

How many troubles might mankind be spared if they would only stop to hear each other's explanation.

A New York publisher advertises for sale "a few soiled poets, half price." A soiled poet would be dear at any price.

The Holland submarine boat is said to be a success. It seems to be no trouble at all to develop the submarine side of the American navy.

Wherever high-class diplomacy is involved it at once becomes apparent that young Mr. Romanoff of St. Petersburg is really an "I deal" ruler.

If New York can abolish its Salvation Army on the ground that it is a nuisance why can't that town dispose of its police force in the same way?

Alfred Austin's jubilee ode with its line, "Long may she linger," seems to be a palpable plagiarism of that popular music hall lyric, "Linger Longer, Lucy."

The Washington (Iowa) Democrat says that "Sam Jones intends to fight only the devil hereafter." Well, a great many persons probably will do that hereafter.

We have employment assigned to us for every circumstance in life. When we are alone we have our thoughts to watch, in the family our tempers, and in company our tongues.

El Diario de la Marina of Havana says that in a war between the United States and Spain the latter would not get the worst of it. That journal clearly is entitled to another guess.

Two Boston papers are discussing whether the word "measles" should be followed by a plural verb or not. Measles may be plural, but they produce most singular effects somehow.

Chicago is a hustling, rushing, rapid town; but the fellow who entered a Wells street saloon the other day and drank whisky until he dropped dead seems to have had a rather exaggerated idea of speed.

A leading London paper explains to its readers that "the plot of 'Secret Service' is laid in Richmond, which was one of the most important points in the late civil war between North and South America."

The Cherry Creek (N. Y.) News asks: "Why shouldn't the ladies of Cherry Creek be consulted in the purchase of hose for the village?" If Cherry Creek is thinking of stocking up this is a good suggestion.

It is they who are nearest to us, and whose affection for us is the greatest, who are rendered happy by daily courtesies. Graciousness of manner is of great value in the world of strangers. It is of still greater value in the world of home.

"What has become of the old-fashioned man," asks the Atchison Globe, "who used to borrow a dollar and pay it back at the end of the following week?" He has been succeeded by the fellow who borrows whatever he can and never pays back anything.

There is no longer any doubt that the Indian is susceptible of the highest civilization. A full-blooded Nez Percés brave has been arrested in Washington for executing some of the cleverest forgeries which have come under the eyes of the police for some time.

A South Carolina moonshiner who has recently been sent to the penitentiary made a very strong plea for clemency. He explained to the court that he was the sole support of six wives and thirty-nine children. It seems too bad to suppress such enterprise as this.

A Tennessee paper very soulfully remarks that "Crock Fulton died last night owing this paper for ten years' subscription. Crock had got so low down that he had to slide up hill to get into bed." "De mortuis nil nisi bonum" evidently doesn't go in Tennessee.

The very best impulses, unguided by wisdom and foresight, will often lead to disasters worse than those which they long to cure. The unrestrained desire to give alms to every beggar is a sure promoter of pauperism. The sacrifice of self for others may, without judgment, be carried to such lengths as to ensure the absolute loss of power.

A St. Louis man who is now in a hospital with a bad case of perforation of the lungs explains to the police that his wife found him making love to another woman and shot him. "You see," he adds, "she must have been very deeply in love with me or she never would have shot me to pieces like this." St. Louis spouses must have rather peculiar ways of expressing their affection.

French army pensioners living in the Hotel des Invalides, who have all received medals for bravery on the field, occasionally drink more than is good for them. To prevent such veterans making exhibitions of themselves in public, a reward of 15 cents is paid to any man who reports a pensioner in a public house. Recently, indeed, the pensioners have

ing increased greatly, it was discovered that a trade in roasting had arisen. A knock-out drink costing 5 cents and warranted to act at once having been devised, which left a clean profit of 10 cents per drunk.

At least two plays by American authors and played for the most part by American actors are at present delighting the theater-goers of London, and several prominent British actors are said to have American plays on the stocks for next season. This is a decided change from the old custom, and indicates that our playwrights are producing better material, or, at least, plays better suited to English tastes. At the same time there is a falling off among us in the desire we once had for stage material from England. The craze for the ridiculous melodrama from Drury Lane has almost died out, and what we take from the London stage succeeds here for other reasons than the sole one that it is English. We have rising among us if not a school of dramatists, at least a number of very promising playwrights who are producing plays infinitely better than many which we have imported from England.

The proneness of attorneys to quibble over matters of small importance when they can do so to the advantage of their clients was amusingly illustrated the other day when a lawyer was pleading for the pardon of a condemned murderer before the Governor of California. He sought to impugn the reliability of a witness for the prosecution because he could not remember how many steps there were before his own door. The Governor said that that need not necessarily indicate unreliability on the witness part, as he himself did not know the name of a certain street one block above his residence, and which he had passed almost every day for twenty-five years. He then asked the attorney if he knew how many steps there were before his own house. The lawyer mentioned a number, but investigation proved that he was far from right. All of which proves that when one under takes a bluff in so serious a matter he should be certain not only of his opponent's hand, but of his own.

The tipping system, which has been so much deprecated and which so many foolish people have helped to fasten upon this country, bids fair to settle itself and go out of fashion from unexpected causes. The extreme hard times of the last five years have reduced the emoluments received by waiters, porters and others who heretofore had their chief subsistence in that form lower than ever before, and the colored men whom the Pullman company compel to prey upon the public have united in a statement to that effect to their employers. They say that where they formerly received dollars they now have to content themselves with dimes. Coincident with this comes the news that the wealthy Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania, whose election gladdened the hearts of the Washington waiters, has refused to grease the palm of a single one of them with so much as a copper coin, preferring to brave starvation rather than pay tribute. If there were more like him the abuse could be done away with in a year or two. Their servants would receive fair wages and recover their self-respect.

Nobody ever sympathizes with a practical joker. If his so-called fun act as a boomerang, as it sometimes does and knocks him, everybody is glad. In fact, if he dies of his own joke, as he has been known to, few tears are shed. Nevertheless, he continues to exist in all lands, for the fool-killer cannot be everywhere at once, but it is good news to learn that the courts of law have now taken a hand and may perhaps exert a repressive influence upon this detestable humorist. The English courts have decided that the perpetrator of a hoax is liable for all the consequences of his jocosity, no matter what they are. The case was where a man returning with others from the races stopped at a public house and told a woman there that her husband had had a "smash-up." Thereupon the woman promptly fainted and a serious illness resulted. As a matter of fact, her husband had not had a smash-up, and the story was told her simply as a practical joke. The Court held that the joke was liable for all damages occasioned by the woman's illness, such as expenses of medical attendance and loss of time. This is only a step. More will follow in the course of time and some day a court will sentence some practical joker to death or to a long term in the penitentiary. And every body will say, served him right.

**Implicated.**  
A real Mr. Malaprop was discovered recently one afternoon in the person of a Broadway cable car conductor. The car was on a down town trip and had few passengers until it reached 14th street. There half a dozen people five women and one man, got aboard. Three of the women and the man found seats together, but the other two went to another part of the car, there they were members of the party or not. The man with the three, instead of giving the exact change, offered a half dollar in payment of the fares, and the conductor was as much in the dark as ever. To inquire was plainly the only way to arrive at the truth. With a polite wave of his hand toward the two women in the farther corner he asked blandly:  
"Are those ladies implicated?"

**Enriching the Language.**  
"Paw," asked the little boy, "what does it mean when a man is 'frowse down'?"  
"It—er—means to discourage him."  
"Then would they encourage him by 'smiling him up'?"—Indianapolis Journal.

TO SAVE THE PEOPLE.

DIRECT LEGISLATION IS THE ONLY HOPE.

Representative Government is No Sense a Government by the People—Principles of Direct Legislation Will Destroy Political Bossism.

**Stand Together!**  
Political party will not save the people, writes Anna D. Weaver, in the Chicago Express. Office-seeking politicians will not save them. Representatives whom the people elect and send to the various Legislatures will not save them. There is only one remedy. The people must save themselves or they will never be saved. There is only one road to follow; that is straight and plain as is the road to heaven. It is through direct legislation. The people must do their own work. They must legislate for themselves. "If you would have your work well done, do it yourself," is as true a maxim as in Benjamin Franklin's time. It is as true of a nation as of an individual; for a nation is only a collection of individuals. The one only way for the American people is through a direct legislation—the use of the initiative and referendum and the imperative mandate. The people must speak for themselves. They, only, can repeal the ruinous class system of laws which are, more and more, every day, legally robbing and enslaving them; and can replace them with just laws for the equal and exact good of all.

Since the downfall of the republic through its devastating system of class laws, I have never before beheld such superb possibilities for the American people as at the present time. There is nothing at all disheartening regarding the present universal wretchedness, want and woe among the industrial classes. Those who produce all are the worst robbed of all. The idlers live in luxury. The toilers must beg for the price of a day's work or starve. It is a legitimate result. It is an eye-opener. If a patient is broken out well with the measles or the small-pox there is nothing discouraging about his symptoms. On the contrary, it is a good sign. Then disease is making its self-manifest. It is coming to the surface and the patient will be treated accordingly. So with the body politic. The disease is coming to the surface, to be seen and known of all. A Cleveland adhesive plaster was a failure in results. It did not even act as a palliative; but instead, only increased and accelerated the disease. A McKinley plaster is equally futile to accomplish results. Both are precisely alike, differing only in the label. Both alike allow their patient to sicken and die while they continue like a leech to suck the last drop of life-blood from the diseased carcass they have thus debauched and polluted.

There is nothing addening about the present universal distressing conditions. They are only legitimate results. They just had to be. The present outlook, instead of being pessimistic and fraught with war and revolution with an ultimate despotic form of government, is one of the most superb possibilities. Never before in the history of America's downfall has there been such grand opportunities. Let us look at the situation a moment—at ourselves and our opportunities. Ours is a nation of untold resources. We have all the 'me we want, and God never blessed a people with a finer brain capacity. Here we are, all the resources at hand we need; all the time we need, and all the brain power we need to put these resources into proper operation. What more could a people ask? Nothing. Under these conditions if we cannot save ourselves we are not worth the saving. "But," some one says, "self government has thus far proven a failure." Not yet, my good friend, wait until we have tried self-government. A representative form of government counts for nothing. The trial of self-government cannot be made except through direct legislation; national, State, county and municipal. The great, plain, common people are ubiquitous in their power. They, only, can be trusted. Place the reins of government into their hands, through this direct system of legislation, and I would not fear to hazard my hopes for eternity. Not yet, my good friend, wait until we have tried self-government. A representative form of government counts for nothing. The trial of self-government cannot be made except through direct legislation; national, State, county and municipal. The great, plain, common people are ubiquitous in their power. They, only, can be trusted. Place the reins of government into their hands, through this direct system of legislation, and I would not fear to hazard my hopes for eternity. Not yet, my good friend, wait until we have tried self-government. A representative form of government counts for nothing. The trial of self-government cannot be made except through direct legislation; national, State, county and municipal. The great, plain, common people are ubiquitous in their power. They, only, can be trusted. Place the reins of government into their hands, through this direct system of legislation, and I would not fear to hazard my hopes for eternity.

The masses of the plain, common people see clearly what is to be done. All their efforts and sacrifices for the past quarter of a century have not been made in vain. The seed has not been "sown to the wind to reap the whirlwind," much of it has fallen in good ground. It is in the hearts and the convictions of the people. The Farmers' Alliance in the country and the Knight of Labor orders of the city with all their kindred organizations have done a grand and glorious work. The time is at hand to unify and appropriate the harvest. Because a few political tools and demagogues whom the people have so foolishly trusted, have proven false to them—have "sold their birthright for a mess of pottage"—is no good proof that they can deliver the goods. As soon as comes the test through a direct legislation the world will note that the great, plain, common people of America possess the brain as well as the brawn for not only self-government but for self-protection.

The spirit of the Golden Rule could be incorporated into a platform containing only two, all-essential planks. These two planks, all true reformers could agree upon.

First—We demand the adoption of the system of direct legislation known as the initiative and referendum with the imperative mandate in all legislative proceedings; national, State, county and municipal.

Second—We demand a national currency issued by the general government only; every dollar to be made a full legal tender for all debts; and in sufficient quantity to make the per capita circulation not less than fifty dollars.

With the people and not political tools and tricksters at the helm, and with the above two pre-eminently essential planks in the platform, every other needed reform would step into line soon; naturally, and in order, because the people wished them. Then and then only, when the American people are in the actual possession and use of direct legislation, will they have the government beheld in prophecy by the immortal Lincoln—"a government of the people, for the people and by the people."

**The Velocity of Money.**  
The velocity of money is an element rarely taken into account, and we do not remember of seeing it referred to in any modern writings and only once has it been referred to in an address to which we have listened. The term "velocity of money" refers to the rapidity with which it moves in the channels of trade. In a sparsely settled region—the plains of Nebraska, Dakota and Montana for instance—the money moves slowly from hand to hand. Sometimes it remains weeks idle, in a cabin, before its owner sees a creditor to pass it along. It is different in a thickly settled community. There money passes quickly from man to man. In passing from San Francisco to New York, a week is lost during which the money has done no "work." If it had been during the week in New York or Boston, it would probably have settled an hundred balances and done a marvelous amount of "work." In a sparsely settled country the velocity of money is less than in thickly settled countries, and more money is accordingly required to perform a given amount of "work." Hon. Alexander Del Mar, the distinguished Secretary of the Monetary Commission of 1875, and one of the ripest scholars on financial matters in the whole world, says that the velocity of money is three times as great in France as in the United States, and two and a half times as great in Great Britain as in the United States. It follows, then, that in order to perform a given amount of "work" or exchange, we need three times as much money in proportion to population and business as is found in France. But the French have nearly \$40 per capita. With a velocity of money here only one-third of the velocity in France, we need three times as much money per capita, or \$120. The natural "velocity" being low here, and the volume small, it becomes necessary to use a given piece of money many times by borrowing—and the interest on repeated lendings of the same piece soon absorbs the piece and leaves a debt in its place, which is to continue for all time to grow larger and still farther enslave mankind. A correct money system will not bind the world to the fortunes or misfortunes of a mining venture for a medium of exchange, nor neither will it tolerate the slave-breeding tendencies of the usurious system now practiced alike by Jew and Gentile and at which churches wink and connive if not openly champion because—forsooth—invested funds draw interest to pay the instructors' salaries and pay for their opinions.

**The Gold Standard.**  
The results of the demonetization of silver in 1873 were plainly foretold by the opponents of the measure. And in the discussion of the measure soon after introduced to restore silver to its rightful place in the coinage, not only was the fall in prices that had already occurred ascribed to the gold standard, but further predictions made as to the further decline that could be looked for if the gold standard were to be continued in force.

We quoted a few days ago from the Republican campaign book of 1892 to show that prices had declined since 1873 about 50 per cent. We will now show that the demonetization of silver by England in 1819 resulted in an enormous fall in prices, bringing widespread ruin to the industries of that country. Sir James Graham, in his "Coins and Currency," 1826, says:

"Whether we regard private debts or public burdens, the effects of the measure of 1819 have been to enact that for every less sum owing a greater shall be paid; prices falling but pecuniary engagements remaining undiminished, the farmer has no profit, the landlord no rent, the manufacturer no customers, the laborer no employment; a revolution of property and a derangement of the whole frame of society must necessarily ensue."

And the same author significantly adds: "Amidst the ruin of the farmer and of the manufacturer, the distress of the landlords and the insurrections of a populace, without bread and without employment, one class flourished and was triumphant; the annuitant and the taxpayer rejoiced in the increased value of money, in the sacrifice of productive industry to unproductive wealth, in the victory of the drones over the bees."—Farm News.

**Falling Prices and Wages.**  
The effect of a decline in prices is to increase the creditors' portion of the products of industry, thereby leaving a less portion to be divided among the other producers of wealth. In whatever manner the remainder is divided between the employer and wage earner the fact still remains that falling prices leave them less as a result of the joint labors. If the loss be saddled on the employer it decreases by just so much the

profits of his business, and so tends to check enterprise and often causes the closing of factories. If this loss be saddled on the wage earner he is made to suffer that the creditor may enjoy unearned wealth.

As a general thing falling prices not only diminish the profits of employers, but at the same time decrease the wage earners' share in the product of his labor and inevitably lead to strife between the employer and wage earner by reason of each attempting to saddle the loss on the other.

History shows that since 1873 strikes and lockouts have increased beyond all precedent, and there is a general agreement among the political economists that falling prices are the most prolific source of labor troubles.

**Sermon on "Cheap Labor."**  
Although the statement that Japanese are being extensively employed in the sugar beet fields of Santa Cruz and Monterey is authoritatively denied, it ready to be well for those who are engaged in promoting this great industry in California to look sharply after its "cheap labor" phases. If the sugar beet business is to be turned over to the Chinese and Japanese, as some other industries in California have been in the past, it had better be forbidden by law in the beginning. So carried on, it will simply become a means of depressing the price of labor and sending out of the country the circulating medium—a drain no State can stand and exist.

When Chinese labor was first introduced into California the excuse was that white labor could not be procured. To a certain extent this was true. In the early days white men were scarce and came high. But the result of the necessity was that the very men who introduced and employed Chinese were finally run out of business by them. For a long time the manufacture of shirts and underclothing, boots and shoes, cigars and some other things in this city have been exclusively carried on by Chinese. Instead of a factory population of white people—voters, taxpayers and citizens—for twenty-five years we have been maintaining in San Francisco 20,000 Chinese, who not only uphold our civilization in everything but send 80 per cent. of all they earn to China. Besides being a "cancer," Chinatown is a sponge which annually saps the very life of the State.

If sugar beet raising, which promises in the near future to be one of the most important industries in the State, is to be conducted with cheap labor, it had better be suppressed at once. Indeed in the natural order of things so conducted, it will be but a short time before all the beets will be raised by Chinese and Japanese, for it is an economic fact easily proved that in the struggle for bread the Caucasian can no more compete with an Oriental than a horse can compete with a rat. The thing to do in this matter is to dispose of "cheap labor" at the start. The sugar beet raisers can afford to employ Caucasian labor, and they should be forced to do so—by public opinion, if possible, otherwise by law.—San Francisco Chronicle.

**Wages and Prices.**  
Last fall Bourke Cochran, the chief orator of the goldbug Democracy, was paid about \$4,000 per night to go about the country proclaiming the doctrine that as the price of what a man produces by his labor declines his wages advance. To illustrate, suppose I get \$1 per cord for chopping wood and yet get \$1 per cord for hauling it to market, where it sells for \$3 per cord. Bourke Cochran's theory is that if the price of wood goes down to \$2 in the market my wages for chopping will increase to \$1.50 per cord and your wages for hauling \$1.50, and our employer will pay us a dollar a cord more than he gets, until such time as cord wood advances to say \$6 per cord when, of course, he can cut our wages down to say 50 cents per cord.

For fear that there might be some who were not convinced by the above argument, Edward Atkinson, who gained his chief reputation by figuring out how a laboring man could live on 10 cents per day, produced a set of figures to show that the average laboring man could purchase with a day's wages about as much now as in 1872.

He forgot to note, however, that in 1872 every man was employed, and that since 1872 the products of a given amount of labor were greatly increased.

Against these authorities we will place E. Benjamin Andrews, president of Brown University, and formerly professor of political economy in Cornell University. He says: "The wages of wage receivers, classing all together, have been steadily falling since 1873. And that must always take place when prices are falling. Since 1873 we have had more strikes in this country than in the history of the country before, and more in England and France."—Chicago Dispatch.

**Losing Our Birthright.**  
Sixty thousand acres of land has been purchased in the White Mountains, in New Hampshire, by a Boston syndicate. It is forest land, and the press telegram that gives the news, says that the syndicate has in view 40,000 acres more. And then adds, "the entire territory to be preserved as a sort of reserve." And, "that, furthermore, the company's idea is to stock the woods with game and the lakes and streams with fish, and interdict poaching." We have stood on an island of 80,000 acres in Michigan, owned by an English syndicate, where an Englishman is in charge, engaged in "stocking it," as he told us, "with English pheasants, principally," and when the owners of this White Mountain purchase are known we will not be surprised to hear that they, too, are Englishmen. But whether so, or not, the principle is the same, Americans! Organize! You are losing your birthright!—Patriots' Bulletin.

BUTTONS MADE OF MILK.

The Remarkable Invention of a Clever Englishman.

For a long time buttons and other articles for which bone is generally used have been made from congealed blood, purchased at the slaughter houses and treated with some substance that hardens it to the proper consistency. An Englishman has invented a process whereby the same articles that are now made from blood can be made from milk and it will soon be introduced into this country.

The milk used is the skim milk. The process of turning this liquid into buttons, pool balls, combs, back of hair brushes and similar articles consists, first, of straining the milk through a cloth in order to remove every vestige of cream, and then mixing it with a substance, the ingredients of which are a secret of the inventor, and compressing it. At the end of three days the substance is as solid as celluloid and is ready to be cut and shaped in any way the manufacturer wishes.

At present a factory in Holland is engaged in fashioning the hardened milk into various articles, buttons being the chief. The buttons made in this peculiar way differ very little in appearance from ordinary bone buttons. They are a creamy white in appearance, but can be colored black or red or any other color by simply mixing the coloring matter with the milk before the hardening process begins. They are said to possess advantages over the bone and celluloid article in being less brittle and less liable to chip. For this reason the billiard balls and pool balls, which have been made in England from this substance have found favor where a cheap ball is required instead of the expensive ivory ones.

For combs the milk substance has been found to be especially well adapted, as it is smooth and delicate to the touch, and derives from its creamy origin a glossy surface that is just the thing for combs.

War on the Wing.

Although much remains to be accomplished before either submarine or aerial navigation becomes so perfected as to come in usefully for purposes of war, it seems pretty safe to predict that by the end of the twentieth century they will be regarded much as we view telephones and electric light. It is little more than half a century ago since the idea of propelling vessels across the Atlantic by steam power was not only ridiculed by the learned in such matters, but proved to be absolutely impossible. There is no impracticability in living under water or in the upper air; given proper appliances, and both are within the scope of human endeavor. All that remains, therefore, is to discover trustworthy means of propulsion and of steering, of sinking at will in the one case and of rising at will in the other. Such trifles as these should be the inmost nothings to mechanical science; indeed, claims are already made on behalf of certain talented inventors that both problems are practically solved. What warfare it will be when one power holds supremacy in the air and another power down among the fishes! That would, indeed, be a practical illustration of the grim Bismarckian jest about the whale and the elephant. Perhaps, however, by that time the winged soldier will be rendered incapable of diving as well as of flying, while the submarine warrior may be given the flying fish faculty of shooting into the air. We make sure that we shall soon hear these claims put forward on behalf of the miraculous Edison and the little less miraculous Goubet.

**Canned or Dried Fruit.**  
The canned-fruit industry is an enormous one, but the demand does not increase as rapidly as the demand for dried fruit, principally because the former is much more expensive. Dried fruit sells at about half the price a pound that canned fruit commands, and yet the material in one pound of dried fruit will make six pounds of canned fruit. Another reason for the increasing demand for dried fruit is that when cured by the best modern processes it is much superior to what it once was. In California they have learned to prepare prunes so well that large quantities of them are shipped to France, the home of the prune; dried apricots and pears go to Europe by the thousand pounds, while California raisins have practically driven foreign raisins out of Eastern markets in this country, and are now exported in considerable quantities.

**Had Seen Them.**  
"Now, children," said the school teacher, "you have just read the story about the little bird that fell into a spring and was drowned. Who can tell me what a spring is?"  
Several bright little boys and girls held up their hands, and one was asked for her answer.

"It comes before the Fourth of July," he answered.  
"Oh, no, I do not mean the season," explained the teacher. "I mean the spring that the little bird was drowned in."  
A little girl waved her hand frantically.

"Well, you may answer," said the teacher.  
"A spring is water coming up out of the ground with a health resort built up around it."  
The Subject.

She—Have you read "A Hundred Years to Come?"  
He—No. What is it about; a messenger boy?—Indianapolis Journal.

"Bill," the old editor said to his assistant, "when I die, don't turn the column rules."

Nearly every man believes that his business is too large for the town in which he lives.