POOR DEGENERATE VERMONT

can majority can do toward the de- Some years ago the editor of The Ingeneration of the whole people of a dependent in his ardent study of state is shown by some statistics that economics often imagined that he had have been brought out in the triangulr | thought out something new, but it was fight for governor in Vermont. They never long afterwards, as he pursued have some sort of a state agency for his studies, until he came across the the sale of liquor there and the sales same idea fully and completely stated show that from these agencies, not in- in some authoritative work on politicluding the boot-legging and drug cal economy. So he has long since store sales, over one-quarter of a mil- given up the idea of promulgating any lion dollars' worth of liquor was le- new truth and contents himself in gally required by a population of 182,- trying to put into the every-day lan-356 people for medicinal purposes, and guage the old truths, recognizing that the health reports show no epidemic the form in which they are stated in or undue prevalence of disease!

That is not the worst of it. Some incomprehensible to the common man. months ago Dr. Ashbel P. Grinnell of Burlington read a paper before the mind is influenced with meaningless in Vermont, which attracted much at- sort of study of it enables a man to the state of Vermont they sell every fect upon the voter. month 3,300,000 doses of opium, besides what they dispense in patent medicines, and besides what the doctors dispense, which gives 11/2 doses of op- the last presidential election controlled ium to every man and woman in the state of Vermont above the age of 21 years every day in the year."

of republican rule has resulted in, in | Speeches, vol. III., page 118): the ancient homes of the Puritans. The same sort of degeneration is observable in the nation at large, though not to the same extent, since the republicans took charge of the national government. No doubt it would have been as extensive if the party had been as certain of national majorities as the state of Vermont has been. A few missionaries sent to opium-eating Vermont would perhaps do as much good as if they were sent to opium-eating China. There are several states in the union which have had just as permanent and solid democratic majorities, but no such degeneration is noticeable. Bourbon rule is bad enough, but not half as bad as that of this "God and morality" party. ********

SUBLIME AND AWFUL

To describe the barbaric splendors words have to be invented. The account given in the special telegram to the Record-Herald of the Vanderbilt ball that cost \$100,000 has the following paragraph:

In the panels of the room are set large mirrors, in front of which gilt consols. American beauty roses were massed on the console tables and mantels, being reflected many times by the numerous mir-

The editor of The Independent has a pretty fair reference library, but "consols" were. He knew that the word "console," aside from its ordia cornice, but the other word was bethe unknown, mysterious, wonderful and awful splendor of the Vanderbilts, needs in time of war. England having him for president in 1904 and every breed has not improved any since the time in which the elder Vanderbilt lived and flourished. **********

HOW LONG WILL IT FLOAT?

The warnings that The Independent balloon that the trust promoters and banks have sent kiting ten thousand feet high are being re-echoed in Europe. In a recent article the French economist, Leroy-Beaulieu, says:

"It seems, nevertheless, that for a year par the successful daring rican financiers has been turning a little into presumption. Their gigantic scaffold of trusts would hardly seem proof now against every strain. They have failed in their effort to keep copper at a price the double of what it costs to get it from the general run of good mines. Their great steel trust also inspires doubts. It seems now as if they were beginning to see a scarcity of capital for the support of all this succession of syndicate and consolidations. And it would not be surprising if within 12 or 18 months the United States should suffer a violent speculative reaction, if not a thorough collapse."

tary Shaw to furnish it, together with the fact that for every additional dol- trusts. lar added to the currency there are ten dollars of credit piled on top of it, makes one doubt whether the balloon can be kept affoat for 12 or 18 months. *********

THE OLD SOPHISTRIES

that all the great, fundamental econ-What a solid and permanent republi- omic truths are also hoary with age. the great volumes often makes them It is well to remember how the

medico-legal society of New York on catch phrases. The phrase "sound the consumption of stimulating drugs money" is absolutely meaningless. No tention at the time. He found by in- attach any meaning to it. None of quiry that "in the regular drug stores | those who used it ever attempted to and in 160 of the 172 general stores in define it. Yet it had a wonderful ef-This "balance of trade" phrase is

sophistry that has been in use for more than a hundred years. Its use in many votes. That question played a very prominent part in politics about sixty years ago. In speaking upon it That is the condition that fifty years | Daniel Webster said (Life and

"By an unfavorable balance of trade it means that state of things in which importation exceeds exportation. It is said that if a nation continue a commerce like this it must be rendered bankrupt. The fallacy of this argument consists in supposing, that, whenever the value of imports exceeds that of exports, a debt is created to the extent of the difference. . . . The excess of imports over exports, in truth, usually shows the gains, not the losses of trade.'

It will be seen that what The In dependent has said about that republican sophistry is nothing new. It has only been reasserting economic laws long since established and accepted as true by all thinking men.

CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDE

The English reviews are making savage criticism of America and Amerof the privileged few who have ac- icans. This government is accused of cumulated millions from franchises a design to annex Canada and all the urday Review remarks:

> "It is unfortunate if not exceptional that the United States cannot be satisfied with the plain, straightforward policy of self-interest without attempting to explain it as a disinterested and highly moral position. It was on this basis that the war with Spain was undertaken, resulting in the Philippines being annexed and Cuba being put under the heel."

Not long ago The Independent remarked that the Boer war being ended and the United States being no longer neither in dictionaries, cyclopedias or | necessary as a base of supplies for the other works could he find out what British, the soft solder of the British press and British office-holders would come to an end. The marrying of Amnary meaning to comfort and sooth, erican girls to lords and dukes, the was used as an architectural term | fawning of the New York snobocracy meaning a sort of bracket to support | upon the English aristocrats and the condescention of the nobility is not yond his ken. It was probably used what binds, nor their absence what to duly impress the common herd with | dissevers the two nations. It is the contact of commercial interests and so that they should be duly reverent | made a tool of the administration in to those "to whom God in his infinite her imperialistic enterprises and now wisdom had confided the property in- having no further need of its services, terests of the country." It is to be instantly changes her attitude. If the sincerely hoped that it did have that Boer war was still being prosecuted effect. The sons of the men who made and the British ministry still needed a gift to Vanderbilt of a franchise for the assistance of the United States as the New York Central worth hundreds a base of supplies, no such paragraph the century. His further action he of millions are likely to be duly im- as the one quoted above would ever pressed with "gilt consols." The have appeared in a prominent English

******** ROOSEVELT'S DEFENSE

There has been so much criticism of the speeches of the president on the trust question, he has felt the neceshas been giving concerning this credit | sity of making a reply. In this reply which was given in his speech at Fitchburg, Mass., he said:

"Now, it does not do anybody any good, and it will do most of us a great deal of harm to take steps which will check any proper growth in a corporation. We wish not to penalize but to reward a great captain of industry, or the men banded together in a corporation who have the business forethought and energy necessary to build up a great industrial enterprise. Keep that in mind."

What the president means by great corporation" may be gathered from the following sentence in the same speech:

"If some of those who have seen cause for wonder in what I have said this fall on the subject of great corporations, which are popularly, although with technical inaccuracy, known as trusts."

That is the president's answer to the The constant demand from Wall demand that he enforce the Sherman act and institute criminal prosecuto keep their credit balloon afloat, the tions against them. He will not do it. desperate and futile efforts of Secre- That would "penalize them." "We wish not to penalize but to reward" the

In the same speech he says:

"I ask you to ponder on the utter folly of the man who either in a spirit of rancor or in a spirit of folly says, 'Destroy the trusts.' "

That is the position of the president The remark of Mr. Van Vorhis in on trusts carefully defined and made in last week's Independent that the mod- reply to criticism. He will have no ern sophistries are hoary with age part in destroying the trusts or in should be followed with the statement prosecuting them under the criminal

NERVOUS PROSTRATION CURED BY PE-RU-NA.



[Sec'y B'd of Education, San Francisco.]

Hon. J. A. Simpson, Secretary of the Board of Education of San Francisco,

"I have found Peruna an ideal tonic. Some months ago I suffered with neurasthenia (systemic catarrh), caused by too close application to office work. My system seemed worn out and I felt far from well. I found Peruna benefited me very much. It built up the entire system and made me feel like a new man. I believe it is well worthy the high praise bestowed upon it."---J. A. SIMPSON.

Systemic catarrh always gives fair warning of its approach, and can be easily warded off by the proper treatment. Floating brown specks before the eves, mental confusion, fits of nervous headache, sleeplessness, flashes of heat, chilly sensations, palpitation, irritability, despondency; any of these symptoms or all of them should be promptly met by the use of Peruna. Congressman E. V. Brookshire, from

Indiana, in a recent letter from Washington, D. C., says:

"From what my friends say, Peruna is a good tonic and a safe catarrh cure."-E. V. Brookshire.

"Summer Catarrh," a book written by Dr. Hartman, President The Hartman Sanitarium, on the subject of the nervous disturbances peculiar to summer, sent free to any address by The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.

law. He will not enforce the laws on the statute books made for their suppression. It will be seen that the trusts have in President Roosevelt the most astute defender that has yet appeared, and that he, himself, frankly makes the statement in such language that there can be no doubt about it. He impresses this statement upon his hearers in the following words:

"I want you to think of what I have said because it represents all the sincerity and earnestness that I have, and I say to you here from this platform nothing that I have not already stated and nothing that I would not say at a private table with any of the biggest corporation managers of the land."

There is no doubt that President Roosevelt would make those statements to "the biggest' corporation managers in the land." They would likely rise from their seats, reach across the table and all want to shake hands with him at once while they were, first, last and all the time for year afterwards as long as he should

In this same speech he tells what he would have done about the trusts. Ti.st of all he wants a constitutional amendment, which perhaps could be obtained sometime toward the last of states in reply to the one who would do something effective, as follows:

"I will try to find out the evil. I will seek to apply remedies, which I have already outlined in other speeches. But if his policy from whatever motive, whether hatred, fear, panic, or just sheer ignorance, is to destroy the trusts in a way that will destroy all our prosperity, 'no!'"

Now every man of common sense knows that it is in the power of the trusts to produce a panic any day. J. Pierpont Morgan could go down to Wall street and issue a few orders any morning that would tumble over the bouse of cards that the trusts with their watered stock and the banks with their inflation of credit have built. Therefore the position of the president is this: "As long as the trusts will threaten to produce a panic, if any action is taken against them, to every suggestion to do so, I answer,

There is but one conclusion to be reached from all this. If any man honestly believes that the trusts should be overthrown, he cannot support Theodore Roosevelt or his party. To do so is to defeat the very thing that he wishes to see accomplished.

INJURE RELIGION

The Watchman, a Baptist paper, after queting the words of President Baer, makes the following remarks:

"If this means anything it means that those who control the propcity interests of the country are Christian men; that God gave them this control because they know better what is for the interest of the people than the people themselves, and that the proper attisude of laboring men toward capitalists is not that of criticism or resistance or refusal to work, or the rescrt to any means to improve their condition, but humble

acceptance of what the capitalists do for them as the expression of the divine will. We do not wonder that latoring men who imagine that Christianity involves such a conception of God as this, and that capitalists, many of whom have gained their wealth by oppression and filege! practices, are his representatives, repudiate the churches and all Christian institutions. President Baer's sentence will do more harm to the cause of religion than he can ever atone for. And we quote his words, not to give them currency, but to repudiate for our clves all that they assert, and all that they imply."

The Independent does not concur with the Watchman's view that the cant of Baer will injure religion. It will perhaps have a tendency to wake up the church and bring some of the preachers to their senses. They will begin to see where they are drifting, that is, if they are not wholly degenerate.

JOINT DISCUSSIONS

There is a growing demand everywhere that the republicans shall come out of their holes and meet their opponents in joint discussion before the people. The cowardly republicans have for the last eight years been afraid to meet their opponents anywhere. They will resort to anything to avoid meeting an opponent before the people. In every campaign the people are a jury, and all the facts should be presented to them so they may intelligently decide the case. To refuse to discuss public questions is to hold the people in contempt, to sneak away and avoid discussion and endeavor to prevent the people from hearing the questions debated is an attempt to deceive the jury that is to decide the case. The rich can buy the newspapers, that is, most of them, and present their side of the case every day in the year. The poor man finds his side of the case excluded the rich and he himself is always excluded from the platforms where the side of the corporations is presented by the ablest speakers that money can hire. A party that denies to the poor man the right to hear the case discussed by able men on both sides is no! only cowardly, but vicious. The republicans of the eastern states no more dare to meet their opponents in joint debate than the corporation cow-

While there are men on fusion ticket who have never practiced public speaking, there is not one of them who is afraid to meet his opponent in joint debate. There is not a republican candidate who dares to do it. If the republicans are elected we shall have a government by political cowards who dare not attempt to defend their policies before the people when there is danger of a reply being made. It will be the kind of government to be expected from cowards.

******** "WE WILL MAKE A PANIC"

When a bank fails it is the poor and the hard-working business man who loses and not to any great extent the rich. It stops the high salaries of were giving him assurances that they | bank officials and transfers them to receivers and the men they employ, but the receiver and his employes are taken from the old set that ran the bank before it broke. A panic takes the savings of the poor which have been secured by the hardest toil and the closest economy practiced for years. The money put in the bank by these is not annihilated. Somebody gets it and makes no return for it. In the last fifty years billions of dollars have been taken from the poor in this way and billions more are to be taken in the same way in the near future.

Without counting the national banks there were 1,234 bank failures from 1864 to 1896, with liabilities of \$220,-629,988. And from 1863 to 1882, 87 national banks smashed with a total loss to depositors of \$7,000,000. In the panic of '93, 141 national banks suspended in three months, and 415 private banks, trust companies., collapsed. The total loss can never be computed. For months millions of men and women were out of employment, and the destitution in the great cities will never be forgotten by those

Remember that plutocracy caused that suffering intentionally. It was publicly announced that the banks intended to give the people an object lesson that would teach them the power of the banks and the futility of opposing them. It proved successful. From that day to this the party in power has not dared oppose, though schemes are progressing that will make the people hirelings to the trusts and pile up fortunes in the hands of the manipulators such as the world has never be-

The threat to produce a panic cows must not be penalized, but rewarded.

the courts. A frown from Morgan makes the whole financial world shiver with fear.

Since 1896 the money power has vastly increased its dominion. What are you going to do about it? Shall we shiver and cringe until we are made wage slaves to the trusts or shall we say to these financial moguls: "Liberty or death." *********

Editorial Notes.

The bicycle trust has "busted." It was organized after the most approved fashion. Its stock was watered to the usual amount and all the other details attended to. It had bonds, preferred stock and common stock and 60 per cent of all the manufacturers combined into one "big corporation," as the president calls a trust. Nevertheless a receiver has been appointed.

If one only styles himself a banker, the people will hand their money over to him without the least security by the thousands. The other day a man appeared at Washington, Ind., gave out his name as Pleasant Durham. stuc" out a sign of "bank" and the people rushed to him to give him their money. When Durham had gathered a little over \$10,000 he quietly disappeared. Nothing is known of him or nis former life.

The editor of one of the leading democratic papers in northeastern Nebraska has engaged in the real estate business and desires to sell his newspaper and plant. The office has power newspaper and job presses, a Fairbanks & Morse gasoline engine, paper cutter, about 130 fonts job and ad. type, 350 pounds body type, and an abundance of slugs, leads and other material. Paper has over 1,000 circulation. \$3,200, half cash, or \$3,000 cash, will buy it.

The police courts of the country seem to have more courage than some of the higher courts. The other day a Patterson, N. J. millionaire was fined twice in the police court in one day, once for employing child labor in his factory and the second time for runfrom the newspapers by the money of | ning his devil wagon sixty miles an hour through the streets of the city. For the first offense he was fined \$50 and for the second \$20. When a millionaire appears in the federal courts, the judge takes his hat off to him.

Secretary Shaw's idea of making an elastic currency by getting the banks to issue more notes, has had the effect that every man of common sense knew it would have, of advancing the price of bonds to an unprecedented figure. If a banker gets bonds to secure an additional circulation he will have to ards who run the republican machine pay a price for them that will eat all the interest which he can hope to get on his notes for three years in advance. It will take more patriotism than any banker was ever known to have to go into a business like that.

If labor unions should demand that every employer should pay from two to four more laborers for every one employed, they would be doing only what capital has been doing for many years. Whenever stock is watered, interest is collected on capital that never existed, and as all the great trusts are watered from 100 to 400 per cent they are doing exactly the same thing as the unions would do if they enforced a demand that for every hand employed, the trust should pay for two or four more that did not exist.

Plutocracy keeps half of the people in deadly fear that the wage-workers organized into unions will break loose into riots and destruction of property, when the fact is that there is not one riot where there were ten before labor organized. Before unions were made legal in England, all sorts of violence was committed by dissatisfied workingmen. Bodies of "machine breakers" broke into the factories and smashed the machinery; belts were cut and engines torn down. When unionism became strong, all this destructiveness ceased at once.

When the managers of the coal roads added the business of mining to the business of common carrier they committed a crime against the laws of Pennsylvania, but they were never prosecuted for it and no militia was ever called out to enforce the law. When the miners violate the law the militia are sent to the spot in a hurry with orders to shoot to kill. From all this it appears that there is one kind of government for the rich and another kind for the poor. The miners seem to like that sort of thing for they have always voted for the party that administers the government in that way. Perhaps some day they will learn for men of heavy work is

Senator Pritchard owes his two terms as United States senator to the negroes of his state. It was their vates that sent him there. Now he without ceremony kicks them out of his state convention. That shows the stuff that republican senators are made of. He is a fair representative of the whole lot. They have used the negroes as tools to further their political fortunes and now that they can no longer tunes and now that they can no longer All of these goods are made out of the very further those fortunes they abandon best material. We believe the people will apthem. The Independent has often told the negroes the truth about that matter. Will we here in Lincoln see the negroes as eager to vote the republican ticket in the future as in the past? Are they all of the sort that the more you kick them the better they like you? Well, hardly.

the president. From his brave utter- will not deal with the miners' union ance, "shackle cunning," he has re- and that each individual miner must treated to the position that the trusts | make his own contract with them. The coal barons can have unions, but the miners must not. Besides that, if the Before this "money power," vaster miners break the law, the state sends and far more portentious than it was the militia swooping down on them. ering. The words, "we will produce a panic," makes every business man halt and brings pallor to the face of every depositor in a bank. Meanwhile these financial moguls ride rough-shod over the president, the congress and

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All the owners of anthracite coal mines have formed a union. None of them will known makes. Many cannot be distinguished from new lands and other well known makes. Many cannot be distinguished from new lands and other well known makes. Many cannot be distinguished from new lands and other well known makes. Many cannot be distinguished from new lands and other well known makes. Many cannot be distinguished from new lands and other well known makes. Many cannot be distinguished from new lands a great string to be the "Gate-way," St. Louis, the World station where direct connections are fully equal to many full new Up-lights as low tital New 100 Adams St., CHICAGO.

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