

State Liby

The Messenger.

"EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL; SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO NONE."

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FAIR SAMPLES

OF THE POLLUTED TRASH PREPARED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND MONOPOLY'S LACKEYS.

There is little difference in the make up of the anarchist crowd and Powderly's gang. They all should come in for the same treatment.—*Chicago Tribune*.

Prison laborers neither strike nor boycott the prison. The penitentiary is a solution of the labor troubles that should be brought into more general use.—*Chicago Times*.

What is the difference between anarchists, socialists and the "noble order?" is a question we hope to see answered by the judge who gave the boycotters their deserts.—*New York Herald*.

The American workman must be driven to his task by the slave-driver's lash or the immediate prospect of want.—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Paper*.

Hand grenades should be thrown among those union sailors who are striving to obtain higher wages, as by such treatment would be learned a valuable lesson, and other strikers could take warning from their fate.—*Chicago Times*.

The *New York Times* in its issue of April 26, 1886, contained a long editorial on the condition of the market in which among other things, it said: "The strike question is, of course the prominent one, and is disagreeable in a variety of ways. A short and easy way to settle it is urged in some quarters is to indict for conspiracy every man who strikes and summarily lock him up. This method would undoubtedly strike a wholesome terror into the hearts of the working classes. Another way suggested is to pick out the labor leaders and make such examples of them as to scare the others into immediate submission."

Gatling guns with brave men behind them are the true remedy for about all this strike trouble.—*Chicago Times*.

Talking with an intelligent Knight of Labor to-day, your correspondent was surprised to learn that the organization had reached such a precarious condition. The receipts are not now sufficient to pay the running expenses of the Order. The loss in membership has been very great, and Powderly, the President of the organization, is accused by the malcontents of misappropriating \$100,000 belonging to the order.

"Altogether," said the Knight in question, "the outlook is full of doubt and apprehension for the organization. The dissatisfaction is great and growing every day."—*Cor. Raleigh News and Observer*.

The Knights of Labor for the first time now clearly recognize the threatening ascendancy of the Federation of Labor, which has been in session for some days at Baltimore. The latter has been gaining rapidly while the Knights have been losing some and gaining some, leaving the total membership about where it was.

The serious illness of Powderly, who is at home in Scranton, is causing no small degree of trouble. He is needed badly just now at the meetings of the General Executive Board on North Broad street. Some believe it is only

a question of time for Powderly to die, others say he will pull through and regain his old strength, others think that the factional fights in the Order and the breaking away of so many locals and the falling off of so many members are breaking the General Master Workman up.—*Wilmington Messenger*.

GRINDING WORKINGMEN.

When combinations of capital take possession of great industrial and commercial interests, says the *New York Times*, such as mining coal and bringing it to market, obtaining and refining mineral oil, exploiting the chief articles of consumption, and even affording light to great communities, with a view at once of controlling the price of commodities and the wages of the labor by which they are produced, the feeling is natural and inevitable that capital and those who handle it are getting more than their just share of the joint product of capital and labor, and that the hardships and privations of the workers are not wholly due to natural conditions and such differences of capacity and opportunity as are imposed by Providence. It is plainly seen that greed and selfishness, sustained by systems and methods which they contrive and which the people through public agencies are unable to prevent, are grinding the laboring mass in order to concentrate the profits of industry in a few hands.

When schemers with money defeat legislation intended to protect the general well-being or secure the framing of laws to promote their own designs; when they purchase franchises and privileges and hire able lawyers to keep them clear of the laws that denounce their practices, or rescue them from penalties which they have justly incurred; when they are able to punish faithful public officers and replace them with others who will be lenient to their offenses; when they not only sway legislation and interfere with the execution of the laws, but appear even to affect the interpretation and construction of laws by the tribunals that are supposed to be the bulwark of right and justice, it is little wonder that those who can hire no lobbyists, buy no legislators, make no desperate legal contests, control no caucuses or conventions of politicians, and never reach the ears or the selfish motives of those in places of power, should conclude that to a considerable extent the working of free institutions has departed from the theory of self government by the people.

The farmers of Texas are making great progress in the formation of co-operative companies. The South West, Fort Worth, Texas, says: The Clay county Farmers' Alliance Co-operative Association of Henrietta, the Lone Oak Co-operative company of Hunt county capital \$26,000; Fayette county, Alliance Co-operative Association of Schulenburg, capital \$20,000; Wilson county Farmers' Alliance Co-operative Association of Floresville, capital \$20,000; and Mount Sylvan Alliance Co-operative Association of Smith county, capital \$20,000 were chartered last week.

A correspondent of the *Toledo News* writing from Passaic, N. J., says co-operation is getting a good hold there. A new co-operative store has just paid a ten per cent quarterly dividend.

A NEW PARTY

THE ONLY HOPE OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Republican party might just as well close up its affairs and go out of business.

In the great campaign of 1888, it will have lost the support of the money power, and this makes its defeat an assured fact.

The capitalists of this country belong to no political party; but their rule is to affiliate with whichever party will the best serve their interests.

At a recent conference of leading bankers and capitalists, it was decided to support the Democratic party in the next campaign. They reason this way: That the south is already solid for the Democratic nominee—be he Cleveland or the devil, and this, too, without a cent's expense to them. This being true, all they will have to do is to buy up two or three northern states, and the election of a democrat is an absolute certainty; whereas, if they undertook to elect a republican, they would be obliged to buy up about one-half the northern states, and as a matter of economy, they have decided to stand by the Democrats and the solid south.

The bait lately thrown out to the national bankers by the Secretary of the Treasury has inspired the capitalists with renewed confidence in the Democratic party, hence their decision to stand by it in the next campaign. This little scheme of the Secretary gives to the national bankers the snug little sum of \$71,000,000 for them to retire the national currency. This is the most flagrant steal yet perpetrated upon the people of any country; but the Democratic must have the influence and support of the money power even if it does come high.—*Indianapolis Leader*.

One very necessary reform to obviate many and disgraceful abuses now prevalent, is a change in the manner of voting and conducting of elections. The Australian system has many advantages to recommend it. It insures absolute secrecy as to each voter's ballot, a very important requisite in these days of bull-dozing by corporate and individual employers. It will put a stop to the selling and buying of votes. It will put a stop to the disgusting scenes around the polling place, which now make a farce of our elections; the pulling and hauling of voters by the hired workers; the voting men in herds like cattle by the bosses and other corrupting practices which bring the blush of shame and indignation to the brow of every citizen who witnesses them. Safety, honesty, purity and even common decency demand reform in this direction.

Strikes evidently are not limited to what are called working classes. In Montreal it is stated that unless means are found to remedy the deplorable manner in which justice is administered in that part of Canada, the lawyers will follow the example of their brethren some years ago and go on a general strike, that is, refuse to plead.

Measures, and not men, is what workmen must advocate in politics.

Street mendicancy is to be prohibited in Paris.

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