A GREAT DRAW GAME

Republicans at Swords Points

Washington, D. C., Nov. 9, 1901 .-There is no great ground for rejoicing retaliate on France's seizure of a poron any side about the outcome of recent state and municipal elections. The defeat of Tammany in New York city is purely a local matter. If it had won it would have had no bear- fuel to the flames, a gigantic war ing on the general condition of the

Municipal politics are growing more and more to be in a class by themselves, not having any relation to national issues. If the republicans reloice over what they please to term a "reform" victory in New York city, The Slaughter of the Innocents-Herrors what have they to say about the retention in Philadelphia of one of the most corrupt rings ever known in municipal history.

In passing it may be said that the will govern New York city better than Tammany did. There was crying need of reform, but Tammany usually manages to reach the average level of New York citizenship and it remains to be seen whether the rainbow tinted redove. In other words whether they tory rulers of the vast mass of motley uneducated voters which make that the earth.

pers. There were perhaps six lines stating that the independent union abor candidate for mayor was elected in San Francisco and about two lines other epidemics have to be contended intimated that the organized wage with workers of Derby (annecticut had elected their candidate. It is too far this assertion. from San Francisco to say just what enjoined from exercising the most or- of life. of Injunctions which the employers ing for Lving wages in the piping known proportions. times of prosperity. By the way the questions of judicial usurpation of legjunctions is becoming a burning ques- an average of 25 per 1,000 a year. ion among the wage workers of every industrial center in the country issues which will dewand attention in tent. the next national campaign against

sources for making corruption and in-

timidation do their share of the work. the camps. in Maryland the result seems to asis being made may find himself more he has been for the past few years. Altogether democracy has no rea- of it.

son to complain and the republicans are the first to realize this. If they have held their own in their old strongholds, they have made no advance anywhere and their vote has not been heavy enough to make the majorities a matter for bon-fires and torch-light parades. The republicans are in a sober and chartened mood, realising that they have a president in the White house who is vigorously smashing their machine to flinders; that they have a most radical division of opinion in their own ranks between the eastern and western sections of the country on trusts, the tariff and subsidies not to mention a half dozen

minor points. The influential daily papers do not hesitate to express their surprise at the vigor which the democracy shows in this off year and after a crushing

We are going through a healthy procoss of readjustment and not only have we not been disheartened, but we are actually growing and getting closer to the people on the really great and vital issues which are going to form the basis of the next national campaign. The state and city elections in the year following a presidential campaign have no special significance

for either party. But when we look deeper at the problems which face the coming republican congress and the erratic executive head at the White house, it is possible to foresse the advancing tidal wave of confidence and unity in our

A POSSIBLE WAR

France and Turkey are at Swords Points -- French Seize Turkish Ports and

Long accounts have been printed uring the last few days about the outbreak between France and Turkey. to take possession of Turkish ports as an anti-Croker man. With his as- planned a contraction of credits. owed to France are paid. Three prin- have absolute control of the board of the city and everything bore the marks not that they contain anything new have been seized and the French will controls the finances. collect the custom duties until the claim of the French is paid. This ac-Turkey there is always the possibility claim-and all European nations have pays for the advertisement,

similar ones-and then retires without any attempt to take permanent possession of the island, or any other Smashing the Machine East and West pass peacefully. But there are many That the World Ever Saw Since the unforeseen and unexpected contingencies that may arise. If the sultan should feel himself strong enough to tion of his domain, if an uprising should occur in the Balkan states, in massacres in Armenia should be renewed, or any similar ocurrences add might follow. The chances are that France will collect her cash and sail back to Toulon.

BRITISH BARBARITIES

Greater Than in Armenia, Famine in India or Weyler's Camps

The Lorrible barbarities inflicted upon Boer women and children are atreformers have yet to prove that they tracting more and more attention. The deaths in the famine camps estaolished by the Eritish are at a higher rate than in India during the famine, or in Neyler's camps in Cuba at which the people of this country reformers can combine the wisdom of saited and went to war to stop. The as condemning indiscriminately men the serpent with the innocence of the facts are not even denied for prominent English journals publish them and can make the minority element of good | the most eminent men of the kingdom citizens the competent and satisfac- are protesting in public speeches and in other ways. The London Daily News exhaustively surveys the concity unlike any other on the face of centration camps in South Africa with the following conclusions:

"The truth is that the death rate ings of the fall elections have been in the camps is incomparably worse out little noticed in the daily newspa- than anything Africa or Asia can show. There is nothing to match it even in the mortality figures of the Indian famines, where cholera and

Statistics are produced in proof of

The News urges all humane men circumstances induced the elec- not to wait for official reports, but tion of an independent candidate, but to insist "on the camps being broken and towns all over the country. in Derby it was the protest of the up and the people distributed among on power dur- where a fresh attempt can be made.

dinary rights of citizenship and the The committee appointed by the municipal authorities gave full coun- consular corps representing foreign tenance to the outrages in the shape | nations in the Transvaal reported: First. That the death percentage forced upon men who were only ask- in the camps surpasses all hitherto

Second. That the death rate amounts to fourteen times that of Pretoria, slat/ve authority in the matter of in- which has, according to Dr. Stroud. Third. That the death rate among

the children confined to the camps and it may well be one of the collateral has, increased to an alarming ex-

Since the above figures were comrepublicans did not hesitate to use number of children that died in the the death of late President McKinley camps during August is placed at for all it was worth in a sympathetic 1,864. If continued for one year at

Gloss over such a state of affairs sure the return of Senator Gorman to as one will, it is simply wholesale murthe United States senate. He is a der. It excels the horrors of Weyler's man of great power and brilliancy and camps in Cuba, which spurred this in the new alignment of issues that nation to war with Spain. The ac- gate \$1,522,967,381.86. Such deposits store. quiescence of a majority of the do not represent money but bank credin harmony with the rank and file than British public in the policy of exter- its. Out of the deposits said to be mination is the most amazing part

There seems to be a gradual rising of indignation in England against the inhumane policy of Chamberlain and Salisbury. Men are getting courage to speak, the epithet of "little Englishman" has lost its terrors. The warning of the Chancellor that taxes must be greatly increased and the story that the cabinet has hunted up some old laws under which conscription can be enforced, is causing consternation among those who are not troubled with humanitarian sympathies.

A Democratic Victory

As the smoke of battle clears away after the fight in New York City it is found that the bulk of the success accruing from the fusion victory does not go to the republicans, but to the new democratic organization led by The intention is to wipe out the name of Tammany and form a new society along somewhat similar general lines under another name.

While Seth Low, a republican, has been elected mayor, practically all the other important offices are in the hands of the democrats who fought Tammany, and without whom the fusion ticket could not have won. Here are some of the principal democrats

Controller of greater New York, Edward M. Grout. President of Board of Aldermen, Charles V. Fornes. President Manhattan Borough, Jac-

President Brooklyn Borough, J. E. Swanstrom. Surogate of Prooklyn, James Church. Coroner of Manhattan, Nicholas T.

ob A. Cantor.

Brown Magistrate-at-Large of Brooklyn, W. L. Durack.

The president of Bronx Borough is a Tammany democrat but is classed sistance the fusion democrats will

One cut each of the different breeds tion brings the old "eastern question" of bulls and boars answers the purprominently to the front. In any ac- pose of any farm journal. The first crease of deposits necessitates, if the quired and building many cottages tion of a European nation against page illustrations in all of them is law is complied with, an increase of for members, or loaning them money of war. If France is merely enforcing given over to the exhibition of that by her fleets the payment of a just cut, no matter what firm of breeders

IT IS SURE TO COME

Day of John Law

briefly in answer to numerous letters, I have received (some of commendation and some of criticism), tions to bestow upon bankers, I do either better or worse than men engaged in other classes of business. They are neither more intelligent, better informed nor less honest than other people. I am sure I know bankers whose

purposes are honest and intentions good. I think it would not be difficult to find some who are ignorant, or extremely selfish or thoroughly dishonest. This has nothing to do with the present condition of the national banks as shown by the abstracts of the comptroller of the currency. It will be found that the intelligent, well informed and honest banker is not guided in his conduce by the permissions of the national bank laws. I object to be interpreted who are engaged in the banking busiplace in the social and business organizations. I condemn the laws, under which national banks are organized and operated, as a system of ger and that is encouraging a dishonest disregard of the rights of wealth,to undermine the foundations

of political and social liberty. The influences that are controlling the financial interests centered about the central reserve cities, particularly New York, are not only detrimental to the interests of business and commerce, but are dangerous to the banking interests of the west and south and to the banks in the smaller cities

It may be impossible now to con-Ansonis clock works employes against their friends or removed to districts vince bankers that the 62 central re- the profits were divided between the serve banks are elements of danger members in proportion to their purmy the recent labor troubles by which under competent organization and to the 274 reserve banks and that all chases. From this humble and most erderly and respected citizens were with some regard to the preservation these are elements of danger to the obscure beginning it has grown great 3829 country banks, but the time will and world famous. Millions of people come when they will feel it, whether are gladly following the broad and they are ever wise enough to under- safe trail blazed a half century ago stand it or not.

dicates that some bankers learned terly report for December, 1900, shows some things by the panic of 1893; a a membership of 12,764, owning in fee panic that was intentionally started simple, all paid for, magnificent cenby the leading banks of New York tral stores and offices, and thirty-eight City. The time will come when the branch stores in various parts of 'country banks" will find that they Rochdale (now grown to a busy city cannot do business except by the suf- of some 80,000). Extensive bakery, ferance of the larger banks of the slaughter house, several manufacturreserve and central reserve cities; when | ing industries, three hundred cottages, they will find that to send any considerable part of their lawful reserve bers. A penny savings bank for the piled the death rate has continued to to be deposited with so-called reserve wives and children, with large depos-In Ohio the expected happened. The increase to an "alarming extent." The agents will be putting, not only their its, drawing 3 1-3 per cent interest. hands, but their heads in the lion's

The 4165 national banks have deposaggregate \$1,005,687,943,.00; and the serve city banks.

existence on July 15th last, is \$645,- in real value yearly. 719,099. The liabilities of these banks trol \$5,020,190,943.63 that does not belong to them. This represnts credits smash and replace Tammany hall. in existence in and out of the treasury some calendar for 1901: -the national banks hold in cash a sum equal to only ten per cent of it.

What does it avail to point to "resources" when cash only constitutes ien per cent of them. Liabilities must 1870 be paid in cash. This cannot be done until loans and discounts, overdrafts, 1890 bonds, stocks, mortgages, money due 1900 from national and state banks, money due from reserve agents, etc., etc., is converted into cash.

THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT THIS CAN EVER BE DONE. OUR WHOLE FINANCIAL SYSTEM IS indebtedness, individual and national the present rate of increase our aggregate indebtedness will soon be equal to the aggregate value of all tangible few New York bankers deliberately of management showed me over their ing these things up.

the volume of credits. This has been number of people and give shorter pendent but to show them how popgoing on with unusual rapidity during hours than other lines of business,

the last four years. an increase of bank deposits. An in- ing up new places of business as re- lowing: cash reserves, and this requires an themselves. They have practically cial stringency. The increase by pro- encourage home building.

it has been during the last four years, rooms, committeee rooms and lecture length to be evil. Gibbon tells us that is too slow, so the national banks have sought and obtained the power like, and better still are well patron- corporations with the utmost jealousy to issue money. Even this money is ized. The standard of intelligence and distress. Down with corporaonly a credit of the government loaned to the banks at one half of one per cent per annum. Everything possible Editor Independent:-I will say has been done and is being done to enable banks to expand credits-to create debts.

The necessity for increase of money in circulation is relieved somewhat that while I have no especial lauda- by the organization all over the country of trust companies. The law does not assume that, as a class, they are not require them to carry a reserve or to pay on demand. Almost every bank in cities of any size has its companion trust company. What will be the end? It is not possible that this credit expansion can go on indefinitely. When it stops, what then?

FLAVIUS J. VAN VORHIS. Indianapolis, Nov. 9, 1901.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

They Have Been Wonderfully Successful in England and Custinue to Orow in Wealth and Membership

Mr. Alonze Wardell, whom many Nebraska populists know, has recently paid a visit to England to study these societies. His account in the ness. Banks have their legitimate Farmer's Advocate of the Rochdale society with which we are all more or less familiar, is as follows:

"The history of this pioneer in the special privileges, that is full of dan- great cooperative movement reads like a romance, and stands a magnificent monument to its founders and a livothers: of concentrated or combined ing inspiration to practical cooperators everywhere.

"Founded in 1844, at Rochdale, a modest town in Lancashire, England. by twenty-eight poor weavers, hardly one of whom could read or write, with no previous mercantile experience and barely able to raise the money for one \$5 share each. With this they began buying goods at wholesale rates (rather small wholesaling) and distributing to the members, no credit being allowed. After paying expenses by these grand old pioneers. Their A careful study of the abstracts in- two hundred and twenty-third quarrented to or being sold to their mem-

"A fine circulating and reference library with 18,695 volumes in it, twenty-one news rooms, well supplied with way. And there were the usual re- that rate scarcely a Boer child under its in the aggregate of \$3,609,316,353.69 daily weekly and monthly papers. eight years of age will be left alive in on which reserves are calculated. Of kept open every day, free to all. this amount, 62 central reserve banks Globes, atlases, maps, and scientific hold in the aggregate \$1,080,661,028.83; instruments are also supplied. Lecthe 274 reserve city banks hold in the tures on a variety of subjects are given during the winter months in their 3829 country banks hold in the aggre large assembly hall over the central

> "The original cost of their land and buildings was \$783,000 and must now be held by the reserve city banks, \$157,- worth over a million from the appre-655.847 is in the deposits of the 62 ciation in values, due to the rapid central reserve banks and out of the growth of the city, but as their rule deposits said to be held by the coun- is to write off 21/2 per cent, per antry banks, \$296,421,440 is in the re- num on the value of business houses. 1 per cent on cottages and 10 der cent One dollar must be counted many on fixtures they have decreased the times to produce the results that are valuation as quoted on the books \$312.shown by the comptroller's abstracts. | 000, leaving the present nominal value Any one so fortunate as to have at \$467,000. Twelve of the older received abstract 24 should examine branch stores, have been entirely the first page. It will be found that written off and are not accounted of the actual investment-the capital any value in the company's assets, stock-of the 4165 national banks in though they are actually increasing

"Their sales for the last quarter of amount in the aggregate to \$5,675,- 1900 amounted to \$355,000. Profits for 910.042.64. They have in their con- quarter, \$54,000, which gave about 14 per cent dividend on purchases, after interest on share stock and education -investments of various kinds-upon appropriation (21/2 per cent on net which they are receiving interest but profits) were deducted. Their growth every dollar of which is a liability. from 1844 has been a steady, upward With this tremendous liability-twice climb through good years and bad. John C. Sheehan, which intends to as large as the whole amount of money | Here are some figures from their hand-

Members. Funds. Sales Profits 28 \$ 140 \$ 1850 11,400 65,000 4.400 188,000 760,000 79,000 1860 3.450 5.560 400,000 1,115,000 125,000 10,613 1,460,000 1,415,000 242,000 11,352 1,810,000 1,352,000 238,000 12,749 1,600,000 1,460,000 232,000

"In the fifty-six years of business

they have rturned to their members some \$10,000,000 as dividends (the exact totals are not at hand) and have assets at the present time of over BASED UPON A CONDITION OF fairy tale? And the best of it is that PERMANENT INDEBTEDNESS. We it is true. Armed with a cordial letter can neither go back or stand still. We of introduction and recommendation must go expanding credits, increasing from the general secretary of the Cooperative Union, J. C. Gray of Long to prevent immediate disaster. At Milgate, Manchester, who was most kind and helpful, and whose letter was an open sesame to every co-operative establishment in Europe, the property. Any attempt to contract writer visited Rochdale one day last credits to decrease the amount of our March and was heartily welcomed. debt would bring disaster and ruin William Pate, the veteran cashier, and house and listen to a speech from one and Benjamin Wolfenden, of the board of their members who had extensive and admirable premises. We cannot even stand still without Their buildings are among the best in from the speech of Professor Rodgers, and the wages are good, pay sure and An increase of bank credits requires positions permanent. They are open-

rooms are well furnished and homeand independence that makes so much | tions!' became a familiar cry, and year It is a safe statement to make that the dissolved most of them. They were kingdom and steadily coming up high-

ding new lines. Their butchering establishment and cold storage plant is very complete. A stable of Percheron and Shire draft horses, valued at \$250 to \$300 was shown me. They run an excellent restaurant in connection with their central store, for the benefit of the employes, officers and visitors. An excellent dinner with friend Wolfenden still further increased my A glance through their visitor's book kept for fifty years was most interesting. Visitors from all parts of the world have come to learn their methods. John, William and Thomas Bright, three of England's great and good men, were Rochdale people and Kuwato, T. Naguchi and S. S. Matsury of Japan, Ed T. Devine of Philadelphia, John Toynbee of Kansas, E. Pomeroy of New Jersey, John Wannamaker, N. O. Nelson, Prof. L. N. Fowler, C. Osborne Ward, A. B. Mason and many other prominent American names were recorded there.

"Rochdale is pretty well committed to co-operation. With 17,000 houses, in which live some 80,000 people they have three societies of co-operation, one with 12,764 members, another with 7,000 and the third with over 1,000. As but one member of a family as a rule belongs to a society, it follows that most of the Rochdale people must be

co-operators." While these societies have been 2 success in England, that is not conclusive evidence that they would under present conditions, succeed in the United States. The inductries of the United States are almost completely in the control of trusts that fix the price the consumer has to pay. These can. Our merchants constantly comthe trust will furnish them no more goods and they cannot be obtained ican people must be directed to the the great corporations if they expect | nower to enforce its findings. relief. A co-operative society selling Independent that the way of escape barricaded by the trusts in this country and there is nothing left for the consumer but to pay the tribute de-After that co-operation could be made

POPULISM AT YALE

The Old Institution Wakes up, Sounds a Warning and the Town Goes te Talking

Yale would seem to be the last place for populism to secure a hold, if one were to judge of the denunciations of populists that have emenated from that town. Some of the professors there have seen a new light, and like all new converts are more radical than most of those who have been fighting in the ranks of reform for many years.

From the beginning the populists have called attention to the enormous power of corporation-a trust is nothing but a big corporation-and have waged unremitting war upon their tyranical and oppressive methods. The war began away back in the days of Wendell Phillips, when he called attention to these combinations of capital "with no souls to be damned and no bodies to be kicked." Now Dr. Rogers of Yale declares that a restriction of the power of corporations is "vital to the life of the nation. That is to say that this government is in danger of being overthrown by the corporations. The wildest eyed and longest haired pop never talked in a more anarchistic way than that.

The other day Henry Wade Rodgers, A. M. LL. D., was inaugurated as a \$1,600,000. Doesn't that read like a professor at Yale and took advantage of the occasion to make some remarks. which the papers say, sat the whole city to talking and was a theme of hot discussion for many days afterward. What he said was pure populism, but it being the first time that the citizens of the place as well as the large student body had ever heard anything like it, they were as much interested as the farmers were in Nebraska when they used to gather in some sod school

The following extracts are made ulism is making its way in the universities of the country. Among other things, Dr. Rodgers said were the fol-

duction of precious metals, unusual as "Their reading rooms, smoking social and economic life came at force them to pay taxes,

the Romans came to regard private for good citizenship is steadily rising. 64 B. C. a statute was enacted which co-operators of Great Britian are as a afterwards revived, but in the time whole the best class of citizens in the of Julius Caesar a restriction policy was again adopted respecting them." The restrictions against the growth of corporations in England was dismanufacturing and are constantly ad- cussed and Professor Rogers contin-

"In the United States the voices of not a few thoughtful men have spoken if not words of alarm, certainly words of caution, as to the possible dangers which threaten us from corporate organization. Justice Brown of the Supreme Court of the United States, before the graduating class of this school in 1895 named three perils, which, in admiration of the society and its ways. his opinion, menaced the immediate future of this country, and even threatened the stability of its isntitutions. Two of these were municipal misgovernment and corporate greed.

"The subject of corporations, both public and private, is today commanding the profund attention of the lawstaunch friends of the society. K. yer and statesman alike. The power which private corporations possess is so great and their capacity for mischief is so boundless that serious men have realized the absolute necessity which exists in this country of devising restraints for the protection of society. Tsake by way of example, the railroad corporations. It is within their power to reconstruct the industrial map of the United States. They can practically decree at what places any industry shall be conducted.

"The railroads, by the rates they make, can decide whether the butter consumed in New York City shall be produced in New York State or in Michigan or Ohio; whether western merchants who buy their goods in New York City shall have advantage over those who buy them in Boston or Philadelphia. The time was, if it is not still, when the railroads could dictate not merely where inductries could be caried on but by whom they could be carried on.

"Take the case of the Standard Oil Company. It certainly is into consideration. A cooperative so- that the great monopoly that great ciety can no more escape a tribute to company possesses was built up by the the trusts than a private individual crimination in freight rates by the railroad companies upon demand of plain that they are forced to sell many the Standard Oil Company in order classes of goods at a price fixed by to crush out independent refineries. a trust. If they sell at a lower price, In the course of a year and a half the company received, or was said to have received from the railroads \$10,000,elsewhere as the combination controls | 000 in rebates. Congress in 1887 crethe supply. The energies of the Amer- ated an Interstate Commerce commissic... with the view to regulating the restraining power and robberies of roads but gave the commission no

"The formation of the United States goeds would have to charge the trust Steel corporation and other industrial price or they would get no goods to combinations of a like character latsell. An attempt to manufacture the ely effected have given great prominvarious lines of goods sold in the ence to the question which relate to Rochdale stores would be too big an the trusts. That trusts may result in undertaking and require too much cap- a saving in the wastes of competition ital for any body that could be organ- is no doubt good. Against that good, ized in this country. It appears to The however, are possible evils of great magnitude-the evil of stock watering, made use of by the pioneer co-opera- of high prices to consumers because tors of Rochdale has been effectually of monopolistic power, of low prices to producers of raw materials which the combination, as being the largest buyer, can compel the producer to accept; manded until the truts are overthrown. lower wages to the laborer, and above all the powerful if not corrupt influence which may be exerted over political organizations and our every

department of government. "It is within the recollection of some here that it was openly charged in the public press that the influence of a great corporation secured the appoint- prices. Wherever there is a rise or fall ment of a man now dead as Associate

United States. "My only purpose now is to direct produced it. attention to certain problems about which the people are thinking and which concerns us not alone as citizens but as lawyers. Twenty-seven any other people in the world because states and territories have passed laws of the great fall in the price of their to destroy existing industrial com- products in the last thirty years and binations and to prevent the further they should especially make a study organization of them. Fifteen states of all the forces that produce a rise have adopted constitutional provisions for a like purpose. In 1890 congress passed an anti-trust law which

was known as the Sherman act. "So far as industrial development is concerned I think it is quite generally tity of money in the country for doagreed that the laws already enacted have had little practical effect. We port prices; third, cost of production; are not only concerned as lawyers with what has been enacted, but the opinions of lawyers will doubtless be potential in determining perhaps not what should be done but what can six forces above named are controlling constitutionally be done, and what is prices and when they are not controllwithin the scope of federal legislation | ing prices. This article is written for as compared with that of the states. the purpose and the only purpose to The American statesman and the American lawyer are no less concerned ed forces controlled or forced down over the problems which relate to public corporations.

"City government in the United States is extravagant, inefficient and corrupt. How to remedy their conditions is a problem that perplexes. In this connection it becomes necessary to consider whether the control of municipal government shall rest there had been over-production of flour or with the legislature.

ship is one of great concern to people | would have bought this flour for less who live in sities. The corporations of their money in 1901 than they did which control transportation, gas and in 1873, but the table shows that they electricity, and the telephone in our paid \$4.92 in 1873 and \$6.50 in 1901. municipalities have so gained in power It is nonsense to talk about over-proas to overshadow the government of duction of flour in the world with the American cities."

A census bulletin recently issued

shows that not quite two-thirds of the cipal ports of the Island of Mitylene estimate and apportionment, which there must be a continued increase in the relation of prosperity. They employ a large to the population of voting age cast their votes at the last presidential election, notwithstanding the hot time that we had all over the United States. Those of voting age were 21,329,-"We cannot ignore the fact that the 819. The number who voted was 13,the civilization which the corporations 970,401. When in a campaign like have done so much to develop, they that so many refused to vote, it shows increase of money to prevent a finan- unlimited money for this purpose and are also doing much to imperil. We that laws ought to be passed that to produce a barrel of flour. So the know that at Rome their effect on the would force men to vote as well as price of flour should have advanced

FLOUR IN HONGKONG

America has the Trade but the Price has Fallen From \$4.92 per Barrel to \$2.92-Why?

Editor Independent:-The American farmers are by far the most intelligent and progressive farmers in the world. The Independent is taken largely by farmers who would average up along the line of intelligence with any farmers in the world. The papers throughout the country should discuss all kind of farm economics. As there has been for the last thirty years so much political prejudice injected into the discussions of farm economics it is almost a waste of time to write on or discuss in a general way any of the phases of economics that affect the tillers of the soil. In all the articles that I write in your paper wherein I touch upon farm economics I shall confine myself to specific, tangible object lessons, giving a true history of some real transaction. In this article I will place before the readers of The Independent as an object lesson the true history of our export of flour to Hong Kong for the last twenty-eight years. The table which you will find below which shows some of the years from 1873 to 1901 is the object lesson and every reader of The Independent should study it carefully.

No. 1 No. 2 No. 3 No. 4 4.92 4.92 89,445 5. 77 5.00 242,366 6.66 5.76 210,174 5.06 5.74 . 6.51 411,649 4.85 5.95 497,697 5.56 6.80 787,318 2.66 10.64 1897 922,312 3.60 7.95 17.10 1,322,527 2.92 6.50 14.33 The table runs as follows: No. 1, year; No. 2, barrels exported during the year named; No. 3, price per barrel which the farmers on the Pacific coast received for their flour at the seaboard; No. 4, price per barrel paid by the people at Hong Kong in their

money at our ports; No. 5, price the people of Hong Kong would have had to pay if the farmers of the Pacific coast states had received a fair price. writing about are so similar I have to repeat considerable of my arguments. In the future I shall try to make my articles short and confined to certain facts that should be of great interest to the American farmers. The readers of The Independent who have examined the table above come directly to the conclusion that what he wants to know is just what caused the decline in the export price of the barrel of flour to Hong Kong from \$4.92 in 1873 to \$2.92 in 1901

If it were not for the political pre-

judice that has apparently taken pos-

session of the whole country I could tell the readers of The Independent in a very few words what caused the fall in the export price of the barrel of flour from \$4.92 to \$2.92. In order to make a new argument or fact stand out so bold as to make all the readers of The Independent fully understand and agree with me as to what did cause The fall in the price of the barrel of flour as shown in the table above I have to show first what did not cause the decline from \$4.92 to \$2.92. This may look a little peculiar to many of those who read this article but it is absolutely necessary to clear away the rubbish called arguments and theories which have accumulated around the question of falling prices for the last thirty years before I can commence to show just what caused the falling in the price of any product or com-Justice of the Supreme Court of the modity a little investigation would show that some specific force or cause

> There is no mystery about the rise and fall of prices. The American farmers have been punished more than or fall in the price of their products. The following are about all the natural forces that should produce a rise or a fall in export or domestic prices. First, over-production; second, quanmestic prices or in the world for exfourth, wars and famines abroad; fifth ocean freights; sixth, competition in foreign markets. The American farmer should understand just when the show that none of the six above namthe export price of the barrel of flour to Hong Kong from \$4.92 in 1873 to \$2.92 in 1901 as well as to show just what did cause the fall in the price of the barrel of flour from \$4.92 to \$2.92.

By lining up with the table the six forces I can show that none of them caused the fall from \$4.92 to \$2.92. If in the world during 1901 as compared "The question of municipal owner- with 1873 the people of Hong Kong these facts before us. There was \$17 per capita of money in circulation in this country in 1873 and in 1901 about \$26 per capita, an increase of about \$9 per capita. This would indicate that the price of the nour should have advanced a good deal above \$4.92 instead of falling to \$2.92. Ocean freights were lower in 1901 than in 1873, therefor the export price should have advanced instead of falling. As to cost of production it would be nonsense to say that the older the farm got the easier or cheaper it would be as far as the cost of production is con-