under President Monroe, was known elections, will make another election question except court injunctions. He way beaten. as the era of good feeling. Now, as necessary, which will have to take then, the views of both parties have place within ten days after the first come together. There is little differ- election. The candidate having used ence between the tenets of a Cleve-corruptive methods is not eligible in land democrat and a Taft republi-that election. I think the public can can. Mr. Franklin McVeagh, the new be made to see that the purpose of secretary of the treasury, was one such laws would be to secure the and is the other and has never democratic institutions of this counchanged his beliefs." This, at any try against their being abused by corrate, confirms the belief expressed in porate wealth. They furnish no former correspondence, that neither grounds upon which a threat can be Mr. Stephens nor myself were the based to the effect, that the prosonly ones who thought dropping the perity of the nation would be immoney question simply meant the ab- paired should such legislation be carsorption of the great democratic ried out. Having placed the elecparty by the party of the "predatory tions in the hands of the people, all rich" and the "wealthy malefactor" who have, like the Kilkenny cats, devoured both.

Robert Schilling, Milwaukee, Wis. -Lincoln's epigram about fooling publican ideals of government since the people should be changed some- the close of the civil war, it would what. They may not be able to fool all the people all the time, but they do seem to be able to fool the majority of the people all the time. I know sensible, intelligent men-not one, but many-who voted the republican ticket in the last election, in spite of the fact that they were even more radical than the democratic party, solely because they were afraid that the election of Bryan would induce the Wall Street thugs to precipitate another panic. And this while we were in the midst of one caused by these selfish and heartless financial buccaneers. Will these people never learn that under our present barbarous financial system panics are absolutely inevitable? If they once realize this indisputable fact, they would vote for a change, even if it caused temporary trouble. If a body suffers with a foul ulcer, little plasters and lotions may give temporary relief, but no remedy. What is needed is some radical remedy in order to effect a thorough and removed, no matter how heroic the means of relief may be. The entire silly and disreputable financial system must be changed, even though we be compelled to pass through a period of serious depression, and then we will have safety ever after.

George Strelitz, Milwaukee, Wis .-May I presume to submit to you the following ideas: Our political leaders should by no means be leaders rather followers of developments in thought and knowledge, which must to a large degree become diffused amongst the people, before a statesman can profit effectively by any inprinciple in mind, it will be rather of comprehension. Second, The intellectual progress of the masses has not kept up with these larger requirements. Third, The soil in which our democratic institutions have been planted, which was so well fitted to nourish the qualities of independence, has been gradually undergoing a change. This is a rather dark statement and ought to be explained at greater length, however I do not absolutely necessary. One suggestion would follow from these reespouse the cause of reform. Limit senators shall be elected by popular derstand that American liberty has

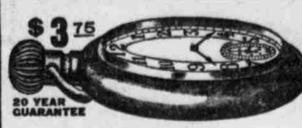
other issues will settle themselves. Thomas R. Stevenson, Oakland,

Cal.—Anent the unbroken series of

successes of the opponents of our re-

seem that even Commoner readers overlook the steady, menacing growth of the prerogative and powers of the federal judiciary. We know the supreme court was remodeled for the purpose of reversing the greenback decision. So far as my knowledge extends backward, that was the first direct use of the courts to nullify a .aw of congress. It was not the last, nor by any means the only time the federal courts have been successfully used to thwart the will, as well as the rights of the people. We all remember the use made of the supreme court in the Tilden-Hayes presidential contest; the reversal of the income tax law; the setting aside of the employers' liability act; their sustaining of injunctions in criminal cases-in violation of all precedent and existing law. It has actually come to pass in our time that we no longer possess a representative government. In place of the government established by the revolutionary fathers we now have permanent cure. The ulcer must be an oligarchy of wealth ruling us despotically through the supreme court. Few people seem to realize how complete the power of the court has really become. Our house of representatives have only one function left—the power to tax the poor. Through the treaty making function the president "by and with the consent of the senate" can and does, set aside, not only state laws, according to the decisions of the supreme court, in the strictest sense of the word, but but the acts of congress itself. Mr. Jefferson in 1823 wrote these words anent the veto power of the supreme court: "No veto power, ancient or modern, ever existed so formidable as this American irresponsible juditellectual progress that may have cial veto." During the last presidenbeen made. Bearing this cardinal tial canvass democrats were everywhere confronted with the question easy to trace the reason of Mr. of "How can Mr. Bryan do anything Bryan's defeat in the last presiden- while the supreme court is in the tial campaign. First, Our political control of great wealth?" Every problems have become more difficult one realized that no reform was possible so long as big capitalists were entrenched behind that all-powerful court. If W. T. Stead is to be trusted, this American idea of government by a supreme court is now receiving the earnest consideration of European capitalists. Speaking about the recent opening of the international parliament of agriculture in Rome, which he says the king hopes may develop into a universal parliament wish to make this letter longer than of the world, Mr. Stead uses these words: "Behind them all, invisible as the atmosphere, whose pressure all marks, which may be useful, should men feel, is the great American idea the democratic party once more of a free confederation of independent states living together in parenthe platform, so as to concentrate tal equality and settling all disputes the power of attack upon practically and differences by the judgment of one issue. Namely this can be easily an impartial supreme court." It is grasped by the public mind: The plain, then, that European rulers un-

Letters from the People "vote." Any representative, senator been undermined by capitalism insists that the courts must not only or president shall be recalled and replaced if he violates the platform judiciary, if we do not. The last re- idea of state laws standing in the way L. E. Perkins, Denver, Colo.-I promises, and the legislative acts he publican platform promised to "up- of federal courts must be suppressed. read in the April number of the participated in, shall have no legal hold and strengthen the power of the Are democrats too cowardly to at-World's Work the following: "We force." Any corrupt practices or courts." Mr. Taft in his inaugural tack this monster of despotism? If are entering a period like that which, lavish expenditure of money used in address straddled almost every other | so, then they must and should be al-



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