

gestible book-knowledge, but devoted to better things, to be a thinking-instrument for the production of plastic mental labor, for understanding, reasoning, combination and the development of will-power. At present the brain of our children is a graphophone padded with prejudices, parrot-knowledge, the echoes of empirical teachings and errors, and stuffed with profitless gab. A reform in our ways of teaching along new lines will give us mentally stronger and freer men instead of brainless parrots and mental serfs."

Now—following  
**BEAT THE BEES.** the meek-eyed procession of Jersey, Alderney, Guernsey, Holstein, and other butter-secreting bovines who petition congress for protective taxation against any and all substitutes for butter—comes the Busy Bee and asks the national lawgivers for an enactment taxing artificial honey out of the American market.

In the Farmers Call The Conservative finds the following:

"A few days ago a grocer said to us that he had some real honey; he knew we liked the real thing, and would we please drop in.

We dropped.

"We knew the honey was genuine. We would have sworn to it. It had all the earmarks of the bee, all the little peculiarities of the bee's handiwork. We paid 48 cents for two pounds.

"And when we came to eat it we had to say sadly that some fellow was too smooth for us. Instead of the comb chewing up beeswax, it melted in the mouth. The alleged honey was not very sweet—it was an inferior article of glucose, flavored with a little, a very little, honey. The comb was made of paraffine.

"It was the same old honey that the bees didn't make. But we will bet all our mother-in-law's money that it would fool a bee itself. It is the best imitation honey we have yet seen. And the town is full of it.

"Now, will the dear brethren who are laboring so hard to protect the cow and the dairyman, please do something for the busy little bee and the beekeeper? We are for the Grout bill; we are also for a law that will compel the manufacturers of paraffine-glucose honey to dye it green or blue.

"Milk and honey are so closely associated that it isn't fair to protect butter and not protect honey."

How doth the crazy bee emulate and simulate the butter makers, butter renovators and butter speculators of this over-legislating Republic! There ought to be established immediately a Bee-Honey lobby at Washington and a tax of ten cents a pound demanded on all substitutes for honey made out of glucose and confined in paraffine cells which is not colored red, white and blue!! The symbol of industry and polygamy, the Busy Bee, must not be degraded and its market de-

bauched by a product of corn, corn which makes pork and whiskey; corn which makes beer; corn which makes pone cake.

A telegram from  
**A KILLER.** Ithaca, New York, where Cornell University is located, dated October 28, 1901, reads as follows:

"I am strongly in favor of killing off the weak in society for the benefit of the strong. I would kill off the feeble-minded and all others who may be a burden, as I would kill off so many rattlesnakes."

This is the startling statement made by H. H. Powers, professor of sociology at Cornell University, before his class in political principles.

Professor Powers went on to say that he would not kill the weak-minded because he hated them, but because they were troublesome to have around. Continuing, he said;

"I believe the time will come when society will see the benefit of exterminating the weak by artificial means. To be sure, under the present regime it is impossible to determine who is to judge the weak and the fit from the strong and the unfit.

"Nature formerly weeded out the unfit, but now life is made so much easier that a large percentage of those who are a burden to the better element are helped to live.

"War," the professor concluded, "used to kill off the weak in long campaigns, but now war exterminates the strong and those most valuable to society."

Professor Powers occupies the chair of sociology in Cornell University. He was the recipient of the degrees of A. B., B. L. and A. M. from the University of Wisconsin, where he was instructor in German, 1885-86. He was a student at the Sorbonne and College de France in Paris, 1886-88; professor of the French language and literature at Oberlin College, 1888-92, and professor of economics and sociology at Smith College, 1893-95.

The Conservative thinks Prof. Powers a very plain-speaking person and evidently one who desires to improve the breeds of men.

The national  
**THE DEATH PENALTY.** murderer has been obliterated. He exists no longer anywhere in the world. Whatever may be speculated in regard to his thinking part, his soul, he is no longer a man among men. With what object has this been done? Assuredly not for vengeance; the old Jewish idea of revenge in punishment has disappeared from our legislation, although many street speakers and some editors are willing to have it appear still to ani-

mate them. The penalties of the law are inflicted nowadays with a view either to reformation of the offender or to protection of the public. Those who may thereby be deterred from further offending are deprived of a portion of their property or of their liberty; those whose existence is too serious a menace to the rights of others are wiped out—put to death. If a man is too dangerous to live with other men, the law does not think of punishing him that he may become better; still less of making him feel the suffering that he has caused others; it simply decrees that there shall be no such man.

This is the enlightened modern idea, on which coming generations will no doubt act more generally than do we. And there is little room for doubt that instead of restricting they will broaden the use of a wise and merciful death-penalty. There are many beings born of human parents, to permit and assist whom to live out the full term of life is cruelty to themselves and injustice to our children.

New York City,  
**WIRELESS.** in fact all American cities, and all the states of the Union, need wireless politics more than they need wireless telegraphy.

Every family  
**PLANT A TREE.** should plant a tree for every baby born into its circle. It should be a straight, well-formed tree and it should be kept in form, by pruning and care, just as the baby it honors should be disciplined and developed into a self-reliant, self-denying man or woman. Plant a tree for every baby born in Nebraska during the next century and the state will be beautifully arboreal.

Governments are  
**BUSINESS.** instituted primarily to protect life, liberty and property. That a life incapable of self-support, and liberty not devoted to useful industry cannot acquire property, goes without saying. But all the men and women of the United States who work either with head or hand, or both, are entitled to the best and cheapest protection to life, liberty and property. And the most economical and perfect will be secured by adapting governmental administration to business methods. The business of government should be carried on without waste, without extravagance, and by able and industrious men. If the public treasury contains more money than is needed for the economical administration of the government, federal taxes should be proportionately reduced. Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation.