

THE ALLIANCE.

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"In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom
That transfigures you and me.
As He strove to make men holy
Let us strive to make men free,
Since God is marching on."
Julia Ward Howe.

"Laurel crowns cleave to deserts,
And power to him who power exerts."
A ruddy drop of manly blood
The surging sea outflows."
Emerson.

"He who cannot reason is a fool,
He who will not reason is a coward,
He who dare not reason is a slave."

EDITORIAL.

Additional Twine Arrangements.

The Alliance State Agent has perfect additional arrangements in regard to twine by which he is now enabled to furnish members sial, standard manilla and pure manilla, in addition to the jute. This makes the Alliance of Nebraska absolutely independent of all combinations in regard to twine. It is necessary that all estimates should be in by May 25th, as the Agent is compelled to have his orders in, under this new contract, by June 1st. So MAKEUP YOUR ESTIMATES AT ONCE. A circular will be sent to Secretaries, giving prices and full information, in a few days.

A False Interpretation.

No Balance of Power Wanted.

The *Beck's* interpretation of our article of last week on the true policy of the Alliance, is unfair, and made to suit its own views. It says "Mr. Burrows believes that the Alliance will be in position to carry out its aims and objects by throwing the balance of power where it will count for the most."

The *Beck's* quotation from our article does not warrant the above statement. The term balance of power infers a choice by the person holding it between selections made by other parties or persons. Nothing in our article was capable of such an interpretation. We distinctly advised the Alliance to select their own men, and then secure their nomination and election, or their election without nomination, by the readiest and most available agency. We made no allusion to a balance of power in our article. If the Alliance was to be restricted to a choice between two parties equally corrupt, the balance of power would be of little value. In matters are judiciously managed from this time forward, it will be one of the old parties that may hold a balance of power, and not the Alliance.

Some of the Men Who are too Previous.

From the Omaha World-Herald.

Mr. O. E. Hall of the state grange of Nebraska was in Omaha yesterday. Mr. Hall, grand master of an organization that represents between 24,000 and 25,000 farmers in Nebraska, has recently issued a circular calling the grange, Alliance, Knights of Labor, and all kindred associations together to discuss the "situation." The circular talks about "liberty rather than servitude" and purports to be in response to a general clamor of farmers who want to go to Lincoln at a cost of from \$15 to \$20 to talk over matters upon which they are already too well posted.

Mr. Hall stated that he was for reform. He said that Thayer was the strongest man in the state; that he was the people's friend. He thought Thayer would be nominated and elected. He also said that Messrs. Benton, Steen and Cowdery would perhaps be nominated, and if they were they would be elected.

This is the kind of talk that Mr. Hall who signs appeals to the people to turn out and talk about "liberty" rather than servitude, indulges in. He sees in the recent members of the board of transportation all the virtue and honor that is necessary; he thinks Thayer is the man for governor, and, briefly, if he general talk is a sample of what he thinks, will endorse a railroad ticket complete and entire.

Mr. Hall insisted that the "people" had urged him to make his statement, but to a man a respectable distance up a tree, Mr. Hall's mass convention looks more like a railroad scheme than any thing else. It is to be hoped, however, that the farmers will not be hoodwinked by the "people's friend."

If the *World-Herald* will cut off two figures from its estimate of the numerical strength of the grange in Nebraska, it will probably be correct. The grange is a grand organization. Its objects are the same as the Alliance, but it is a more expensive society with more complicated machinery, and the Alliance has superseded it in this state. An attempt was made four or five years ago to reorganize it, and Mr. Hall was elected Master. He has held the position ever since. He represents Mr. Hall.

The calling of Mr. Hall's conference the day following the Leese demonstration, is significant. There are some men who are so extremely previous, and at the same time so simple, that they can be used for any kind of a job. Messrs. Thayer, Benton, Steen and Cowdery may help Mr. Hall out in his conference.

The Silver Situation.

The prospect for an agreement on the silver question seems to be not so good as at date of our last issue. In fact we have nearly reached the conclusion that a new and determined effort must be made by the people in favor of free coinage before Congress will learn what its exact duty is in this matter. There seems to be an obstacle in the way of free coinage in Speaker Reed. He is a Wall street gold bug, and he is also an autocrat. It is stated that he will not let a free coinage bill come up in the house until the senate has acted on its bill, and that then, if such action is not in accord with the administration—which means Wall street—he will block all silver legislation by appointing house conferees who will not agree to the senate bill.

Again we say to the advocates of free coinage, make no concessions and consent to no compromises. Accept free and unlimited coinage or nothing. The day is soon coming when we will have it.

CO-OPERATION.

Method of Operation in Co-operative Stores.

[By request of quite a number of our subscribers we republish the following editorial from our edition of March 1st, that issue being exhausted.]

There is much desire through the Alliance for co-operative effort in business lines. Many enterprises are talked of, such as mills and elevators, more frequently the latter. There are a few Alliance co-operative stores in the state; but as far as we can learn none of them are operated on the correct co-operative principle. It is generally thought that the store is the most difficult of the enterprises named, when in fact it is the easiest, and should be the primary move, leading to the others. We have asked some who were talking of building an elevator or mill why they did not start a co-operative store, and they replied, "We are not strong enough yet—we'll start that by-and-by." Now the fact is that the capital that would build one mill would start twenty co-operative stores, and the capital that would build one elevator would start half-a-dozen; while the benefits of the store would be much more general and equally distributed among the membership than those of the other enterprises.

We will first try to give a clear idea of the true co-operative principle of co-operative merchandizing. The store is started on the joint-stock principle. The shares should be put at \$5 each. No person not a member of the Alliance should be allowed to own shares, and they not more than ten each. A certain rate of interest is agreed upon which the share capital may receive. This should not be over 7 or 8 per cent. In this particular the share-holders are on an exact equality. They receive the same rate of interest on their shares.

The man who has \$50 in shares receives interest on \$50. The man who has only \$5 receives interest on only \$5. Now we will suppose the store has been started and done business for one quarter, or three months. The books must now be squared, an inventory taken, and the profits divided. To ascertain the profits expenses must first be ascertained and paid. These consist of goods bought, rent, fuel, light, insurance, pay of store-keeper and assistants, if any, and interest on share capital. These all belong to the expense account, and must be paid before there are any profits. After these are paid the profit remaining is divided among the share-holders in proportion to their trade at the store. That is to say, each share-holder receives the profit on the goods he has bought. To illustrate this point clearly, suppose A has \$50 worth of shares, and buys only \$10 worth of goods during the quarter, while B has only \$5 worth of stock and buys \$100 worth of goods. A would receive interest on \$50 and the profit on \$10, while B would receive interest on \$5 and the profit on \$100. It will be seen that A and B are on an exact equality as to their interest, and that their profit depends on their own trade. It will also be seen that this principle tends to induce trade, and not induce any effort to monopolize the shares, as there is no inducement to invest money for the interest, as it can only draw the agreed upon per cent. It will also be seen that this is pre-eminently the plan to put the poor man on an equality with the rich one. They are in fact on an absolute equality.

LITTLE CAPITAL NEEDED.

It needs but very little capital to start a co-operative store. This fact arises from the ease of the purchasing system of the present day. All kinds of goods are sold by commercial travelers right in the stores of merchants, by sample. Goods can be bought in this way nearly every day, so only a small stock is needed to start with. Thirty and sixty days time is considered the same as cash, though even these bills may be discounted for actual cash at a small profit.

Trade is capital. Suppose twenty-five members of an Alliance wish to start a co-operative store. They need a store-room, fixtures, and money enough to pay freight and running expenses for two months. If each of these twenty-five members will trade at the store, and pay for the goods when they buy them, good business management makes the success of the store certain. With fifty members we would ask no other capital than their assured trade.

THERE MUST BE NO TRUST.

This is an essential to success. The business must be ready pay, either cash or its equivalent. This makes it necessary for the store to deal in truck, which is a great disadvantage, but unavoidable in the country. With Alliance agencies in Omaha, Lincoln and Denver this disadvantage will be partly neutralized.

THERE MUST BE NO CUT IN PRICES.

It would be extremely bad policy to start a store in a country town, and undertake to undersell or injure the other merchants. This would tend to excite enmity and demoralize trade, and there would be no compensating advantage. The better the prices at which goods were sold the more profit for the share-holders. If members of the Alliance wanted the benefits let them become share-holders, one share entitling them to all benefits. If non-members of the Alliance want the benefits let them join.

In a store of this kind there would be some trade from outsiders. The profit on this trade goes to the stockholders; so there would be no gain by destroying this profit by selling goods at cost. Neither would there be any gain in selling goods to members at less cost than to others, as the total profits are divided among the members, and each gets all the profit on his own trade. If there was no cut in prices the other merchants would be apt to say, "Well, there must be room here for another store, or these men would not start one; and if there is room some one else will start one if they don't, so I guess it is all right."

OTHER ENTERPRISES WILL FOLLOW.

If a store is started in a small way, with a stock of staple dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hats and caps and clothing proportioned to its membership, and is made successful, other branches of trade will soon be added. For coal only a shed and scales would be necessary. The implement agency would soon be attached. Then would come the lumber department and the grain-shipping department, until the establishment embraced every branch of the farmer's trade, and in every branch the members would have the profit on their own trade, and thus come near eating their cake and keeping it as possible.

This hasty sketch is already too long, though much remains to be said. We will recur to the subject or explain any part of it when requested.

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John R. Morrissey and the World-Herald's Fusion Proposition.

John R. Morrissey is a virtuous ward politician of Omaha. We are aware that this definition involves a paradox. But Mr. M. has demonstrated his virtue by his repudiation of the fusion idea of the *World-Herald*. His reasons for this are several. 1st. He is "one of those democrats who do not believe that a principle can be compromised at any time without loss of conscience and dishonor." This clause develops several new and startling ideas. One is that there is any principle at all involved in modern democracy; 2d. That there are any democrats who care an iota about principle; 3rd. The amazing ease with which men like Morrissey, who possess neither, can prate about conscience and honor. But for all this we coincide with Mr. M. entirely in his repudiation of the fusion idea—but probably not for the same reasons. Mr. Morrissey is one of the numerous democrats who think if the Alliance would run a state ticket the democrats would get there; and consequently who think, regardless of its innate dishonesty, that Mr. Hitchcock's unauthorized and cheeky offer of a deal was a regular fool caper. That's the reason he repudiates it—not at all because of its political immorality.

This precious political pimp goes on to denounce the Alliance, at the same time claiming that the democratic party is the apotheosis of all its principles, except those in relation to money. On money he is Wall street sublimated.

But when he alludes to the farmers as a purchasable commodity—when he proceeds to put an estimate upon the moral worth of three-fourths of the inhabitants of this state—the men and women whose industry forms the basis of all our prosperity—he comes out strong, and shows by his estimate of his fellow men of just what base material he is composed. He says:

"The cheapest man in the legislature is a granger. He has the most modest estimate of his worth, and a \$100 bill is as big as a sod house. Say the railroads succeeded in electing twenty-five members of the house. They will only have to buy twenty-five grangers, as grangers go the deal is not so expensive as a single train wreck might be."

We commend the above to the 25,000 democratic members of the Alliance in Nebraska. How do you like your picture, gentlemen, drawn by a typical democrat? Comment on the character of the man who can write the above is needless. And we want to add, right here, that the estimate of the grangers by the organs and hacks of the other party, is just about the same, only it is rare to find a man who is such a dodged fool as to express it so bluntly.

A low down ward politician—an idol of the rum-holes and a worker of the slums, whose election to the late legislature was contested on the ground of fraud—this is the aromatic apology for manhood who presumes to denounce the honest farmers of Nebraska as "the cheapest men in the legislature." There has never been so cheap or contemptible a pup in the Nebraska legislature as when John Morrissey disgraced it.

That free foreign wool has actually had the effect to advance the price of domestic wool is shown by statistics. Under the tariff of 1887 nearly all the fine wools of South America and the Cape of Good Hope and many of those grown in Australia, and all Canadian wools, were admitted free of duty. This condition lasted till 1892, when very moderate duties (15 per cent ad valorem) were imposed on wool. The period of highest duties on wool did not begin till 1897. The prices of domestic wool during the five years of practically free wool, beginning with 1887, and the five years under the present tariff, ending with 1888, were as follows:

Free Wool. Tariff of 1888.
1887.....35 cents 1884.....34 cents
1888.....45 cents 1885.....34 cents
1889.....50 cents 1886.....34 cents
1890.....54 cents 1887.....34 cents
1891.....54 cents 1888.....34 cents
1892.....44 cents 1889.....34 cents
1893.....44 cents 1890.....34 cents
1894.....44 cents 1891.....34 cents
1895.....44 cents 1892.....34 cents
1896.....44 cents 1893.....34 cents
1897.....44 cents 1894.....34 cents
1898.....44 cents 1895.....34 cents
1899.....44 cents 1896.....34 cents
1900.....44 cents 1897.....34 cents

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All of which goes to prove that the decline of prices is caused by something quite independent of the tariff. The decline in wools, shown above, has been accompanied by a decline in all other commodities and property, whether affected by the tariff or not. There is only one cause that has been general that could have had this effect. That is the decrease of money proportioned to population and production.

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—We are indebted to Hon. G. F. Laws for a copy of the Sixth Annual Report of the U. S. Geological Survey, by J. W. Powell, Director. This is a very comprehensive report, and of much value to the student of the geological conditions of this country. The receipt of this report would have been sooner acknowledged only it was sent to Filley instead of Lincoln, and so did not reach us until this week.

Just About the Size of It.

(Norfolk Journal—Rep.)

The *World-Herald* more than intimates that the capacious arms of the democratic party are wide open to receive the Farmers' Alliance to its loving embrace. Yes. And its squeeze would be so ardent that after it the Alliance would have about as much juice as a last year's corn husk.

The Political Situation, and Some Political Prophecies.

The political situation in Nebraska is interesting and peculiar. The republican party is acknowledged by all men to be in the grip of the railroad ring. This fact is emphasized by a coterie of gentlemen who claim to be above all things model republicans, and one of whom is a leading republican official of the state, and all of whom are named as candidates for some elective office. These gentlemen are so imbued with the desire to secure the party from railroad control that they have called a special convention for May 20 to take measures to that end. This call is met by the people with marked indifference. It is looked upon as an office-seeker's ruse. It will result in no popular uprising. The people seem to be imbued with a thorough distrust of anything which has any connection with politics.

The other wing of the republican party—the railroad wing—sits serene and confident. With the machine of the party in its hands—with the state committee made up mainly of its friends—with the county committees headed by its henchmen—with cappers in every precinct committee who have long been accustomed to receive their orders from the county machine—the railroad power is confident of its ability to carry the state convention as usual.

Meantime there is a strange ferment among the people—that great mass who have long been content to receive their politics from their political bosses, and leave their consciences at home when they went to vote. A well-founded distrust of their bosses has sprung up in their hearts. Their discussions in their Alliances have opened their eyes, and contemporaneously with this their consciences are being awakened. They are organizing. And as they organize they are realizing that the party ties to which they have so long willingly surrendered themselves have been fetters that have held them while the party bosses were going through their pockets. As they organize the cry is "no more party politics in mine!" Sixty thousand of them are banded together now, and still they come—still they come. They are secret, they are quiet—they don't talk. Their capacity for absorbing advice is unparalleled; and oceans of it is poured in upon them—all from disinterested patriots who are ready to immolate all their wife's relations for the welfare of the poor farmer.

The democratic party is a quiet, but not by any means disinterested spectator of the show. Its would-be leaders have made some noise. Its real leaders have not peeped. These men hope their rank and file will be as service as ever. They expect to elect the next president, and they intend that the party shall remain compactly and solidly democratic, whatever may betide. At the same time this rank and file is going into the Alliance at the same rate as are the republican farmers, and is quite as hopeless as they of any relief through these old party machines.

This is the present condition in this state; the politicians scheming, the parties waiting and hoping, the people organizing. It is a hopeful situation. If it can be held in statu quo for three months longer nearly all the farmers in the state will be members of the Alliance.

But what does the future hold? First, defeat in the g. o. p. for the patriotic wing that has gone in to reform it. To these men will be conceded all the wind they desire. Anti-monopoly resolutions mountain-high will be piled up before them. But when they come to count noses for results at the close of the nominations they will find a beggarly account of empty boxes. But the voters will not bolt. They have promised not to beforehand, and that was when they dug their own graves. When they made that promise they convinced the people that they cared more for party and self than they did for reform. But defeated, as they will be, they will sulk, and the schism in the party will be deep and wide.

Now the people's opportunity will have come, and the people will be found ready to improve it. With an organized machinery that can reach every precinct in the state in three days, the signal fires will flash responsive from peak to peak, and there will be a rallying of the clans such as was never known before. The cry will be "Equal rights for all, special privileges for none!" There will be a shower of ballots that will appal the politicians, and whiten the state from the Missouri river to the Laramie plains, and from Kansas to the Dakota line; and Nebraska will come out of it redeemed from a vile power that would plunder a widow, rob an orphan or ruin a world with equal indifference providing gold flowed to its coffers.

Only one thing can prevent this devoutly to be wished for consummation, and that is the too previous action of the —. There are some men who see only one side of the shield—men who go off half cocked—men who want to lead a new movement—men who can't wait. These men will do as doing—infinitely harm by trying to start a great movement before the time is ripe. They will organize failures and cloud the future. To these we say again and again, wait. Let the grass grow. The signal will strike when the hour is ready, and not one or two alone, but ALL will hear it when it strikes.

The State Board of Transportation.

We publish this week an open letter from a York county Alliance to the state board of transportation. This letter is not an English classic, nor yet a literary gem; but we venture to believe that it will strike a responsive chord in the heart of every Nebraska man who reads it. It tells the gentlemen of the board the plain truth in plain words, and demands that they should perform their sworn duty to the

people of this state, without any more monkeying. But the monkeying will go on all the same. The members of the board are drawing their salaries with distressing regularity. They are having an expensive report printed, which has been prepared by their secretaries. It will contain what little information has been vouchsafed to them by the railroads, and possibly some more or less valuable statistics. But the gist of it could be told in four words on the fly leaf, viz: "We have done nothing." The people will pay the bill at the rate of \$1.90 per page.

The fun of it all is, that these men are candidates for re-nomination, and will probably get there. They sit in their easy chairs at the state house, when they don't happen to be gunning or fishing, read the papers, and coolly estimate the relative strength of the railroads and the people, and deliberately cast their lot with the roads. In doing this they are able to justify the old maxim, "honor among thieves."

The railroads put them where they are, and they stay with the men who elevated them. Mr. Benton, with the railroad machine and the office-holder's machine, aided by a millionaire banker brother-in-law, expects to capture a re-nomination, and then parade it as an endorsement of the board by the people. Mr. Steen and Mr. Cowdrey are in the same boat—except the brother-in-law.

We give it as our deliberate opinion that these men, or some equally subservient to corporate interests, will be nominated by the republican convention. And it will be well. The crash had better come this fall. The people will never be readier for it.

The Alliance and the Politicians.

It will take but a few months of time for the farmers throughout the country to understand that politicians have secured absolute control of their organization known as the Farmers' Alliance, and the political work of the organization will begin to decrease. From letters received by men in congress, written by democratic and republican politicians, who have nothing but spoils to give, it is seen here that the active work being done in the Farmers' Alliance is led by many broken-down politicians from the various parties. If the Farmers' Alliance would only confine itself to its personal interests aside from politics it could undoubtedly influence legislation as well as commercial interests of the country, but when it goes into office seeking and permits itself to be led by professional politicians, it at once puts itself to great disadvantage.

The above is clipped from the Washington correspondence of the Omaha *Beck*. We regret that there is much that must come under the eye of this Washington gentlemen to justify this statement. Washington is the headquarters of a junta of managers who have demonstrated conclusively that their aim is to use the Alliance for the advancement of their personal ends, and for the building up of a dictatorial political power. This junta is straining every nerve to extend its influence throughout the country. As soon as any popular movement becomes strong enough to promise success the politicians gather to it and strive to convert it to their use. The uproar that is going on among the party organs and the party hacks in this state—the propositions for fusion on the one hand, and against political action on the other—the gratuitous advice from hundreds of solons and would-be office holders who have never done anything for the farmers except advise them—illustrate the fact exactly. That it will be difficult for hundreds of members of the Alliance to steer clear of their influences there is no doubt. But if one or two simple rules and principles are adopted the task will be easier. 1st. Pay no heed to men and papers who are out side of our order. Their advice is prompted by selfish personal motives, or is for the supposed interest of their party. We do not care for either. 2d. Listen to and be guided by the men who have chosen as your leaders—men who are your brothers in the Alliance, and who by years of unrewarded work in your cause have demonstrated that they are worthy of your confidence. 3rd. Listen to the politicians—hear their plans, and understand their schemes—but let them do the talking. Expose nothing, promise nothing. Hold yourselves aloof from all party complications. Neither make pledges to individuals. No man can divine the events of the next two months. Be ready for whatever may come.

While there are politicians in Nebraska who are trying to use the Alliance, it is false here, whatever may be true in Washington, that "the active work being done in the Alliance is being led by broken-down politicians from both parties." Let us be sure that this shall not be true at any time. It is our duty to use politicians and parties, not to be used by them. And the best use politicians can be put to is to set them to manufacturing turnip bitters, each in his own locality.

Senator Beck.

In the death of Senator James B. Beck, says the *Chicago Herald*, the United States senate has lost a member who was both an honor and an ornament to it, and the democratic party an exponent and an advocate whose place it will be hard to fill. In the extent of his political learning and experience, in the depth and sincerity of his democratic convictions, in his rare ability to state and defend democratic doctrine, and in his moral courage on all occasions he was a model statesman and an admirable man. His death, coming as it does so soon after that of Randall, suggests a contrast. The men were strikingly alike in their integrity, their ability and their persistence, but their relations and value to the democratic party were almost diametrically opposite. Randall was a thorn in the side of his friends, while Beck was a tower of refuge and defense. In his relation to his party Senator Beck was more like the late S. C. Cox, and both of them will be lamented as long as intelligent and incorruptible statesmanship shall be admired in the democratic party.

Mr. Dorsey's Alliance.

It is a very nice thing for a millionaire to be a member of congress, live in fine style in Washington, which is an imperial city where all the elegancies of high life can be enjoyed, have a private secretary to take all the cares of business, and some henchmen enjoying sinecures in the pay of Uncle Sam to look after matters at home, and keep the wheels of the machine well oiled. Mr. Dorsey is serving his second term, and evidently likes it, and so he organized a little bankers' alliance to look after everything and fix matters up so he can get a third term. His second term was secured by attending to the machine. The people had little or nothing to do with it. Perhaps the machine will slip a cog or two this fall. Perhaps the farmers of the third congressional district will prefer to be represented by a man of their own choosing, instead of a millionaire banker, who is willing to give them more money provided it can be done through the banks and without disturbing the single gold standard, and who believes in taxing Nebraska farmers to protect eastern manufacturers.

How would the farmers of the third district like to have a little junta of Dorsey's appointees in Washington set up the pins to secure his return for a third term? That is just what is being done, as the following confidential circular explains:

WASHINGTON, LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA REPUBLICANS.
ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SECRETARY, BOX 464, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 20.—DEAR SIR: The friends of Mr. Dorsey have advised us of a conspiracy against him, and to our satisfaction will at once make an earnest effort to defeat the scheme referred to. We explain to you the situation and desire that you advise us at once if you are with us in this fight.

Certain men who are anxious to come to congress have commenced work to secure the nomination. They four to run on their merits, but have begun to trade, offering a judgeship to this one, a land office to another, and postoffices ad libitum. Everything is to be parcelled out and divided. Some of our friends who are in have been promised re-nomination and others asked to be neutral. This can be done simply for cause or inefficiency, and of this the member of congress is Judge. We want no change now, do you? If you are with us, change now, do you? Talk for our friend, interest the editor of your paper if you can, and reply to any attack made. Ascertain the feelings of prominent republicans in your locality and give us the names of our friends. Win over all you can. As the reason of the opposition of any prominent republican and give us the names, and keep us posted. E. J. JENSEN, Secretary.

The second paragraph of the above is about the cheekiest thing that ever was uttered. There isn't a member from this state who did not secure his place by exactly the methods described. They are the essence of the machine, and machine politics has dominated this state for years. They are exactly the means by which Mr. Dorsey hopes to retain his nice place in Washington society, and yet he denounces the men who have the same right to aspire that he has for using machine methods. This is the very apotheosis of a machine politician's impudence. "We want no change now, do you?" Isn't that refreshing? Who ever knew a department clerk who wanted a change, unless from a low position to a higher one?

We commend this circular and Dorsey's scheme to the Alliance men of the third district. Mr. Dorsey will find they will be "with him in this fight," and probably a neck or so ahead.

Toiling Women.

A shirt makers' strike! These working women, driven by hard poverty, became desperate, and actually refused to work sixteen hours a day, making shirts for the men who were to be paid Unreasonable mortals! It is impossible to live on these earnings; they are merely sufficient to starve on. The wolf is always at the door, whining for entrance, and the children's toes have scarcely strength enough to keep him back. This is a picture well worth our pondering. Philanthropy may be puzzled to find a solution for the problem, and religion may feebly sigh that such a state of affairs can exist in a great christian city like New York; but facts are facts, and sooner or later they must be faced. Immasurable wealth on the one side, poverty as dark and hopeless as the pit on the other; the impossibility of earning an honest livelihood, and the temptation to lead a life of sin and plenty overlap each other. Then when the girl half starved and poorly clad, shivering with the cold and utterly friendless, surrenders to fate, we cry "Shame!" deplore the infidelity of the times, and marvel that so many of our blooming youth betake themselves to evil ways. If tears can flow at human suffering, they will not withstand the sorrows of a shirt maker's life, but fall like heavy rain. Between the upper and nether mill-stone of fierce and ruthless competition these half-paid women are being ground—thousands of them—into powder. Their homes are but caricatures of what the word implies—dingy, dark, sunless, barely furnished rooms, whose stove cries out for fuel and is fed so sparingly that heat is almost a stranger to it. They stifle, sit huddled under day break until "daky darkness" drives away the light, and then renew the monotonous labors in their unquiet slumbers. Can such things be and remain unnoticed? Well, such things are, and within pistol-shot of your own house. And not only this, but the strong of shirt makers, but other throngs of both men and women are engaged in the hard battle of life, bearing burdens so great that a christian civilization should come to their relief with reforms and new laws and more brotherhood and less indifference to our struggling fellow-creatures.—*New York Herald*.

Thomas G. Shearman is writing a series of articles upon economic questions for the press. In one of them he compresses the whole tariff question, so far as it applies to New England manufacturers, into these pregnant sentences: "You have the capital, you have the labor, you have the skill, you have the experience to enable you to compete successfully with manufacturers in any part of the world. But you have not the tariff. And if you will not open your ports to free materials you must expect to decline."

And he might of added, "you have not the sand, but prefer to whine as infant industries, and suck government pap, rather than to pull off your coats and go into a manly fight for the industrial supremacy which by every natural condition belongs to you."

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