## THE PASSING SHOW.

GLANCES AT POLITICS AND CONDITIONS.

Thile Many of Us Are Puzzled to Make a Living the Administration Finds It Equally as Hard to Preserve Its Credit.

The administration is very much agitated at the deficit in the revenue. Some way of taxing the poor will have to be contrived, for the idea of an income tax cannot be tolerated. Accordingly, Schator Allison is to the fore with a scheme for taxing tea, and Senator Morrill is in favor of taxing coffee. The Populists in the senate want to revive the income tax, but the decision of the Supreme court stands in the way. But, whatever is to be the outcome, things cannot be long delayed, for no man, and no government either, can go on very long if he or it spends more than is received in the shape of income. The idea of levying a special tax on the rallroads of the country has been sugted, but Mr. McKenna, who is 40 soon to go on the bench of the Sapreme court, declares that a national tax on railroads is unconstitutional and we are inclined to suspect that he knows all about it. Taxes on the rich are not apt to be constitutional, although taxes on the poor are invariably so, says the Twentieth Century. It is a little odd to have men like Senator Lodge get up and say that our country is the richest one on earth and blessed with inexhaustible natural resources, while at the same time there is no way of providing taxes enough to run the government. Senator Lodge says the talk about the distress of the poor is quite absurd because the taxes laid on the poor yiel? so much. This is really a very striking and ingenious argument. If the poo: can pay so much, what can the rich

A Fall River, Mass., dispatch under a December date, said:

"At a general meeting of the Cotton. Manufacturers' Association it was unanimously voted to reduce all wages in the mills of the city, the amount and time of the reduction being left to a committee. It is understood that the cut will not be less than 10 per cent, and that it will go into effect Jan. 1. The cut will effect 28,000 persous. The feeling is prevalent that there will be a strike, but how large a proportion of the operatives will take part in it it is impossible to say. Every effort will be made to avert such ac-

There is a remedy for all this condition, costing less exertion than all these kind of "strikes"-Vote! Labor has the electoral strength to make a "strike" at the ballot box that will end for all time the necessity of strikes tagainst reduction of wages, says the Journal of the Knights of Labor. Stand together one time at the polls, and victory will perch upon the standard of labor, and the "crown of liberty" will be won for the industrial masses. Let all labor interests combine now for one great future effort to throw off industrial serfdom. Will you do it, and be free and prosperous?

It now looks like the American workers will not complete the Grand Trianon in Paris which they recently started, according to Pilgrim. This building was to have cost many millions and would have astonished the world by its magnificence. Perhaps you are surprised to learn that the workingmen of the United States have been engaged upon a building of this nature. Perhaps you never heard of it. Well, they have been doing that very thing, vicariously as it were. You see, the laboring people of the United States annually create and turn over to the Gould family many million dollars in return for which the Gould family do nothing. But in the direction of royalty the Gould do bend, and hence it came about once upon a time that Annie Gould married a French count and the count married Annie and \$10,-000,000, which the employees of the Missouri Pacific railroad and the Western Union Telegraph company had earned and turned over to Annie, beeause her father had given her a few little pieces of paper, called stocks and bonds. So Annie and the Count de Castellene were married and soon afterwards the count turned up in Paris. and since then the "fur has flew." Banquets and yachts, balls and parties were plentiful, and the count, in cudgelling his brains for a way to spend the creation of American labor faster, hit upon this scheme of a magnificent building in Paris-not in election this issue will far transcend America. But this extravagance cause! the countess who, it is said, is now tired of her profligate husband to stop the flow of the golden dollars. Think of the hardships it takes to keep this irresponsible animal pleased. It has taken the cold and discomfort of many thousand railroad men to gratify his inordinate vanity, and more than one of them are minus limbs in trying to create wealth for him to throw at the birds, and many of them have left widowed women and fatherless children to face a bitter world.

According to the President's message, the nation is a lump of prosperity; according to a bill introduced by Senator Hawley at the earliest hour possible, the nation's prosperity has wide and deep cracks. No sooner was congress opened and the President's for silver coinage, Wall street would brought in by him for two additional even as a sample. They say that Engregiments of artillery. How is the in- land's statesmen and business men Now, then, if McKinley is right, and will need several Englands to save her. we are a happy, prosperous people, -Free Press.

why should we want more regiments of artillery than we now have? If, on the other hand. Hawley is right, and power, we are not a happy and prosperous nation. One or the other is in error. Which of the two, McKinley or Hawley, in giving the lie to the other, is right?

"Six tramps were arraigned in Justice Dunn's court Tuesday, charged with destroying railroad property. Among them was a lawyer of no mean ability who undertook the defense, and actually cleared the whole gang, much to the surprise of all. There was no question as to some of them burning posts to make a fire, but the tramp lawyer was smart enough to clear them all. His name was Norcross, of a noted family of lawyers of Illinois,"-Dispatch, Arkansas City, Kas.

Little items like the above that occasionally creep into the press show what kind of people are being crowded into the ranks of the tramps, says the Appeal to Reason. Not only the laborer and the skilled mechanic are getting down in the mire, but lawyers, doctors, bankrupt merchants and speculators-men who a few years ago would have considered you insane had you suggested that they or their kind would have been forced on the tramp. In one smelter in Pueblo, Col., five years ago, there were seven graduated physicians doing common labor alongside of the Italians and Huns. Their dream of life had faded. Poverty is a great equalizer. I often meet tramps who are educated and have ability, but not in the one line that counts - money making. There are thousands of lawyers, dectors and other professionals who are on the tramp because they could not make a livingand they had to eat. Nice system!

#### ECONOMIC AXIOMS.

Divide the money, you double debts; Double the money, you divide the debts:

Divide the money, you divide prices: Double the money, you double prices

That commodities would rise and fall in price in proportion to the increase or diminution of money, I assume as a fact that is incontrovertible; that such would be the case the most celebrated writers on political economy are agreed .- Ricardo.

If the whole money in circulation was doubled, prices would double; if it was only increased one-fourth, prices would rise one-fourth.-John Stuart

Numberless as are the evils by which kingdoms, principalities and republics are wont to decline, these four are, in my judgment, most baleful: Civil strife, pestilence, sterility of the soil, and corruption of the coin. The first three are so manifest, that no one fails to apprehend them; but the fourth, which concerns money, is considered by few, and those the most reflective, since it is not by a blow, but little by little, and through a secret and obscure approach, that it destroys the state.-Copernicus in the 16th century.

For men have so well obscured the facts about money that the great part of the people do not see them at all. The moneyers do as the doctors do, who talk Latin before women, and use Greek characters, Arab words, and Latin abbreviations, fearing that if the people understood their receipts they would not have much opinion of them. -Bodin in 1557.

Money is the life blood of business. Make it plenty, all business prospers and workingmen are employed at good wages. Make it scarce, all business languishes, merchants become bankrupt, and laborers are starving.-Wendell Phillips.

The Trust Octopus. Trust-forming goes steadily on. stops not for season of plenty or adversity. One combination after another is consummated and the under man squeals every time. The latest is the steel rod, wire and nail trust, and J. Pierpont Morgan, prince of the trustmakers, is the head. Morgan will have power far beyond anything the Rothschilds ever thought of, if he is spared to live a few years more. And every turn he makes is at the direct detriment of the public. The voters of the country had only begun to appreciate the trust danger when six and a half millions of them last November cast their ballots for a man pledged to throttle the octopus. But in the next anything else in importance. Silver nor tariff can touch it. The very lifeblood of the people is being drawn by these combinations. The larger cities are being fed by the sacrifice of the smaller. The railroads foster the tendency. It comes to be a question whether or not the government some day will not be faced with the problem of absorption of the railroad and telegraph systems as well as the great industrial enterprises. That's why the government talks about building an armor plate plant. It, itself, is coping with a combination.-Knoxville Senti-

Wall Street's Panica,

And now the New York gold bug papers tell us that if England had accepted the offer of our commissioners message had been read, than Senator have given this country a panic such Hawley demands attention to a bill that the one of '93 would not serve troduction of this bill to be interpreted saved us. To which we will simply add but as the lie direct to the Presidential | that one of these days Wall street will claim of our paradisiacal happiness? give us one panic too many, and she

## HISTORY CORRECTED

we do need such increase of repressive | SCHOOL CHILDREN HAVE BEEN TAUGHT ANARCHY.

> he Signers of the Declaration of Independance Were the Same Kind of Disturbers as the Populists of To-

Frederick Upham Adams, in the New Time, publishes a clever satire upon the attitude of the plutogratic press towards reforms and reformers, showing it to be simply a renewal of the toryism of revolutionary times. He writes as follows:

"There is no defense for the part played by George Washington in the so-called war of the revolution. Former school histories have almost deified this Virginian revolutionist, who took up arms against the government, and cast his wealth, position and infinence on the side of disorder. The untrained and incautious historians of the past were ignorant of the fact that resistance to the established order of a rising market he utters a desire for things is always wrong. While we may admire the personal character of George Washington and respect and praise him as the first president of our glorious republic, we must not lose sight of the fact that he raised his hand agaist the law and, aided by enius. such demagogues as Pat Heary, Sam Adams, Tom Jefferson and Ben Franklin. His conduct is the more inexcusable by reason of the fact that he was the wealthiest man in the country.

"This is parily explained when it is considered that Washington was a farmer. You can never depend on a farmer to conserve the interests of wealth-the true interests of a nation. Had George Washington been a hanker and lived in New York he would never have led the lower classes of the country against their betters.

"There was no such thing as the war of the revolution. There was a civil war, or a period of riots and anarchy, between a half-organized mob, composed mainly of the debtor classes, and opposed to them were the wealthy and France, which country was already on the verge of that period of anarchy, which culminated in the hideous French revolution, in which nearly all of the best people of France were killed. Some American historians even glorify the French revolution.

"The fact cannot be too plainly stated and too often repeated that from the first inception of the trouble, which resulted in our separation from England, the forces of revolt and disorder were recruited from the dangerous classes, and that this growing sedition was steadily opposed by the wealthy and conservative element of the community. Demagogues, visionaries, idlers, debtors and irresponsible characters fanned the flames of discontent. and started a conflagration which resulted in a loss of untold millions of it over to the lawyer.-W. Lane. dollars to the merchants and bankers of the country. More than that, it encouraged revolt against settled couditions, and fool writers and teachers have unwittingly kept alive this sentiment by making heroes of the misguided men who sacrificed their lives or | rant from the Creator, or nature, for their time in a fight against England. It is a pleasure to record the fact that payment for the right to live is unnato-day England owns in this country | tural, making void the original grant. five times as much property as all of the revolting colonies were worth, and that we are about to borrow from her \$200,000,000 more of gold. The total progress and all so-called civilization. expenses of the 'War of the Revolution' were less than \$50,000,000.

"In this book, which is now drawing to a close, the historian will touch but briefly on one incident of this reriod, viz., the framing and signing of the Declaration of Independence. This document should never be printed in a school book. As a government we have long since outgrown its foolish, vapid and bombastic statements, but it should be rigidly suppressed, the same as other seditious and unsafe pamphlets. It was written by Tom Jefferson, aided by Tom Paine, both of whom drew their inspiration from the essays of French revolutionary writers. Its platitudes about 'all men being free and equal,' and that the people have a right to alter or abolish a government,' have long since been laughed to scorn by our statesmen, our clergy and by our best public educators. It is a pleasure to reflect that the conven- Be large and regal in its magnitude, tion of 1787, which framed our present constitution, never even considered this Declaration of Independence in designing that wise document. The convention was controlled by slave-holders, and they rather effectually settled Fashion thy schemes from patterns the 'free and equal' clause when they decided that in fixing the basis of rep- In general worship paid to opulence, resentation a negro was equal to threefifths of a white man, and that his owner could vote for him on that basis. The constitution also wisely provided that the people could not vote for a president, a senator, a cabinet officer. or, in fact, for anything but a member of the lower house of congress. They then arranged it so that the senate could veto any legislation coming from the house, and that the president could veto the joint action of the two houses, The constitutional convention failed to A royal rascal whom the laws respect give the supreme court power to veto | Because success respecteth not the law. legislation, but the supreme court has wisely assumed that bower, and the last danger from the elective mob has been removed.'

Lots of Borrowed Cash on Hand. Congress is to be urged to pass tion that the treasury department is in need of one.—Salt Lake Herald.

Even the thoughtless elements among the producers will not vote twice for plutocratic politicians who. having the power, do nothing to reduce the general distress.

PROTECTION AND PRICE '. High Priced Dollars Are Cutting the

Wages at Fall River. That the Fall River cotton mill managers should cut the wages of 20,000 employes 10 per cent Is not surprising, but this action suggests several questions.

In the first place, why should wages be cut when the country is enjoying such an unprecedented flood of prosperity that the Republican newspapers have scarcely editorial space enough to exploit the glorious tidings?

Again, it seems rather inconsistent that under the beneficent influence of the Dingley tarff a "home industry" such as cotton manufacturing should be under the necessity of cutting wages.

But the treasurer of one of the Fall River mills says the only hope for the cotton trade is "an improvement in the print cloth market," says the Chicago Dispatch. Can it be possible that this treasurer is an advocate of gold monometallism and yet an advocate of cheap dollars? When he expresses a hope for "cheaper" dollars.

This fact is made especially clear by the Atlanta Constitution, as follows: "When the dollar depreciates, even with respect to print cloth, it is no longer 'sound.' More than that, any injury woud be done to the holder of the dollars who wants to buy print cloth. He can buy now at the mills forty-odd yards for a dollar. Should the price rise even to four cents a yard, the holder of the same dollar could only buy twenty-five yards. This would be 'repudiation.' Does the mill reasurer want to swindle the unfortunate holder of the dollar in this way?

There are two lessons taught by the situation at Fall River-a lesson on the tariff and a lesson in regard to finance. Has this treasurer who wants higher prices for his goods the broadness of mind to understand these lessons?

### VOICES OF THE PEOPLE.

At the present day-and this is the curse of our social economy-capital respectable people of the country. The | is the tyrant of labor. The workingatter had some assistance from Eng- man's share consists simply of his land and the former were aided, by wages determined previous to the execution of the work, and without regard to the greater or less profits of the undertaking.-Joseph Mazzini.

> We owe all that we have to the steady advance of the human race against the compact mass of those who have always cried out and still cry out as lustily as ever, "Don't disturb the existing order of things."-William F. Gaynor.

Civilization takes away our land and gives it to the landlord; takes away our machinery and gives it to the capitalist; takes away dancing, football, singing, etc., and hands them over to the professional; it takes away our conscience and gives it to the priest; it takes away our honesty and hands

The right to apply labor to natural opportunities is the one essential of life, without which it can not be preserved, even by the payment of unjust tribute to those who possess no warits exaction. That is, this tribute or And the exaction of this tribute, contrary to the laws of nature and of God, is the fundamental error in all This will appear the more plainly when we consider that all wealth, all that beautifies and embellishes life and makes it worth the living, is the product of human exertion applied to natural opportunities. Wealth and the means of living are obtained in no other way. The means of living, it must be evident, are part and parcel of the grant of life, for if the means whereby life is prolonged are denied, the right of life, which it is agreed are inalicnable, is destroyed. And this is readily seen to be true by a reference to man's past history. All the buried nations of antiquity, all previous civilizations, have perished simply and solely occause man's fundamental rights have been denied .- Gov. John B. Rogers of Washington, in the Arena.

## Moral for the Boys.

It is not well to steal, unless thy plan Able to make thy circumstance defy The scruples and the servants of the

law. Do thou no paltry stealing-do it grand;

well approved

So shalt thou seize thy gains with better grip And 'scape annoyance from the petty

rules

France.

And regulations made for common thieves. Then "build thee 'round with splendor' to command

The admiration of the baser world, And make thyself in insolence a king--Prof. A. J. Chittenden.

## Not Without Disaster,

We have to do with ideal theories. The two moneys have actually co-existed since the origin of human society. They co-exist because the two together bankrupt law. There is every indica- are necessary, by their quantity, to meet the needs of circulation. This necessity of two metals, has it ceased to exist? Is it established that the quantity of actual and prospective gold is such that we can now renounce the use of silver without disaster?--M. Rouland, governor of the Bank of

# THE BATTLE OF 1898.

GEN. JAMES B. WEAVER ON THE OUTLOOK.

With Renewed Courage and Confidence the Masses of the People Advance to the Contest Against Class Rule-Rising Tids of Indignation.

The reaction in public sentiment since the campaign of 1896 is something marvelous, and gives promise of overwhelming victory in approaching struggles. The people who were misled in the whirt of that memorable conflict began to comprehend the real situation before the smoke of battle had fairly cleared away. Their indignation is now rising like an ocean tide. It is a dangerous thing for party leaders to attempt to secure power by false pretenses. When the party of the second part finally learn of the delusion, they smite back as with a thunderbolt hurled by the gods, and the refuge of lies is swept away. It is one thing to win upon the strength of lavish promises, reinforced at the critical juncture by the corrupt use of money, fraud, and intimidation; but quite another to retain power in the midst of a sullan and indignant people after those promises have all been broken. Every men who was intimidated is filled with resentment and every broken pledge gives birth to an avenger. The first end of their promises looked well; but it was the view from the other and that has filled the people with wrath. Time and events have proven, and will continue to demonstrate, that every substantial assertion uttered by the gold advocates was incorrect, and every promise made basely false and made to conceal bad ulterior purposes. Look at the subterfuge of international bimetallism. and its humiliating sequel. And again at the explicit promise of McKinley in his letter of acceptance that the party would "keep in circulation and as good as gold all the silver and paper money now included in the currency of the country." That this was an insincere promise is shown, three times over, by the treacherous platitudes concerning our currency embodied in the inaugural address, by the currency message sent to the extra session of congress, and by the pitiable annual message of December 6. They constitute a substantial and reiterated plea of guilty on the part of the president to the charge of duplicity. Every sane man knows and will readily admit that McKinley would have been overwhelmingly defeated had he given expression to those views in his letter of acceptance. We charged at the time that he intended to do these very things, but the charge was bitterly denied. Why was this avowal of their real purposes withheld? Simply to lead the people into a trap. The wily hunter was luring the lion into a concealed pit. The Indianapolis junta and its protege, the bankers' commission, which has lately been in session behind closed doors at Washington, and even Secretary Gage, of the President's official family, have all given us their estimate of the sanctity of these ante-election promises by boldly proceeding to outline a currency scheme for the administration and for congress in utter disregard of the pledge. They have coolly outlined a project, and are now urging it upon

sage which lead to hell: "Her jaws grin dreadful with three rows of teeth; Jagged their stand, the gaping den of

the country, involving gold bonds, de-

struction of greenbacks, contraction

and bank domination, which is so in-

famous that had it been disclosed be-

fore election as it has been since, it

would have been rejected by the people

in a whirlwind of disapproval. No

power on earth could have saved them.

Their plot is so grim and cruel as to

suggest Homer's description of Scylla,

as she bellowed from the dreadful pas-

The people will revolt against !t. 'Vengeance is on the wing, and heaven

death.

What was it that caused the overwhelming popular revolt against Cleveland? It was not against the person. but the policy of the administration. It was his gold bonds and bank schemes, his attempt to retire the greenbacks, the revenue deficits under the Wilson tariff law, and his pro-Spanish-Cuban policy. Conceiving all these essential points, McKinley's administration is an exact duplicate of Cleveland's, minus the latter's backbone. With this one, minus quantity, the parallel is complete. The same evil counselors who thronged the white house when Cleveland was there are all powerful within its walls and the chamber of every cabinet official today. If there is any difference the there today than ever before. McKinley is as completely within the power of his vicious advisers as was the weak and vacillating Louis XVI, when the catastrophe of 1789 fell upon him like a bolt from the sky. The thunderclap will come in our era from the ballot box. The world moves, and a free people will abide their time, which is hastening on with wonderful rapidity.

## Commissioners Have the Ploor.

-James B. Wenver.

Now that the administration has shown, through its mouthpiece Gage, that it is in favor of the gold standard for this country and against bimetallism, will the bimetallic commissioners accept such evidence as conclusive? If not, what further evidence does it desire of the bad faith of the administration?-Silver Knight-Watchman.

Our members of congress are harmonious, which can hardly be said of the party in some sections. However. agitation is what is needed during the next two years. Harmonious action will come later, through the force of circumstances.

#### DID HE DO WELL? We Mean the Man Who Voted for Present Conditions.

The closing of the great lumber mills at Glenbrook, Nevada, is an object lesson which some of our anti-silver friends may study with profit. These mills have been in operation twentyfour years, says the Stockton, Cal. Mail. The wages paid have been high. Mr. Bliss, the head of the concern, has treated his employes as friends and fellow workers not as mere machines to be used awhile and flung away when worn out. Perhaps nowhere in the world was there a happier or more propserous working community.

The closing of the mint doors to silver has closed the silver mines of Nevada. The closing of the silver mines has ruined the lumber business. Nor has the revivifying influence of "protection" succeeded in saving the life of such communities as this at Glenbrook

In the last election the majority of the men of California voted to kill the great industry of silver mining. Silver mining was killed. - That result has filled the sleek speculators and rich schemers of Wall street with joy. But it has brought distress upon our neighbors, and prostrated the industries of the states which are near to us and which do business with us.

The other night 200 wealthy gentles. men sat down to dine in New York, and when the costly feast had been eaten, and while the corks popped and the smoke of fragrant cigars curled upward, they rose to their feet and cheered the announcement of the chairman that silver was dead. The same week some 200 American workmen gathered in Glenbrook to learn that there was no longer work for them.

They, too, were told that silver was dead. But they did not cheer. They went silently, soberly homeward to tell. wives and children that the job was gone, that there was no bread winning for willing hands, and God knows what else of sorrowful tidings that come to a community thrown out of

There are those who will cheer with the enthusiastic Wall street gatherings. For our part we prefer to sympathize with the sorrowful Glenbrook folk. Over against the rich feast, the costly wines, the laughter and good cheer of the millionaires we set the silent mills, the empty larders and the distressed idleness of a once happy community of American workmen, and we ask the man who voted for all this. if he did well.

### POINTS FROM THE PRESS.

When the people rule, robbers will have to go to work.-New Era.

An idle man is a dangerous man. He cannot remain long idle without inquiring into the cause of his idleness. He need not be a philosopher to discover that the fault is that of the system. and the next step is naturally to hold the present system in contempt,-International Woodworker.

The amount of money or property lost to all the people of the United States by means of burglary since the government was founded does not equal the extortion in one year that they suffer from either of half a dozen combines and monopolies. It is not the little fellows whose depredations are hurting the people, but the big legal robberles.-Appeal to Reason.

A state and government based on the power of wealth in the hands of the few cannot be Democratic, however boastful it may be about its (nominally) Democratic and Republican institutions. Wealth and the means of existence in the hands of the few always mean subjection and bondage for the many.-Coming Nation.

· Wealth is some part of nature's bounty, plus the toil and skill of a human being. Nature is the source of wealth, man is the extractor, miner and artificer. Whoever enjoys wealth without the application of his own labor to nature's resources in some socially useful exertion, who obtains more wealth than the value of his own labor entitles him to, does so by the application of the labor of others, and is thus stealing from others a part of the results of their industry.-Seven-

There are but few countries which pretend to have a gold circulation. Portugal, Spain, Italy, Austria, the Balkan provinces, Turkey, Russia and all Asia, South America and Mexico are either on a silver basis or in suspension, except Japan, which has recently trust magnates are more potential gone into bankruptcy in an effort to change from a silver to a gold basis.— Silver Knight-Watchman.

## Not Very Surprising.

It is not surprising to read that the Nicaragua canal scheme is, in reality. a gigantic piece of stock jobbery. The surprising thing would be to find out that it isn't. It will be remembered that Warner Miller, the chief promoter of the Nicaragua grab, is a close friend of Hanna, visited him during the presidential campaig(, and was, in fact, the senator's guest but a few weeks ago. This circumstance establishes the connection of the administration with theproject in such a way as to lead to the inevitable inference that another campaign debt will be liquidated when the Nicaragua jobbers are satiated. It is true that the Republican party is committed, by its platform, to the Nicaragua canal scheme, but it is also true that the Republican party is not above trading off paragraphs in its platforms for substantial equivalents. That this has been done in the Nicaragua canal matter is only too evident.-Cleveland

Recorder.