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By the way, where is that Hanna boom that Secretary Heath was amusing himself with?

Judge James F. Hughes, of Mattoon, Illinois, is interesting himself in a plan to raise a fund for the benefit of Mrs. Amanda Poorman, who in her younger days befriended Abraham Lincoln, then a struggling young lawyer.

The editor of **THE COMMONER** acknowledges his indebtedness to the readers who have been bringing the paper to the attention of their neighbors and thus increasing its circulation. Last week was the best since the summer months began but the books are not yet full.

Soon we may expect the administration literary bureau to get into operation in order to convince the American people that the admission of Chinese to this country is the very thing necessary to completely maintain "national honor", "restore confidence" and establish "perpetual prosperity."

If any wage-worker has been deluded with the idea that a labor organization can hold its own against a great trust let him learn wisdom from the sad experience of those who have felt the power of the steel trust. The laboring man will find it necessary to use the ballot for the extermination of trusts; he cannot rely upon the strength of any organization, however strong.

Don't bet on elections. Aside from the moral principle involved it is foolish to gamble on a subject where your enthusiasm impairs your judgment. If your party wins there is joy enough in the victory; if your party loses, why give your opponents the double happiness of a party triumph and your money besides. Instead of risking your earnings on a wager contribute what you can to the campaign fund.

Andrew Jackson Montague, the Democratic candidate for Governor in Virginia, has the brand of his Democracy "blown in the bottle,"

as it were. It is evident that his parents were admirers of the hero of New Orleans, and Mr. Montague, while still a young man, has shown himself to possess the Democracy, the honesty and the courage which characterized the statesman after whom he was named.

The Daily News and Sun of Griffin, Georgia, held its fourth annual reunion of employees and correspondents recently. The News and Sun is one of the staunch Democratic papers of Georgia and the success of the reunion indicates the popularity of the paper in its vicinity. Senator Clay delivered an address and took occasion to deal a few stalwart blows at the Hanna "Democrats," as he called those who claim to be Democrats and yet support Republican principles.

The suggestion that the body of Czolgosz should be refused burial upon American soil is proof of the patriotism of those who advance it, but the government would not strengthen itself in the eyes of the world by going beyond the limitations of the law. When life is extinct the penalty is paid, and the body belongs to his relatives. If the parents of Czolgosz choose to bury him in the ocean no one will complain, but for the government to insist upon it would not add to its dignity or increase the already well-nigh unanimous condemnation of anarchy.

Hon. Alexander Del Mar has just issued (through the Cambridge Encyclopedia Co., New York,) a very valuable work entitled: "A History of the Precious Metals from the Earliest Times to the Present." Mr. Del Mar was formerly director of the United States Bureau of Statistics, and has written a number of books. Attention is called to this one for the reason that the editor of **THE COMMONER** is often in receipt of letters asking for information upon subjects covered by Mr. Del Mar's work, and he takes pleasure in commending it.

The announcement that Mr. Goold, the man recently nominated by the Nebraska Republicans for regent of the State University, was among those who borrowed state money of Treasurer Bartley and failed to return same, has created consternation in the Republican camp. As a number of other Republican leaders are suspected of being in the same fix it may become necessary for Republican conventions hereafter, before proceeding to nominations, to appoint a committee to visit the penitentiary and examine Mr. Bartley's schedule of uncollectable assets.

A reader of **The Commoner** says that the statistics showing the tonnage on the lakes are misleading, and asserts that these statistics show the carrying capacity of the boat and not the actual weight carried. He says, for instance, that a vessel having a capacity of two thousand tons will be reported at two thousand tons when she enters a port, and reported again at two thousand tons when she leaves the port, regardless of the actual amount of

freight conveyed from port to port. If this is true, the statistics do not show the amount of freight actually carried, but the amount that might be carried. If the same report is made from each port entered and the sums are added together, the same freight may be counted over and over again. The editor of **The Commoner** will be glad to have the statement confirmed or refuted.

The Populist committee of Jasper County, Missouri, has adopted resolutions repudiating the new party movement, and declaring that, while it believes in perfecting and keeping the Populist organization in the field, it also believes that so long as the Democratic party maintains the position taken in 1896 and 1900 it is the best for the Populists to act with the Democrats. This is certainly a wiser course than that pursued by those Populists who assume that the Democratic party will be Republicanized, and then proceed to encourage the re-organizers by declaring against fusion.

Congressman Babcock has been visiting in Europe and on his return to this country gave to the newspapers an interview in which he said:

"What I saw and heard in Europe in regard to trade interests and the influences exerted upon old world industrial conditions by American competition has served only to strengthen the views I have long entertained, that our tariff should be revised to meet new conditions. Indeed, I regard that as conclusive."

If the Republican party opposes tariff revision it is safe to predict that Mr. Babcock, if he adheres to his views, will find himself a stranger to the patronage crib.

A reader of **The Commoner** inquires whether the silver dollar is an unlimited legal tender. It is, except where specifically excluded by the terms of the contract. The law of 1873 suspended the coinage of silver, but did not affect its legal tender. The law of 1874 limited the legal tender, but the law of 1879, providing for the purchase and coinage of silver bullion, provided also for the unlimited legal tender of the silver dollar except when contracted against. While the advocates of the gold standard have desired to limit the legal tender of standard silver dollars they have not yet succeeded in doing so.

An organized movement has been set on foot in Texas for the promotion of industrial education of the children. Reports from that state show that the work is rapidly progressing. The organization has already secured the passage of a bill establishing an industrial college for girls and is now proposing to introduce normal and industrial training into the public schools. The leaders of the movement contend that the building of factories and the development of other industrial enterprises to utilize the industrial resources of the state demand such an improvement as will fit the students to take advantage of the opportunities offered by these industries.