as to provide against the possibility that any man who honorably wore the federal uniform shall become an inmate of an almshouse or dependent on private charity. In the presence of an overflowing treasury it would be a public scandal to deny for those whose valorous service preserved the government. We denounce the hostile spirit shown by President Cleveland in his numerous vetoes of measures for pension relief, and the action of the democratic house of representatives in refusing even consideration of general pension legislation.

In support of the principles herewith enunciated we invite the co-operation of patriotic men of all parties, especially of all workingmen whose prosperity is seriously threatened by the free trade policy of the present administration.

The first condition of all good government is the virtue and sobriety of the people and the purity of their homes. The republican party cordially sympathizes with all wise and well directed efforts for the promotion of temperance.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

ATTORNEY.
S. E. TEOMAS.
Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public. Office in Fitzgerald Block, Plattsmouth, Neb.

ATTORNEY.
A. N. SULLIVAN,
Attorney-at-Law. Will give prompt attention to all business intrusted to him. Office in Union Block, East side, Plattsmouth, Neb.

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