

Perhaps after all Booker T. Washington is not so black as he is painted.

At this distance, it seems that the American jockeys were ruled off the English turf, simply and solely because they rode not wisely, but too well. They claim that the Yankee lads are good winners, but poor losers, but after a careful perusal of the turf returns from the other side, we make bold to ask how in the world they ever arrived at the latter conclusion.

I long to see him, in the court on high,  
Read his dread sentence in Saint Peter's eye,  
And, as despairingly he turns to go,  
I'll say, as he now says, "I told you so."

With thumb and elbow his sore ribs I'll prod,  
I'll slap his back and wink and grin and nod,  
And comfort him by chanting sweet and low,  
His old-time song, to-wit: "I told you so,"

As nearly as can be gathered from the testimony given in (or drawn out as the case may be) the commodore was busy sending signals, which no one will admit ever having received; the captain was spending his time in drafting his report and writing up the log, which was afterwards amended by sundry erasures and interlineations which completely changed the tenor of it; the navigator was as busy as a cranberry merchant keeping his ship from caroming off the others, in which he barely succeeded; the petty officers were making copious notes from which to compile "statements" for the press, each and every one of which were most shamefully distorted, and ascertaining and announcing the range, which turned out to be woefully inaccurate; but on the gun deck and a'tween decks and a'low decks, from stem to stern, aloft and aloft, dear, brave, skillful, kind-hearted, jolly, greasy, swearing, fighting Jacky was relieving Spain of her floating debt and causing the mingled odors of garlic and Spanish onions to float lazily upward over fair Santiago bay on that sweet and memorable July morning, when the gallant Cervera came out to get his whiskers trimmed. All of which causes us to muse:

It was a gallant commodore,  
Who heard the Spanish guns out-pour,  
And saw the carnage dread.  
No time had he to join the fight,  
But all that day with main and might,  
Sent flutt'ring signals left and right,  
Which no one ever read.

It was a captain brave and true,  
Who fought the awful action thro',  
(For him it was but sport.)  
As stalwart as the mountain pine,  
With instinct true and judgment fine,  
Twelve feet below the water line,  
He drafted his report.

It was a navigator, too,  
Who steamed across the steaming blue,  
Amidst the billows' roar.  
Precise, exact and circumspect,  
He kept his ship from being wreck't;  
Besides, as we now recollect,  
He measured all the coal.

It was a commandant so brave,  
Who armed himself, the day to save,  
With instruments galore.

He measured carefully the range,  
And, noting down its every change,  
Called it aloud, tho' 'tis not strange  
'Twas drowned in the uproar.

It was a thousand men or more,  
Who laughed and danced and shot and swore,  
And beat the foemen back.

With due respect then honor Schley;  
Nor pass the gallant Sampson by,  
But heroes?—Well, just rest your eye  
On dear old greasy Jack.

FROM "THE GOD OF THE POOR."

Good men he loved, and hated bad;  
Joyful days and sweet he had;  
Good deeds did he plenteously;  
Beneath him folk lived frank and free.  
Deus est Deus pauperum.

He lived long, with merry days;  
None said aught of him but praise.  
God on him have full mercy;  
A good knight merciful was he.  
Deus est Deus pauperum.

--William Morris.

APPEAL TO PUBLIC OPINION.

BY HENRY W. LAMB.

It now appears probable that the discussion of questions relating to our foreign commerce will be most prominent during the approaching session of Congress, and will occupy public attention as well. These are:

First. The treaties of commercial reciprocity, for which the administration has stood sponsor.

Second. The measure to remove protection from some of our extortionate "trusts," proposed by Congressman Babcock, of Wisconsin.

Third. A shipping bounty or subsidy bill of somewhat doubtful percentage.

As in the last two years the Free Trade League offers its services in procuring articles for newspaper publication from our eminent public men best qualified to treat these subjects from the standpoint of the general welfare. There is no danger, there never is, that the standpoint of individual interests will fail to be presented in either Congressional or newspaper discussion. The real dangers are, unless the popular interest is properly stimulated and directed, that narrow views of these broad public questions will be too generally taken, that they will be regarded as involving merely those branches of trade which actively support or oppose them, and that the bad measures will therefore succeed, as they usually do, when conflicting business interests are induced to compromise, while the good ones will fail for lack of support from a public which does not clearly understand how it is affected.

Public opinion in the United States is still the most powerful influence in controlling legislation; and, if thoroughly aroused and informed, it will, in the long run, prevail against the

selfish and reckless demands of organized wealth. The newspapers of the country have it in their power to awaken, to educate, to concentrate public opinion until it becomes overwhelming. It was concentrated effort in the papers which made Congress refuse to enact the ship subsidy scheme, in direct hostility to the great mass of public opinion. It was concentrated effort in the papers which so held public attention to the evident tariff protection of great "trusts" that it refused to be turned aside even by the absorbing issues of a presidential election, but grew and strengthened until Congressman Babcock saw that Congress would have to give heed to it, and brought forward his bill as a remedy.

In the exposure of the evils in the ship subsidy this League took some part, and perhaps rendered good service. The other discussion, however, it has made for two years its particular province. The League may fairly claim that the Babcock bill is the result of its efforts to keep up, in spite of the political pressure of other issues, a newspaper discussion which insisted that, whatever the merits or evils of trusts, one thing was plain—that the tariff protected many of them in getting extortionate prices—and one remedy was not only plain, but just,—to remove every duty which protected a "trust."

The League now proposes, while continuing its discussion of the other two issues, to pursue the same course in treating of reciprocity. Some of the writers will treat of specific lines, others of the principles involved, which are, it may be said, not generally comprehended as yet; and throughout the discussion every effort will be made to show the connection of the subject with the public welfare,—the only interest which the League wishes to promote.

The series of articles which the League has edited during the past two years may be accepted as a guarantee of the tone and value of the discussion this year. Its articles have been quoted with approval, not only in parts of the country remote from New England, but by eminent public men in Europe, and even in far off Japan. Its officers have felt that it would be some return for the respect which their papers have received, even from opponents, if the limitation "New England" should be dropped from its name, and it should be henceforth called the American Free Trade League. And, by way of still further return, it will try to continue to merit the praise which its publications have received for their breadth, moderation, accuracy and fairness.