



osophy of strikes? No, not by finding out who in this city has been living on gristle and sending them a breakfast basket. Seek out some family who through sickness or conjunction of misfortunes have not enough to eat and do for them what Christ did for the hungry multitudes of Asia Minor, multiplying the loaves and the fishes. Let us quit the suffering of ourselves until we cannot shake down another crumb of cake and begin the supply of others' necessities. So far from helping appease the world's hunger are those whom Isaiah describes as grinding the faces of the poor. You have seen a farmer or a mechanic put a sawtoe or an ax on a grindstone while some one was turning it round and round and the man holding the ax here on it harder and harder, while the water dropped from the grindstone, and the edge of the ax from being round and dull got keener and keener. So I have seen men who were not against the grindstone of hardship, and while one turned the crank, another would press the unfortunate harder down and harder down until he was ground away, thinner and thinner—his comforts thinner, his prospects thinner and his face thinner. And Isaiah shrieks out, "What mean ye that ye grind the faces of the poor?"

The Battle for Bread.

It is an awful thing to be hungry. It is an easy thing for us to be in good humor with all the world when we have no lack. But let hunger take full possession of us, and we would all turn into barbarians and cannibals and fiends. Suppose that some of the energy we are expending in useless and unavailing talk about the bread question should be expended in merciful alleviations. I have read that the battlefield on which more troops met than on any other in the world's history was the battlefield of Leipsic—180,000 men under Napoleon, 250,000 men under Schwarzenberg. No, no! The greatest and most terrific battle is now being fought all the world over. It is the battle for bread. The ground tone of the finest passage in one of the great musical masterpieces, the artist says, was suggested to him by the cry of the hungry populace of Vienna as the king rode through and they shouted: "Bread! Give us bread!" And all through the great harmonies of musical academy and cathedral I hear the pathos, the ground tone, the tragedy, of uncounted multitudes, who with streaming eyes and wan cheeks and broken hearts in behalf of themselves and their families are pleading for bread.

A Look Around Us.

Let us take another look around to see how we may serve our generation. Let us see, as far as possible, that they have enough to wear. God looks upon the human race and knows just how many inhabitants the world has. The statistics of the world's population are carefully taken in civilized lands, and every few years officers of government go through the land and count how many people there are in the United States or England, and great accuracy is reached. But when people tell us how many inhabitants there are in Asia or Africa at best it must be a wild guess. Yet God knows the exact number of people on our planet, and he has made enough apparel for each, and if there be fifteen hundred million, fifteen thousand, fifteen hundred and fifteen people, then there is enough apparel for fifteen hundred million, fifteen thousand, fifteen hundred and fifteen. Not slouchy apparel, not ragged apparel, not inelegant apparel, but appropriate apparel. At least two suits for every being on earth, a summer suit and a winter suit. A good pair of shoes for every living mortal. A good coat, a good hat or a good bonnet and a good shawl and a complete masculine or feminine outfit of apparel. A wardrobe for all nations, adapted to all climates, and not a string or a button or a pin or a look or an eye wanting.

But, alas! where are the good clothes for three-fourths of the human race? The other one-fourth have appropriated them. The fact is there needs to be and will be a redistribution. Not by anarchistic violence. If humanity had its way, it would tear and tear and diminish, until instead of three-fourths of the world not properly clothed, four-fourths would be in rags. I will let you know how the redistribution will take place. By generosity on the part of those who have a surplus, and increased industry on the part of those suffering from deficit. Not all, but the large majority of cases of poverty in this country are a result of idleness or drunkenness, either on the part of the present sufferers or their ancestors. In most cases the rags are the maelstrom that has swallowed down the livelihood of those who are in rags. But things will change, and by generosity on the part of the crowded wardrobe, and industry and sobriety on the part of the empty wardrobe, there will be enough for all to wear.

God does His Work.

God has done his part toward the dressing of the human race. He grows a surplus of wool on the sheep's back, and flocks of geese and turkeys and geese with a burden of warmth intended for transference to human comfort when the shuttles of the factories, reaching all the way from Chattanooga to the Merrimack, shall have spun and woven it. In white letters of snowy fleece God has been writing for 1,000 years his wish that there might be warmth for all nations. While others are discussing the effect of high or low tariff or no tariff at all on wool and I had better see if in our wardrobe we have nothing that we can spare for the suffering or pick out some poor lad of the street and take him down to a clothing store and fit him out for the season. Gospel of shoes! Gospel of hats! Gospel of clothes for the naked!

Again, let us look around and see how many serve our generation. What short sighted mortals we would be if we were anxious to clothe and feed only the most insidious part of a man—namely, his body—while we put forth no effort to clothe and feed and save his soul. Time is a little piece broken off a great eternity. What are we doing for the souls of this present generation? Let me say it is a generation worth saving. Most magnificent men and women are in it. We make a great ado about the improvements in navigation and in locomotion and in art and machinery. We remark what wonders of telegraph and telephone and the stethoscope. What improvement is electric light over a tallow candle! But all these improvements are insignificant compared with the improvement in the human race. In older times once in awhile

a great and good man or woman would come up, and the world has made a great fuss about it ever since, but now they are so numerous we scarcely speak about them. We put a halo about the people of the past, but I think, if the times demanded it, we would be found to have more living in this year 1898 fifty Martin Luthers, fifty George Washingtons, fifty Lady Huntingtons, fifty Elizabeths Fry. During our civil war more splendid warriors in North and South were developed in four years than the whole world developed in the previous twenty years. I challenge the 4,000 years before Christ and also the eighteen centuries after Christ to show me the equal of charity on a large scale of George Peabody. This generation of men and women is more worth saving than any one of the 180 generations that have passed off. Where shall we begin? With ourselves. That is the pillar from which we must start.

The Dividing Line.

Prescott, the blind historian, tells us how Pizarro saved his army for the right when they were about deserting him. With his sword he made a long mark on the ground. He said: "My men, on the north side are desertion and death; on the south side is victory; on the north side Panama and poverty; on the south side Peru with all its riches. Choose for yourselves. For my part, I go to the south." Stepping across the line one by one his troops followed, and finally his whole army.

The sword of God's truth draws the dividing line to-day. On one side of it are sin and ruin and death; on the other side of it are pardon and meekness and happiness and heaven. You cross from the wrong side to the right side, and your family will cross with you, and your friends and your associates. The way you go they will go. If we are not saved, we will never save any one else.

How to get saved? Be willing to accept Christ and then accept him instantaneously and forever. Get on the rock first, and then you will be able to help others upon the same rock. Men and women have been saved quicker than I have been talking about it. What! Without a prayer? Yes. What! Without time to deliberate? Yes. What! Without a tear? Yes. Believe that is all. Believe that? That Jesus died to save you from sin and death and hell. Will you? Do you? You have. Something makes me think you have. New light has come into your countenance. Welcome! Welcome! Hail! Hail! Saved yourselves, how are you to save others? By testimony. Tell it to your family. Tell it to your business associates. Tell it every where. We will successfully preach no more religion and will successfully talk no more religion than we ourselves have. The most of that which you do to benefit the souls of this generation will effect through your own behavior. Go wrong and that will induce others to go wrong. Go right and that will induce others to go right. When the great Centennial exhibition was being held in Philadelphia, the question came up among the directors as to whether they should keep the exposition open on Sundays, when a director, who was a man of the world from Nevada, arose and said, his voice trembling with emotion and tears running down his cheeks: "I feel like a returned prodigal. Twenty years ago I went west and into a region where we had no Sabbath, and today old memories come back to me, and I remember what my glorified mother taught me about keeping Sunday, and I seem to hear her voice again and feel as if I did when every evening I knelt by her side in prayer. Gentlemen, I vote for the observance of the Christian Sabbath." And he carried everything by storm, and when the exhibition was put, "Shall we open the exhibition on the Sabbath?" It was almost unanimous, "No." "No." "What one man can do if he does right, boldly right, emphatically right!

For This Generation.

I confess to you that my one wish is to serve this generation, not to outshine it, not to fame it, but to rule it, but to serve it. I would like to do something toward helping unstrap its load, to stop its tears, to heal its wounds and to induce it to put feet on the upward road that has at its terminus acclamation raptures and gates pearl and garlands amaranthine and tulle and rainbow and dominions enthroned and coroneted. For I cannot forget that infamy in the closing words of my text, "David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep." What a lovely sleep it was! Unhappily Absalom did not trouble it. Ambitious Adonijah did not worry it. Persecuting Saul did not narrow it. He did not fill it with night mare. Since a redoubtable, armed host, his father's host at night, he had not had such a good sleep. At 70 years of age he laid down to it. He had many a troubled sleep, as in the caverns of Adulm or in the palace at the time his enemies were attempting his capture, but this was a peaceful sleep, a calm sleep, a restful sleep, a glorious sleep. "After he had served his generation by the will of God, he fell on sleep."

Away with Gloomy Talk.

Away with all your gloomy talk about the future of this world. If we have served our generation, we are not talking out into the breakers. It will not be the fight with the king of terrors. It will be going to sleep. Why will you keep us all so nervous talking about that which is all a dormitory and a pillow slumber, canopied by angels' wings? Sleep! Transporting sleep! And what a glorious awakening! Why, there is father, there is mother, there are the children! All together again, and as we embrace each other with the cry: "Never more to part! Never more to part!" the arches, the alcoves, the hallways, echo and re-echo the words: "Never more to part! Never more to part!" Then our glorified friends say, "Come out with us and see heaven." And, some of them bounding ahead of us and some of them skipping beside us, we start down the ivory stairway. And we meet, coming up, one of the kings of ancient Israel, somewhat small of stature, but having a countenance radiant with a thousand victories. And as all are making obeisance to this great one of heaven I cry out, "Who is he?" And the answer comes: "This is the greatest of all the kings." It is David, who, after he had served his generation by the will of God, fell on sleep.

Copyright, 1898.

None so little enjoy themselves and are such burdens to themselves as those who have nothing to do. Only the active have the true relish of life.—Jay.

Good intentions are very mortal and perishable things; like very mellow and choice fruit they are difficult to keep.—Simmons.

FALLING OF PRICES.

RUIN WROUGHT TO ESTABLISH GOLD STANDARD.

Contraction of the Currency is Bringing About Widespread Shrinkage of Values—Nefarious Plan of the Creditor Combination—Apply the Remedy

An Industrial Despotism.

Wholesale grocers from nearly every great city in the United States recently met in the city of New York for the purpose of forming an organization through which to dictate to the retail grocers of the country the prices at which groceries may be sold to customers.

Prices that wholesale grocers may charge are already fixed for them by great trusts in many articles such as sugar, starch, canned goods, and crackers. It is an old adage that self-preservation is the first law of nature. It is in response to this law that the great trusts are being formed. The world has embarked upon a protracted and indefinite period of falling prices. The gold sought is a gold standard. Just what compensation a gold standard can offer for the ruin of the world it is difficult to understand, and as yet no one has attempted to explain. If a gold standard is ever attained it can be appropriately written on that standard: "The happiness and prosperity of the human race have been sacrificed in order that I might exist."

If the wholesale grocers, the retail grocers and the consumers of groceries understood the meaning of a gold standard, that it meant a contraction of the world's money supply and a consequent fall of prices to a point probably not more than one-fifth the present general level, they would understand that industrial competition could not survive the strain, and that even the formation of a trust could only afford temporary relief to the members of the combination.

Such a shrinkage of values and fall of prices as must take place before a gold standard is a reality will not only confiscate the property of all who are now in debt, but in the end must concentrate the property of the world into the hands of the few that the masses will be reduced to a dependent tenantry from whom rents and taxes can only be collected by means of a soldiery such as Li Hing Chang and the other Chinese viceroys have employed for centuries in the celestial empire.

Twenty-five years ago a prosperous and progressive world, in which the sum of human happiness was yearly increasing, was interrupted by an attempt on the part of a combination of the world's creditors to restrict the world's money supply to gold alone for the purpose of giving to money a greater command over other things, in other words to give it a greater purchasing power in order to compel debtors to pay money of greater value than they received, thus enriching creditors unjustly at the expense of their debtors.

It would doubtless be giving too much credit to the intelligence of the creditor combination to believe that they comprehended or anticipated the disaster that would befall the world as the result of the demonetization of silver. We think it more near the truth to say that they understand that enormous and unjust gain would accrue to themselves and that they were not prompted by any desire to destroy mankind but were actuated and impelled solely by an inordinate and uncontrollable desire for gain.

The amount that the world suffers through debtors having to pay creditors in larger, fatter, and more valuable dollars than they agreed to, constitutes a small part of the evil of a gold standard. A far greater evil is to be found in the fact that falling prices make enterprise the unerring road to bankruptcy, and do not permit the enterprising, thrifty, and industrious to pay debts out of the proceeds of current production. This condition compels the sacrifice of capital invested in production to meet such obligations as would not be considered imprudent as would of any business man to incur, and still leave enterprise a legitimate profit under normal market conditions.

The experience of the past twenty years has clearly demonstrated that business cannot be successfully prosecuted under the laws of free competition while the general level of prices is sinking. This knowledge has driven individuals and corporations having large capital invested in business to join with all others having large capital invested in competition with them to form gigantic copartnerships or trusts with sufficient power to dictate, unconditionally, terms, and prices to their customers. By this process industrial competition is displaced by industrial despotism.

The trusts being outside of economic law—industrial despots no longer subject to the law of competition, can dictate terms to the trade in their particular lines and by increasing the burdens of the people secure to themselves for the time being immunity from loss on account of the fall of general prices. Thus the law of self-preservation has driven the manufacturers and traders of the country having large capital in their business into trusts to such an extent that the profits of the industry of the whole country now flows into the pockets of a comparatively small number of men.

In the formation of a trust only the great and powerful competitors join together. After these have combined they use the power of their united capital to crush and drive out of business all small operators until the field becomes exclusively their own. In the smaller industries not requiring large capital in few hands where trusts have not been formed and competition has not been crushed and rule is the

inevitable fate of large and increasing numbers as time progresses.

The trust is able to secure for itself immunity from these conditions only for a short time. The baneful effect of falling prices when long continued falls with crushing force upon the laboring population. Those who employ labor in production realize that in order to avoid loss they must cut down wages and thus cheapen production in anticipation of the inevitable lower prices they must meet in the market. Thus the power to purchase and hence the consuming power of the people is reduced until the labor of a small portion will suffice to produce the goods that can be sold, when the trusts will find themselves compelled to continue to reduce the price of their products as time goes on. Hence the capital representing a trust has to be scaled down year by year. On the road to the gold standard the individual competitor falls first by the wayside to make room for the trust, but it is only a matter of time when the trust itself will be forced to sacrifice its capital through loss of profits. The only salvation for the people is to understand the forces that are at work, and apply the remedy by restoring bimetalism and providing for an adequate increase of legal tender money to keep pace with increasing population and business and give stability to general prices.—Silver Knight Watchman.

Scandal of the Century.

Shame! Shame! Thrice shame! upon those responsible for the brutal mistreatment of American soldiers. Every day that passes brings to light a more appalling condition of affairs in camps and hospitals. We need no longer wonder at the sufferings of the men in the trenches at Santiago and in the hospitals at Balquitr. We need no longer wonder at the failure of the quartermasters', commissary and hospital departments in Cuba. The system and the men unable to care for soldiers on American soil must have been a complete failure when called upon to cope with the campaign in Cuba.

Regiments which never left the camps on American soil are returning to their homes with the men mere poor, pathetic skeletons of the robust fighters who answered the call. The Maine regiment which did not progress beyond Chickamauga has returned to its state looking as though it had encountered all the horrors of war. The Governor of New York rushes to Washington to demand that the troops from that state be no longer allowed to rot in the hospitals and camps until for human beings.

The treatment of the soldiers is the most dreadful scandal of the century. It has brought to the war department a storm of condemnation such as has not been visited upon any department of the government since the nation came into existence. Stupidity, avarice and heartless indifference to the condition of the enlisted men are the charges in the indictment, and the evidence to sustain them is so strong that the country is aghast with just wrath.

If these things had happened in the remote interior of Africa, where transportation is impossible, they would deserve condemnation, but that they should occur in the heart of a land traversed by railroads, abounding in food and supplies of all kinds and filled with 75,000,000 of generous people is shocking to every instinct of decency and humanity.

There must be an investigation which will drag into the light every covering wretch upon whose head is the weight of guilt.

We repeat, too, that the blame for the treatment of the troops cannot be placed wholly upon Alger. Some of it is his, but it must be remembered that the President weakly gave way before the clamors of senators, congressmen and political bosses and filled the staff departments with inexperienced and incompetent men. The course of the administration was the more reprehensible because there were hundreds of experienced and competent men available among the lower ranks of commissioned officers, among the non-commissioned officers, among the retired officers and among the civilian employes of the war department. While the men who know how to take care of an army were passed over, the men who knew nothing about it were placed in positions where their crass ignorance or stupidity, or worse, were an embarrassment to the officials who knew their duty and tried to do it.

The exploitation of the people for the benefit of favored classes was the predominant idea of the Republican national convention in St. Louis in 1860 and the mismanagement of the war department is only one of the noxious fruits naturally and inevitably springing from it.—Denver News.

Paying Interest to Europe.

"Is it true," I asked the great thinker, "that England alone holds \$2,500,000,000 of United States securities, bearing interest, including exchange, of 6 per cent, payable in gold?"

"Yes, according to the public statements of London statisticians. The secretary of the treasury says there is no public record in this country showing the amount of foreign investments. We must, therefore, go to Europe to learn not only how much we are in debt to Great Britain, but that at least \$600,000,000 additional of United States investments are held in France and Germany. This makes a total in three countries of \$3,000,000,000, imposing an interest charge, including exchange, of \$180,000,000 per annum. A nice state of serfdom, isn't it?"

Shame on the Party.

Alger is getting a large share of the blame for the condition of affairs at Montauk Point. It looks as though this incompetent and whimpering Alger could not receive too much blame, but there is guilt and responsibility in

still higher places. President McKinley appointed Alger to the position of Secretary of War. President McKinley is responsible for Alger. But this is not all. President McKinley set his subordinate, Alger, the example of appointing incompetent, inexperienced civilians to military positions. The scandal was noted and commented on when it occurred. The results are shown in starved soldiers and pestilential army camps.

It will not do for President McKinley to make a scapegoat of Alger. The crime committed against humanity must be charged to the administration. The Republican party is guilty through placing politicians and not statesmen in positions of authority. And the Republican party, which has endeavored to arrogate unto itself all the glory of the victory over Spain, must now accept the shame which covers the conduct of the war department.—Chicago Dispatch.



Stable Dollars.

Goldbugs frequently speak of money as though its only function was as a medium of exchange to effect transactions in present. Almost any form of money—whether gold or clam shells—would answer that purpose. The important thing in money, however, is to have it remain stable for periods of time, so that contracts will be paid with the same value as at the time of their inception. The chief end to be sought is to maintain the parity between money and property.

The foregoing illustrations make it clear that there is only one possible definition of honest money. That is, an honest dollar would be one that maintained the same average purchasing power yesterday, to-day and forever, as measured, not by the prices of any particular articles at any particular time, but by the general average of prices. Such a dollar would do justice to every one. The creditor would get all that he bargained for; he has no right to insist on being paid in a dollar that is not worth more property than the one he lent.

The debtor, too, would pay a dollar representing the same amount of property as that he borrowed. But if a choice must be had between a slightly rising dollar and a slightly falling dollar—in other words, between falling prices and rising prices—it is clear that rising prices are more beneficial to the community, as a whole, than falling prices.

Gold as a Standard.

Current production of silver, like wheat and cotton, is absorbed by current demands. The world's silver product is sixteen pounds to one pound of gold. Why refuse the natural, logical ratio of 16 to 1? Gold is constantly diminishing in output compared with demand. The price barometer is proof of this. The index numbers of prices show the cause and cure of this financial depression. If nailed to the masts of the press Dun and Bradstreet would be powerless to "fool some of the people all of the time."

The authorities teach that independent bimetalism and parity are a simple underwriting for this country, because price level and money level are international. Our present prices require our present money volume of about \$1,750,000,000. To lose our gold without a primary substitute means to lower our prices and raise in "the same proportion" the prices in countries receiving it. Yankee trading and the "greed for gain" prevents this. Hence it is axiomatic that our gold cannot leave us until a substitute fills the void.

Alger and the Press. Secretary Alger believes that he can stare off an investigation with his barrel.—Salt Lake Herald.

The administration should devise ways and means of losing Alger as soon as possible.—Pittsburg Post.

Things are now coming General Alger's way—such things as brick-bats, clubs, rocks, etc.—Kansas City World.

Doubtless Secretary Alger has heard of the French saying that he who excuses himself accuses himself.—Boston Herald.

Secretary Alger's defense, as published in administration organs, is a string of evasions.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The evacuation of the war department is of more importance than the evacuation of Cuba and Porto Rico.—Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

Chauncey M. Depew is about the only man left in the country who would permit Secretary Alger to address him as "dear."—Salt Lake Herald.

The letter of Secretary Alger to Chauncey M. Depew does not explain away one of the serious charges that have been made against him.—Peoria Herald.

Our soldiers have been murdered in multitudes by avoidable camp conditions. Who are the murderers? It is for congress to find out, and there are fearless men enough in congress to do this duty.—New York World.

Camps in unhealthy localities, poisonous water, scanty and bad food, exposure to the elements for want of tents, coats and blankets—these have killed hundreds of men, unnumbered men, who entered the army to fight for their country.—New York Journal.

The whole power of the Spanish fleet and Spanish forces has been unable to inflict upon the armies of the United States a loss of life in any degree approaching that resulting from the unparalleled blundering of the war department.—Philadelphia Record.