

THE TIMES-VISITOR

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 16, 1899.

25 CENTS A MONTH

BOER REPLY A FLAT REFUSAL

Withdraw Assent to Joint Inquiry on Franchise Question

TONE OF THE REPLY IS DEFIANT THROUGHOUT

Orange Free State Approves Transvaal's Retort—Great Excitement at Pretoria—England Cannot with Dignity Exchange Further Arguments.

New York, Sept. 16.—The New York Journal's special from Pretoria says: "An official summary of the Boer reply to Great Britain's ultimatum was given out to-day. The reply says that the government has withdrawn its assent to a joint inquiry on the franchise question, and says the proposition was originally accepted only in the belief that it was a bona fide attempt to settle all questions at issue and lead to a final settlement, Great Britain agreeing to forego claims of sovereignty and to make definite plans for arbitration. The reply assumes a tone throughout defiant.

All the commanders in the field are ordered to supply immediately returns showing the men available for field service, and the points where they can be concentrated.

ORANGE FREE STATE WITH KIBUZZER.

London, Sept. 16.—Despatches from diplomatic agents at Bloemfontein to-day state that Orange Free State approves Transvaal's reply to England's ultimatum.

EXCITEMENT AT PRETORIA.

Cape Town, Sept. 16.—Further telegrams from Pretoria to-day confirm the reports that the reply of Transvaal does not accept the demands of Great Britain as a whole.

There is great excitement in Pretoria over the consequences that may arise.

The young Boers are asking to be led to the field immediately.

The feeling here is that it will be impossible for the imperial government to undignify its part again and enter upon an interchange of arguments.

The Royal Munster Regiment has arrived.

BOERS ARE READY.

London, Sept. 16.—The Northumberland Fusiliers, known as the "Fighting Fifth," left for Cape Town this morning.

A despatch from Pretoria to the London edition of the Digger News says that the situation is shaping to a crisis. The reply of Transvaal is uncompromising and will force a decision. The preparations of the Boers for staunch resistance is going on continually. Everything is in readiness for the war.

Official advices from Pretoria confirm the statement that Transvaal's answer refuses to agree to Great Britain's demands. The situation is regarded as hopeless unless Great Britain recedes from its present position.

The two republics agree that Transvaal should not make further concessions. It is believed that the Boers will be supported by all the Afrikaners in South Africa.

A Pretoria despatch to the Pall Mall Gazette says that it is understood that the Boers' reply repudiates the demand for equality of language rights.

KRUGER'S SONS IN THE FIELD

Pretoria, Sept. 16.—Seven of Kruger's sons and his fifty grandsons, and Col. Joubert's sons, and all the members of the Executive Council and the Volksraad will take the field and fight side by side with the Boer fighters.

WALL STREET.

New York, Sept. 16.—There was a sharp decline on Wall Street to-day on account of the Transvaal news. Metropolitan securities fell 15 half and extreme declines in other stocks are expected Monday's foreign markets will be upset followed by tight money.

TO SEE DEWEY.

Excursion Rates by the Seaboard Air Line to the Splendid Celebration. The husband said to his wife: "Dear, do we go, or do we not go?" The good wife promptly replied: "Dewey! Provided we go by the Seaboard Air Line."

Above all do not let the children miss the great event. They will thank you, dear parents, in the years to come. Excursion rates at one and one-third fares for the round trip—all rail or by Norfolk and steamship lines.

Tickets on sale September 20-27th, good to return until October 5th inclusive. Take advantage of the cheap rates, brilliant scenery and perfect service of the Seaboard Air Line to the most stately pageant of patriotism of the century.

The large mastiff dog belonging to Mr. James Leach has been poisoned. These dog poisoners should be caught and severely punished.

BRYAN SPEAKING.

The Anti-Trust Conference Convened in Chicago.

Chicago, Sept. 16.—Col. W. J. Bryan began his address in opposition to trusts as soon as the Anti-Trust Convention opened to-day. An enormous crowd swarmed about the doors of the Central Music Hall early in the morning.

CONTINUOUS STORMS.

Kingston, Sept. 16.—Since the recent cyclone a continuous series of thunderstorms are reported in most districts. The latest casualties are little.

HALF MILLION FIRE.

Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 16.—Half a million is estimated as the loss by fire early to-day on the north block occupied by several printing firms. The flames spread rapidly through the building and then jumped to Mahone Temple and the Methodist church and Webster block, which was destroyed. Several smaller buildings were also burned.

COAL FOR ITALY

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 16.—The Italian steamer Hercules will sail this afternoon for Genoa with a cargo of coal. This shipment is a result of the strike at the West Virginia mines. When the miners struck the consumers sought coal elsewhere, and the fact that America could furnish out equal to the English product became known widely. The shipment is one of many to distant countries since the strike began.

THE FLOODS.

Vienna, Sept. 16.—Railway service at Salzburg, interrupted by floods, is partially resumed. Several cities are flooded in the Perg district, but in most places the water is subsiding.

MRS. MARGARET INMAN DEAD.

Mrs. Margaret Coffin Inman died yesterday at the Sanitarium in Danville, N. C. The remains were carried to New York to-day for interment. Mrs. Inman was the wife of the late John H. Inman. She leaves four sons and two daughters. She was a sister in law of Dr. Samuel Inman, of Atlanta.

HANNA TALKS

Philippine War to End—Bryan will be Next Democratic Nominee.

New York, Sept. 16.—Senator Hanna returned on the steamer St. Louis this morning. He said that the Philippine question would be settled in six months.

The Senator said that the Democrats will surely nominate Bryan, and just as surely he will be defeated.

He says that the United States has entered upon an era of prosperity because of the promises of the Republic party are kept, and the commercial conditions of the country are sound. This prosperity is based upon confidence.

A FIGHTING CAROLINIAN.

Disfranchised Under State Law by Challenging Estehazy.

Columbia, S. C., Sept. 14.—A challenge was called to Count Estehazy this morning which may not result in a meeting on the field of honor, but if the laws of this State are enforced the challenge will be brought before a jury on a charge which, in case of conviction, will send him to prison. At any rate, he can never hold public office within this State.

Paul E. Ayer, who was a sergeant in the First South Carolina Volunteers during the Spanish war, has been deeply interested in the result of the Dewey trial, and when the verdict was announced he became fighting mad.

Estehazy especially caught his attention and anger. So the following challenge was called today to Estehazy in London:

"Sir: Believing you to be answerable for the misery and humiliation of Captain Dreyfus, of the French Army, and Captain Dreyfus not being able to call on you personally, for satisfaction I, as an American, free-born, loving liberty, do volunteer in my own right to meet you on the field of honor in behalf of Captain Dreyfus at any time and place agreeable to you.

Respectfully,
PAUL E. EYER,
Anderson, S. C.

In South Carolina it is as unlawful to send a challenge or carry a challenge for a friend as it is to fight a duel. The regular prescribed oath which all persons take on going into office contains a clause stating that they have not fought a duel, sent or carried a challenge since 1881, the year in which the anti-dueling law was passed. Even if a man should not be convicted by a jury of violating the law, he is disfranchised by sending a challenge.

MAX MERRILL DEWEY.
The Raleigh Light Infantry, Capt. J. M. Merritt, is arranging to go to New York to participate in the Dewey reception. If this company goes they will be the only North Carolina company which will be present at this great celebration.

COTTON.

New York, Sept. 16.—Cotton bids: Oct. 193; Nov. 192; Dec. 191; Jan. 14; Feb. 15; March 21; April 24; May 27; June 30.

Mr. Sherwood Huggins has returned from the north, where he has been making his fall purchases.

A. & N. C. R. R. FILED COMPLAINT HERE

Subpoena Served on Treas. Worth to Answer First Monday in November

IN FEDERAL COURT HERE

The Railroad in Which the State has Two Thirds Interest Appeals to United States Court that the Tax Assessment is Greater than Its Market or Cash Value.

The Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, in which the State owns two-thirds stock, has appealed to the United States Court to escape the 1890 assessment for taxation imposed by the Corporation Commission.

The defendants must answer the complaint at the United States Court room in this city the first Monday in November.

The announcement that a railroad in which the State owns such large interest filed complaint with the Federal Court against the State caused a flutter.

A subpoena was served on State Treasurer W. H. Worth to-day in the case of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company against William H. Worth, Treasurer of the State of North Carolina; John Wooten, sheriff of Lenoir county; Alvin S. Willis, sheriff of Carteret county; Durant H. Harrison, sheriff of Jones county; Joseph L. Hanna, sheriff of Craven county; Joseph Willis, Isaac Perry Herman, W. Small, James A. Harker, J. J. Tolson, A. J. Brown, W. A. Denmark and W. A. Adams, tax collectors. The above named parties are to appear before the Federal Judge in this city on the first Monday in November to answer the complaint filed in the United States Circuit court here by W. E. Clarke, Frank Thompson and Owen H. Guion, solicitors for complainant.

The complaint is very lengthy, but the following are the points brought out stated briefly:

1. That the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad is a duly created corporation of the State.

2. That Franklin McNeill, S. L. Rogers and E. C. Beedingfield constitute the North Carolina Corporation Commission.

3. That March 5, 1891, the General Assembly passed "An Act to provide for the general supervision of railroads, steamboats, or canal companies, express and telegraph companies doing business in the State of North Carolina," and the act was amended April 1st, 1891, February 9, 1893, March 6th, 1893, and February 14th, 1893.

4. That the amount involved is over \$2,000,000, and this suit is one arising under the constitution of the United States.

5. That March 6, 1899, the General Assembly passed "An Act to provide for the assessment of property and the collection of taxes, commonly called the 'Machinery Act,' providing that the corporation commission shall constitute a board of appraisers and assessors for railroads, telegraph and steamboat and canal companies, and the method of procedure prescribed out with great particularity.

6. That March 8, 1899, the General Assembly passed an act entitled "An Act to raise Revenue, which provides for the revision of the assessment of all railroad property in the State, taking into consideration the nature of the franchise and gross earnings and net income of each road and shall so increase the assessment where such increase is justified as will make each part of railroad property bear its proportion of the burden of taxation. Various parts of the revenue act are made part of the bill.

7. It is submitted to the court whether the Board of Railroad Commissioners is not preserved as a Board of Assessors, with the power of review and equalization to the North Carolina Corporation Commission, and whether the said corporation have any powers as an assessor.

8. Article 5, Section 5 of the Constitution of North Carolina says that taxation must be by a uniform rule is restricted.

That the defendants are threatening to collect the highest and unlawful amount of taxes according under said unlawful assessment (the complainant recites the counties, townships and towns through which the road runs), to-wit:

Miles.	
Wayne county	11 \$85,027.60
Jones county	19 146,804.02
Lenoir county	4 39,018.10
Craven county	45 347,840.54
Carteret county	16 123,876.54
Goldston	2.67 20,638.54
Lincoln county	1.24 9,584.94
Kinston	.91 7,084.11
Newbern	3.70 29,295.90
Newport	1.06 8,193.58
Mordehead City	3.25 25,121.82

Which amounts making \$774,330.06

It is more than the actual cash value of the property.

10. Other property is assessed by local

board under the equity commissioners and a well recognized custom has grown up to assess for taxation all property, other than railroads, at considerably less than its actual cash value, at about 50 to 75 per cent of their actual value.

There is an acknowledged distinction between actual and tax value of property.

11. Recited that this railroad has been assessed greater than its market value and true value in money and this is a wrongful discrimination and the road is deprived of its property without due process of law and denied equal protection of law which is guaranteed by the fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

12. Recites the difference in the assessment of railroad and other property the former assessed annually and the latter only about every four years. Other discriminations are also pointed out.

After referring to other discriminations and the steady increase in the assessment of railroad property the complaint asked that subpoenas be issued for the defendants and on the hearing thereof, the unjust discrimination be declared unconstitutional and void and the defendants be restrained from collecting the tax on this property in excess of the valuation in 1898.

MAYOR'S COURT.

A Bicycle Rider Fined for Not Having a Lamp.

Mayor Powell had three cases this morning and in each case he was met with a meek submission.

The first was Lonnie Law charged with riding his bicycle without a light after dark. He was warned to let his light go shine in future that others might see him and get out of his path and fined \$3.25.

Charles Payne threw a rock at a boot black with the dignified name of Babe Twarty. He was fined \$4.25.

Will Brown, colored, was fined \$3.25 for being disorderly on the street.

FAIR—WARMER.

For Raleigh and vicinity: Fair tonight and Sunday; warmer.

The high area which still dominates the weather throughout the east is moving southward on the Atlantic coast. The pressure is now over 30.40 inches from Norfolk to Boston. A moderate storm exists in the upper Mississippi valley, with cloudy weather and light rain in the northwest. An area of cloudy weather exists along the Gulf coast, with rain at nearly all Gulf stations from Florida to Texas.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

The protracted meeting in Central Methodist church will continue through to-morrow. In addition to preaching at the usual hour, there will be a service at 3:30 in the afternoon at which the rite of baptism will be administered, and members received into the church.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Rev. J. L. Foster, Pastor. Sunday school 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by the pastor. The friends and public cordially invited. Welcome to all. All members requested to be present at an important church conference will be held immediately after the morning service.

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH.

Rev. I. McK. Houser, D. D., Rector. Seventh Sunday after Trinity. Holy Communion at 8 a. m. Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Service and sermon at 11 a. m. Evening prayer at 7 p. m. Service on Wednesday at 10 a. m. and on Friday at 6 p. m. The seats are all free, and strangers and visitors are cordially invited.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Rev. M. M. Marshall, D. D., Rector. Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity. Early celebration at 8 a. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Divine service and sermon at 11 a. m. Evening prayer at 6 p. m. Services during the week on Wednesday at 6 p. m., Thursday (St. Matthew's Day) and Friday at 10 a. m. Free Seats. Strangers cordially welcomed.

St. Saviour's Chapel: Sunday school 10 a. m. Morning service 11 a. m. Night service 8:15 p. m. Scouts all free. All invited.

GOD'S WAY IS BEST.

Just where you stand in the conflict there is your place! Just where you think you are useless, Hide not your face! God placed you there for a purpose. What'er it be; Think He has chosen you for it; Work loyally.

Gird on your armor! Be faithful! At all or rest; While'er it be, never doubting God's way is best. Out in the fight, or on picket. Stand firm and true; This is the work which your Master Gives you to do. —Helen M. Richardson in Churchman.

MASONIC.

Hiram Lodge No. 40 will meet Monday evening, Sept. 18th, 1899, by regular communication—7:30 o'clock. A full meeting of the membership is desired. Brethren of sister lodges are cordially invited to be present.

W. W. PARISEL, W. M.
B. B. THOMAS, Secretary.

AROUND AND ABOUT

Items of Interest Gleaned by the Wayside

SHORT STATEMENTS

Familiar Faces From the Passing Through—Movements of People You know—Snatches of Street Gossip Today.

Mrs. H. M. Farnsworth has returned from Philadelphia and Washington. Mrs. W. S. Whitaker is quite sick.

Collector Duncanson went to Beaufort to spend Sunday.

Mr. J. A. Jones left this morning.

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Upchurch is critically ill at the home of Mrs. Upchurch's mother, Mrs. W. G. Upchurch.

Mr. Holly Glenn left this afternoon for Greensboro where he will spend Sunday.

Mrs. C. P. Spruell left the city this morning.

Prof. Robert Wright, of Oak Ridge, is here making some athletic arrangements. Among other things a foot ball game between the A. and M. and Oak Ridge is on the programme.

Mrs. V. C. Royster left the city to-day.

Mrs. Ivey Lewis and Mrs. Lewis, of Birmingham, Ala., who have been visiting at the home of Dr. R. H. Lewis, left the city to-day.

Little Miss Eleanor Vann, who has been the guest of Misses Rutledge and Willa Norris, returned to Frankfort this morning.

General W. W. Kirkland, of New York, arrived this morning and is visiting at the home of Mr. C. G. Crow.

Mrs. S. B. Norris, of Greensboro, came in this morning and is visiting her mother, Mrs. W. G. Upchurch.

Mr. W. B. Morrison, Mrs. William G. Fowler and Miss Maggie Platt, of Wilmington, are at the Yarnborough.

A convict was received at the State Prison to-day from Pender county.

The parsonage of the First Baptist church is being repainted and otherwise improved.

A young man riding a bicycle ran into Mr. Frank Lumsden this morning. The cyclist fell from his wheel but Mr. Lumsden merely looked around to see what touched him and passed on without the least interruption, whereupon a gentleman remarked that Mr. Lumsden was the best balanced man in town.

Miss Lucy Alice Jones resumed her position as directress of the choir and organist of Christ Church to-morrow morning.

Miss Lillian Lewter has returned to the city.

Under the rules, entry books are regularly opened for the State Fair on September 15th. On that day promptly appeared Messrs. Bitty Baylow and James Newsum, two young gentlemen of tender years, who entered first in the poultry department some fine game chickens. Good for the boys!

Mrs. McGeech, who has been visiting in Cumberland county, has returned. She was accompanied back by Mrs. A. M. McGeech, who will visit her son Dr. McGeech.

Miss Allen, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. W. J. Allen, returned home this morning.

Mr. Marvett, who has been connected with Mr. Stevenson, is now with the Southern Plumbing and Heating Company. Mr. Bittling, a practical plumber, has just returned from the north bringing with him another northern mechanic to work for his company.

All who went to Enquay yesterday had a delightful time. Rev. J. L. Foster had everything arranged in first class order and the day was delightfully spent.

HEAVY FREIGHT

N. A. L. Employees Kept Busy Handling Freight Trains.

At the S. A. L. Freight depot at nine o'clock this morning nine full freight trains had just passed through Raleigh to a short time as they could be handled. Four of these trains were going north and five were southbound. One of the northbound trains was a solid lumber train made up at Aleshen.

ANARCHISTS TO ACT.

Paris, Sept. 16.—Conciergerie House Rue de Chateaufort received a letter in red ink asserting that the government was afraid to attack the Fortress of Guisrin, the anarchists will do it.

FIRE.

Lima Peru, Sept. 16.—A serious fire occurred at Callao and many buildings were destroyed. Very heavy losses resulted.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

An Important Call Meeting for Next Tuesday Night.

There will be a called meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at the Mayor's office Tuesday evening next at 8 o'clock to consider matters in regard to proper representation of the business of Raleigh by boats, etc., in the parade at the approaching State Fair. The business men of the city not members of the Chamber are requested also to attend the meeting. The officers of the Agricultural Society, Mr. L. A. Carr, Chief Marshall of the Fair and others from a distance will be present.

W. N. JONES, President.
GEORGE ALLEN, Secretary.

DREYFUS' HEALTH

His Pardon Will be Only Signed next Tuesday.

Paris, Sept. 16.—It is semi-officially announced to-day that in consideration of Dreyfus' health daily weakening, the Premier has invited the prisoners' family to withdraw their appeal. This will facilitate the granting of the pardon, which, under these conditions and solely because another month's confinement in a cell would entail the prisoner's death will be signed Tuesday.

THE STRIKE FAMILY.

Proud Aristocrats in the Realm of the Arena.

The famous Strik family, one of the great features of the Wallace Shows, does work that borders on the marvelous. In truth, some of their attainments are of such complex difficulties that it frequently passes with but little more notice from the public notice from the public than their simpler displays solely because the audience can follow its intricate and perplexing paradox.

It not infrequently happens that when a particularly hazardous feat is accomplished the strongest and most pronounced applause will come from the entry wherein the other actors of the show may invariably be found ranged as spectators when "the Striks are on."

This tribute to their genius from their fellow performers is as unusual as it is spontaneous, and testifies to their superiority more eloquently than any eulogy possibly could.

When an act can hold the attention of actors as that of the Striks does, it may indeed be said to be truly great.

The Wallace Shows will be at Raleigh on Monday, September 25th.

A LION LOOSE IN A CAR.

A Circus Animal Eats Chickens By The Oats.

Cumberland, Md., Sept. 14.—A large Hagenbeck lion got out of his cage in an express car while en route to Philadelphia from Chicago over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad today and took full possession. There were three other lions in cages and a dog, not caged, in the car, all consigned to Hagenbeck, at Philadelphia, and unaccompanied by a trainer.

The express officials here were warned to keep away from the car, but an expressman opened the door of the car tonight by mistake and almost stumbled on the escaped lion and the dog, which were lying quietly together.

The interior of the car presented a scene of blood and destruction. The lion, which weighed over 500 pounds, had demolished nearly a dozen crates of chickens which were in the express car and the interior was a mass of blood and feathers. These stuck also to the lion's coat, giving him a grotesque as well as frightful appearance. Scores of chickens which had escaped him, were roosting high in the top of the car.

A PROBLEM TO SOLVE.

The Winner to Receive a Handsome Ornyx Clock from Woolcott and Son.

Now is your chance to win an ornyx clock. Messrs. Woolcott and Son, ever alive to the interests of their patrons and the general public, have a problem at the head of their advertisement for you to solve. The person who sends in the first correct answer will get the clock. The clock will be delivered immediately to the winner. The clock is shown in one of their large front windows, and is a very handsome one. It is a prize worth striving for and every one should put on their thinking caps. The contest will date from Monday morning.

Mrs. Nannie Hayward is back from Durham, where she attended the funeral of Mrs. J. F. Hayward.

M. M. Perry, in the market has some of the best beef on sale ever seen on this market. If you want something extra fat and juicy you should try some of it.

Mr. Louis T. Brown, the popular manager of the Yarnborough, has returned from a trip to New York.

Mr. J. A. Spence will return tomorrow by the Seaboard Air Line from 17 days pleasure and business trips to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York and other points in the North.

W. W. PARISEL, W. M.
B. B. THOMAS, Secretary.

ODD FELLOW ITEMS.

Something for Them and Others to Read.

Manteo No. 8 has been working on the second club.

Seven hundred admitted by the club plan since June 1st.

Aberdeen No. 169 has taken on new life and is at work in earnest.

A petition for a new Lodge at Morantown has just been received with thirty-two names on it.

Brother W. D. Gaster writes for blank to ask for dispensation to admit a second club in Cross Creek Lodge. He says, "We had twelve applications last meeting; must have fifty."

Besides our Grand Representative and the Grand Messenger and Past Grand Sire, Brothers J. F. Edwards, of Oxford, and J. M. Norwood, of Raleigh, will be in attendance at the Sovereign Grand Lodge in Detroit next week.

Brother Coble, our efficient Superintendent of the Orphan Home, says: "We now have forty-four children at the Home. Thank the Lord the Order is assuming proportions to take care of them." The Almighty knows when and how to provide.

True Odd Fellowship recognizes that we pass through this life but once. Any kindness, or good to our fellowmen is to be shown at all, it must be done now. To defer or to neglect it means that it will never be done.

The Grand Secretary has recently visited Shelby, Henrietta, Charlotte and adjacent points and reports the Order in that section as in fine condition. He was much pleased with all the Lodges, but especially so with Broad River No. 180. This Lodge has work in some degree every meeting night, and its average attendance is more than fifty per cent of its membership. What other Lodge can say that?

There are some misdeeds in the Order as well as elsewhere. We have Odd Fellows who are such in fact as well as in name, and we have some Odd Fellows in name who are not possessed of one scintilla of the principles of the Order. They are nothing but leafless, frost-bitten stalks, with no leaf, flower or fruit. Misfits, hangers-on, and of no use to the Order except to be pointed at by those outside who are disposed to criticize. Odd dead trees, as landmarks to the outside, and with no foliage, but snags upon which burglars sit and take delight in sunning themselves.

We heard not long since that the Grand Lodge would soon be wrecked and ruined because so many Lodges have taken advantage of the club rate plan. We suspect that this calculation was made by some one in a trance, or hypnotic state. Certainly the person or persons who take that view of it are figuring backward. Every member accepted by the Lodges means one dollar and forty cents revenue to the Grand Lodge the first year, sixty cents of which goes to the support of the Orphan Home; and we cannot see how the adding of revenue will injure either the Grand Lodge or the Home. It is a case of "sing with kindness" or else our mathematicians are mistaken. The Orphan children are increasing rapidly at Home and unless our revenue increases how are they to be fed?

We believe conclusively that this country of ours, this present generation, and especially the coming generations, stand greatly in need of our Order. Laying aside the very important matter of our immense beneficence, our three and a half million