









THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORKERS. Mi frens, be ekonomikal! Work hard, sav evry sent, An' if yer downrite lukki Yew'll always pay yer rent.

capitalistic gang can use them and grind them and make them the foundations, "pudsm" of their fortunes. The state does not abdicate; the state is not silent; the state perfects its military machine; purchases the most improved rifles, with bayonets sharp as a serpent's fangs, gatling guns and batteries. The state is ready to murder working men, according to law, who are locked out and give the victory to scabs though they are lepers and their touch contamination and death.

Judge Dillon, president of the American Bar Association, expounds the constitution, and declares that the "guarantees of the constitution are those of life, liberty and property." In his view a man without property is beyond the reach of the guarantees of the constitution. This Judge Dillon is one of those lights of law with a thousand "candle power," who for a thousand years of ceaseless effulgence have made Ireland the home of plagues—brought about by England's "right of property," the enforcement of which produced famine, death, exile and degradation in the presence of which the "All Seeing Eye of Jehovah" must shed tears as briny as the ocean. This Judge Dillon, like the rest of the pampered crew tricked out in ermine robes, has never been able to discover that working men had any rights except to crawl on their bellies in the dirt, and implore permission to live. The workingman's skilled muscle, health, strength, high aspirations, love of home and country are of no consequence. The only "property" recognized by such judges as Dillon consists of houses, lands, money, stocks and bonds. If a man is minus such property he is adjudged a proletarian, a pariah, a creature to do the bidding of the rich and to live upon such terms as millionaires may dictate. And what says the state? The state speaks through its legislature—and who does not know that legislatures, with rare exceptions, are made up of men who are mere automatons to do the bidding of those who control them, purchasable creatures, who sell out to the highest bidder: hoodlers, who the louder they profess fealty to the right are only to be the more vigilantly watched, and thus the game proceeds. The question arises—Is there a remedy? Certainly! Workingmen have it in their own hands, and if they will, can apply it. In their sovereign power, they can, if they will, purify legislatures, disinfect the courts, tear the robes from Judas judge sand inaugurate a reign of righteousness. Will they do it? Perhaps. When?

LEGISLATION, THE C'ASSES AND THE MASSES.

Going the rounds, are expressions of two distinguished gentlemen put forward to instruct the people as to the "current tendencies in legislation." One is Dr. Wayland, the president of the Social Science Association, and the other is Judge Dillon, president of the American Bar Association. Dr. Wayland, in his address, asked: "Has the State Abandoned?" This question was his subject. In discussing it, he pointed out certain causes of suffering and discontent, as for instance "strikes and lockouts," inflicting calamities upon all concerned, resulting often in violence and bloodshed and wide demoralization. He referred to the "over taxing" of railway employees, leading directly and almost inevitably to accidents, the destruction of life and property. He referred to the criminal adulteration of food by which the miscreants engaged in the business realize not less than \$700,000,000 annually, killing more people, doubtless, than all the cholera epidemics that have visited America since the first landing of the scourge upon our shores. He referred to the sudden accumulation of vast fortunes in the hands of the few, the tendency to degrade the "middle class," reducing the vast majority to proletarians. He referred to the monopoly of vast tracts of land, often secured by unblushing fraud, as also to coal combines, by which millions are made to suffer that the few may riot in luxuries the proceeds of crime. There stand the indictments. The crimes are clearly outlined. The state looks on and is "silent." In saying the "state is silent" Dr. Wayland made a mistake. The state is active in framing constitutions and laws under cover of which the crimes complained of flourish. If any one in a state legislature is honest enough so much as to suggest that the criminal practices ought to be abated, a hue and cry is at once set up that a purpose is on foot to strike down the rights of property, that socialism, communism, anarchism and nihilism, and every other "ism" have combined to rob the rich. The press chimes in, and the "current tendencies of legislation" go on uninterrupted. The state has not abdicated. It does business at the old stand. The legislature meets at specified dates and the same old practices are in vogue. In the matter of strikes and lockouts, the state is powerless, unless some Frick, who wants to rob his employees, finds Pinkertons, electricity and hot water unavailing. Then the state sends forward its military machine, when capital, scabs and the army in holy alliance win a victory. Oh, no! the state has not abdicated. Never more than now, has it been vigilant to watch and guard the demands of capital and scabs. Never so ready as now to shoot down or stab down honest workingmen whose demand is sufficient wages to live superior to the cholera inflicted paupers vomited upon our shores, ready to work if they can get such rations as an average vagabond dog would accept.

HERE IT IS ALL FIGURED OUT.

A Mr. Botsford, a New York lawyer, confesses to the great satisfaction of having met Mr. Edward Atkinson—the Boston insurance man, statistician and inventor—and says, "Mr. Atkinson divides the cost of the average working man and woman into standard portions of food, of boots and shoes, of fuel and of clothing. Leaving out the woolen goods, the standard portion of cloth for one year he estimates as follows: Ten yards medium brown cotton, 10 yards standard gingham, 10 yards 36-inch bleached shirting and 20 yards of printed calico." The items mentioned, at current prices, would reach about \$3.80. Food could be obtained at about nine cents a day, or \$32.85 a year, provided the working man would buy one of Atkinson's Aladin ovens or chicken coop cooking stoves. All told, Atkinson gets a working man through a year at about \$100—about the cost reported per man in a first class penitentiary. The lower the cost of living the lower the wages the working man can afford to accept. If, therefore, a working man can subsist upon \$100, then he can afford to work for 33 cents a day—and 33 cents a day is largely below the average price convicts receive. Mr. Atkinson is a great social economist. He belongs to the New England Jack Knife School and devotes all his energies to whittling down living and wages.

THE C., B. & Q. AND THE LEHIGH VALLEY.

The Chicago Age says: The C., B. & Q. got rid of H. B. Stone as quickly as they could after he had waged his bull-headed and expensive war with the faithful old employees of that road, who belonged to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. The Lehigh Valley road is now going through the same expensive process under General Manager Wilbur, who thought it would be a good thing to lay out the union men and put cheap, inexperienced men in their place. The stockholders are now trying to oust the present management, and with good reason. Owners of railway stock do not relish paying for bull-headedness of officials who make war on labor organizations. Because Mr. Wilbur would not condescend to meet with a committee of employees, the Lehigh Valley road has ceased to pay a cent in dividends to its owners. Stock that was worth 47 the morning before the strike, is now being hawked for less than 24, a loss of nearly 28 per cent. People who once took pride in the Lehigh Valley now positively refuse to patronize that road and ship all goods by its competing lines. They positively refuse to patronize Mr. Wilbur or his cheap Chinamen who are more fitted to be on a washboard than the footboard and to run a steam laundry than a steam engine.

Suppose the question arises in an average legislature that railroad employees are overtaxed to an extent which leads to "accidents." If an attempt is made to regulate hours to prevent accidents, at once the howl is heard that such legislation strikes down the right of the employe to work as many hours as he pleases, provided the employer demands his services. Such a law would interfere with life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the rights of property—and the overtaxing goes on. Life is cheap, scabs swarm in all the cities like locusts in Arabia. Poor devils, degraded, encased in filth; they can work and breed, and the

SNOBBERY IN LABOR.

The Cleveland Citizen, one of the best labor papers published, contains the following very pungent and pertinent allusions to the aristocracy of the fragments that still remain of the old railway brotherhoods:

Now that the old Brotherhood of Conductors has declared war against the A. R. U., we want to say right here that our sympathies are with the latter organization, and believe that every progressive labor and reform journal in the country—which, of course, excepts the lumbering brotherhood organs—will take the same position without a doubt. Judging from the communication of the local branch of conductors to the C. L. U., in which they hurriedly withdrew their delegate for fear that their "noble order" would become contaminated with the kind of independent labor politics that purports to rid a disgraced Judiciary of the Ricks and Woods class of jugglers, the ticket-punchers have a great deal to learn about unionism. As a rule, the brotherhoods, when not fighting among themselves, have been doing the aristocratic exclusive act, and it is about time that the rest of the labor family took a hand in the trouble. In their ignorant snobbery they have played the part of cats' paws for organized capitalism.

The A. R. U. has every labor organization and every labor journal in America on its side. There is not an exception. The old brotherhoods are as utterly abandoned as if they were so many cases of small-pox and but for the occasional grain of comfort they get from the General Managers' Association in memory of past services their lot would be a lonesome one indeed—something on the graveyard order. The A. R. U. is a labor organization, not a corporation tool and will live and thrive long after those who sought its overthrow are forgotten.

A CRITIC CRITICISED.

Debs is jailed, and from a "pot metal" scissored sheet which was born, bred and exists by reason of corrupt class legislation, we learn that Debs is wrong and his downfall attributed to his own mistaken policy. Such wisdom, such honest Americanism makes us smile. Smile at the conceit and snobbish importance of swashbucklers who set up as judges of the great laboring masses of to-day. Such judgment sent out broadcast to influence the people against their leaders, based on the supposed credulity of the people, would cause a ditch digger to smile, if he reads at all, for Debs has had no downfall, while he may be in jail there are worse men out. His past career and present position are but necessary parts of an educational plan which attract the attention of thinking men who, when they consider and analyze the present condition of the country and the cause, lend their influence toward the perfection of the organization of the which Debs represents in noble and astute leadership, a part. Placed in a position which required great sagacity, perfect judgment, and quick action, a thorough knowledge of human passions, and a magnetism able to control them under the stress of excitement and knowing that every technical point would be turned with fearful odds against him, Debs proved himself an able and honest leader whom the people shall honor, notwithstanding the Judas journalism of the "Money King." —Bradford (Pa.) Populist.

Eugene V. Debs.

On the 25th day of last July I was traveling westward on a Vandavia train. At Terre Haute a gentleman sat down by my side, and in a few minutes we were engaged in a conversation which finally drifted into a consideration of the railroad strike and its leader. My companion, a citizen of Terre Haute, assured me that Eugene V. Debs and his followers were a set of woolly anarchists who were reaping the reward of having voted against Ben Harrison. Having been an enthusiastic supporter of Mr. Debs and the A. R. U., I was quite indignant at the remarks of the Republican philosopher at my side, but having been taught to have charity for the erring I turned to my Journal and left my good friend dreaming of the golden Utopia which was to be when the Harrison ice wagon rumbled up to the White House upon the broad avenue composed of "blocks of five."

Returning home a few days later it was my good fortune to look into the manly, noble countenance and to grasp the strong, sturdy hand of Eugene V. Debs as he alighted from the train at Brazil, amid the hearty applause of the hundreds who had assembled to greet "Debs, our Lincoln." The press had been full of denunciations, misrepresentations and cowardly abuse during the past few weeks. Debs had stood firmly for the rights of the oppressed thousands; and hence had alarmed plutocracy, who had dreaded the day when labor would put aside petty differences and follow an incorruptible leader to the ballot box. They had feared the day when labor would act upon the principles of Jesus Christ, the first great leader of the hosts of labor, who said: "Bear ye one another's burdens." They had feared the day when a great, good and unselfish man should arise and urge organized labor to strike a blow for the hearths and firesides of the nation. The day had arrived and with it the man! The underlying principle which urged the American Railway Union to strike in sympathy with the slaves of Master Pullman was identical with the principle which urged forward the army of George Washington and the volunteers of Abraham Lincoln. No one knew this better than plutocracy and its hireling press, for they are wise as serpents and—harmless as vipers. They were intelligent, organized and aggressive, and well knew that they must create a public opinion that would uphold Pullman and condemn Debs. And success was theirs! The press, the platform and the pulpit were at once in arms against the strikers and their leaders, while not a few honest men were quite sure that Debs should be hung and the strikers shot down like dogs. Had the masses of the people been able to have seen the motives which inspired the press they would have been unanimous in their support of the A. R. U. Could they have had

the never-to-be-forgotten experience of shaking the hand of Eugene Debs they would have hung their heads in shame and declared their allegiance to the men who eat their bread in the sweat of their own brows.

The strike of 1894 was not a failure. It has placed us forward in the march of civilization a score of years. It has shown us in the person of Eugene V. Debs that there are still men who can withstand the insinuating advances of the money power. It has shown us in the persons of tens of thousands of private in the grand army of the American Railway Union that there are still patriots who are willing to stand unflinchingly for the cause of human justice and human rights. It has emphasized the great truth that labor must stand together if the brotherhood of man is to be actualized. It has cleared our vision so that we can see the gigantic injustice of the private ownership of public utilities. It has inspired hundreds of men to enter the great world-wide contest which is to determine whether or not humanity shall be emancipated from the tyranny of plutocratic power. It has broadened our views of life and its potentialities, and has led our beloved nation forward to its great and noble destiny—the realization of the Co-operative Commonwealth, based upon the broad foundations of eternal justice and eternal truth. Soon it will organize a vast and irresistible army which will march forward in a peaceful revolution, bearing its banners of *fraternity, equality and liberty*.

Mr. Debs could have turned traitor to his organization and received as his reward a wealth of gold and the praise of the plutocratic press. But no! In the language of one of the great leader's friends, "the welfare of labor is the highest ambition of Debs." He has been weighed in the balance and found on the side of humanity. He stands to-day honored and loved by all who are arrayed on the side of the people. His motto is "Forward to the Ballot Box!" Years, yea, centuries, after the executive who ordered the federal troops to murder innocent men and women is mouldering in the graveyard of oblivion, the name of Eugene V. Debs will be greeted with thunderous applause. —M. L. Dagoy, Greencastle, Ind.

DEBS.

Debs, whose name in peace through labor circles rings. Filling each month with envy or with praise. And all her jealous leaders with amaze. And rumors loud, that daunt the things, Thy firm unshaken virtue will ever bring Victory home, though new difficulties raise. Thy Hydra heads, and the false Arthur displays The traitor hand to help their serpent sting. Yet, a nobler task awaits thy hand. For what can strife but strife still bring. Till truth and right to the world their banner fling. And our body politic from the shameful toils Of public fraud. For naught does manhood count While avarice and corruption share the spoils. —LOCAL UNION No. 60.

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A. R. U. NOTES.

All mail for the American Railway Union and THE RAILWAY TIMES should be addressed to Terre Haute, Indiana.

New members are beginning to come in as they did prior to the great strike. For the week ending February 16th, 315 new members were enrolled. One after another our Locals are rising Phoenix-like and equipping themselves for the future.

President Eugene V. Debs will deliver an address at the Auditorium, Chicago, on Thursday evening, February 28th. Subject: "Who are the Conspirators." Admission \$1.00, 75 cents and 25 cents. Proceeds go to the Legal Defense Fund. The indications are at this writing that the great Auditorium will be filled to the roof.

THE RAILWAY TIMES is enjoying a boom of no small dimensions. In the month of January 893 new subscriptions were recorded. Every member should act as agent and send us a few subscriptions. Now that we enjoy temporary freedom, we shall set ourselves to making THE RAILWAY TIMES one of the brightest and most progressive papers published.

For the present we are giving out no information respecting particular local unions. The General Managers' Association are still pursuing their blacklisting, and this is reason enough. When we are entirely through with the G. M. A., have their fangs extracted and their rattles silenced, then they will be glad to let us alone. Meantime, our local unions can saw wood without chirping.

The hearing of the officers and directors of the A. R. U. before the Supreme Court of the United States in the matter of the decisions of Judge Woods in the contempt proceedings will be had March 25th. The hearing will be had at Washington before the full supreme bench. This is the first time labor has had a hearing before that august tribunal and the decision is awaited with profound interest throughout the land. The A. R. U. is making history of a kind that will make the order immortal.

The American Railway Union starts out once more to unite the railway employes of the entire country within one compact body for their protection against corporate rapacity and the promotion of their general welfare. Until this is accomplished, corporations will continue to rule and employes will continue to be slaves. Class organizations but serve to divide and weaken—they create caste which is the forerunner of demoralization. The ranks must be closed up. Men must touch elbows and shoulders, they must be prepared at all times to act together. This done, they will be secure from corporate encroachment. The General Managers' Association "heartily endorse the old brotherhoods for their conservative policy." Of course! Why not? The general managers know a good thing, and, having often tried the old brotherhoods and found them such, they are not going to let go of them. The old brotherhoods, in their present form, are maintained to promote the general welfare of the General Managers' Association and the G. M. A. know it, and that's why they are for them. The G. M. A. don't want the railroad employes to get together and that's why they are opposed to the A. R. U. Besides, the A. R. U. is organized to protect its members and not to "compromise" when their wages are cut, by accepting the reduction, and this is reason enough why the general managers should be against it. The "old brotherhoods" have so far degenerated that even the Railway Age endorses them. This means that their policy is plutocratic enough to satisfy the most exacting. A mighty mustering of the railroad forces is going forward throughout the country. Ten organizers started out at the close of the conspiracy trials and the work of organization will be pushed with irresistible energy by men who know no such word as fail.

ALL SORTS.

Samuel Gompers contemplates going to Europe, and while in London, will be the guest of John Burns, M. P.

Grover's last message pleases Wall street hugely, because its words are like "apples of gold" wrapped in bonds.

General Jackson, a patriot, way back in the 30's, held that a national bank was corrupting in its influence; and he smashed it. Grover Cleveland, the paltroof, favors the existence of several thousand national banks, because they constitute a money power, to which he yields abject obedience. See?

Norton's Monthly Sentinel recites that near Muncie, Ind., the child of a poor man died and was hauled to the cemetery on a hand-sled by two brothers, the parents walking behind the sled. In addition to this the father made the rude box in which the dead child was buried, and also dug the grave, refusing to accept aid from the county. The Sentinel thinks that such a scene "is enough to make angels weep and such men as Ben Franklin and Tom Jefferson turn over in their graves." On the contrary, the father of the child acted wisely. The rude box which may have cost \$1 or less, answered every purpose that a \$25 casket

could have subserved. The little sled was far more appropriate than a fashionable hearse. Christian paganism and the miserable heartless fashion in vogue would have had the poor man spend his last farthing for what could have been of no service to the dead or living; indeed, would have been a cruelty to the living since it would have taken the money the poor family needed. There was never a greater folly practiced than to throw away money on big funerals. The poor man set a splendid example which ought to be followed. Costly funerals ought to be tabooed.

Out of the Woods, to jail:  
Out of the jail, to court:  
With hounds forever on his trail,  
Fate and Fortune's sport.  
No, not forever—it cannot be!  
The dogs will cease to bite and bay.  
The battle cry, "We will be free!"  
Presses for "Gene" a brighter day.  
We know there are latitudes  
Where the midnight sun is seen,  
A symbol of beatitudes  
That will surely come to "Gene."

Rev. DeWitt Talmage, in a recent prayer "called upon God to give strength enough to labor unions to counteract the grinding influence of capitalists and corporations, which he said were now such that the poor man had not always a place to lay his head." God knows the labor unions have "strength enough" to right their wrongs if they were united, and determined to do so, but they prefer to vote, capitalistic tickets and submit to the dictation of plutocrats. It will not always be their condition.

If a poor devil makes silver dollars he is a counterfeiter and is jailed, even if it has the intrinsic value. But if a man goes to Washington and gets a law passed so he can issue rag bank notes, he is a gentleman and a leading citizen. But I can't see what the difference is on society from whom the value of the money is taken. Neither the banker nor the counterfeiter creates any wealth, but they both by this means get wealth that others do create. Don't study the money question, you might learn something. —Coming Nation.

After a careful review of the income tax law, we feel, in justice to ourselves, we must condemn it. We have reached this conclusion by applying the law to ourselves. When this law is put into operation we shall be compelled to pay a large percentage of all our income over \$4,000 into the United States treasury. This is unjust, as we work as hard for our money as any mechanic or laborer in the country and think we are entitled to every cent we earn. If the law could be so amended as to not include publishers of labor papers we might favor it, but as it stands, we can hardly do it. —Labor Record.

The great Republican "triumph" November 6th, was won with the loss of 1,280,000 votes by that party. At the same time the Democratic party lost over 2,200,000 votes. At the same time the People's party gained 1,340,000 votes, or about 140 per cent. Considering the votes thrown out in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Alabama, Georgia and Texas, the latter's gain was over 2,200,000 votes or over 200 per cent. This is infinitely more than the infant Republican party, then representing the people, gained from 1852 to 1856, and yet, in 1860 it elected Abraham Lincoln and began making history. History will soon repeat itself again and a new Lincoln will emancipate the 66,000,000 white slaves now serving their 4,000,000 bondholding masters, and then we will have a new era of prosperity. —Vox Populi.

The San Francisco Chronicle, of January 18th, recites the fact that a big grievance committee of engineers was laboring with J. A. Fillmore to have the new schedule on the Southern Overland changed for their benefit, the officials of the road requiring them to run from 70 to 108 more miles for a day's work. The engineers, in pleading for justice, set forth that they had been loyal to the road during the A. R. U. strike, and that C. P. Huntington had promised to stand by them. The general superintendent was stubborn, indicating that loyalty to the corporation was their duty, and not something to be paid for. The engineers are just where the corporation want them. They are its slaves and will have to do its bidding. They must cut bait and fish at the same time. When brave men struck for the right, they were loyal to the wrong, traitors to their friends, and now they must take their medicine.

The following resolution and petition was unanimously adopted this day by the People's Party Club, of Pueblo, Col.: WHEREAS, The Chief Executive of the United States has usurped authority in direct violation of the Constitution by sending into the states of Illinois and Colorado armed troops under pretense and guise of suppressing an insurrection, but in fact to enforce the decrees, orders and mandates of corporate lines, without the call and against the desire of civil or military authority of the state and the will of the people thereof; and has denied the people the right to peacefully assemble and petition congress, and has authorized the police and military to arrest, imprison and disperse the people for such assembling; and WHEREAS, The judges of our federal courts, under guise of modern statutes, have swept the cobwebs from despised, cruel and forgotten precepts of British courts of chancery for precedents to imprison men for peacefully assembling to petition congress, and to find men guilty of, and to sentence them to prison for contempt of court (and "prosecution") contrary to and in violation of the constitution and the bill of rights; therefore, be it

Resolved, And we do hereby request the support of our senators and representatives in congress that congress, by act or joint resolution, define and limit the power and authority of the executive and judiciary in such and similar occasions that the people may be secure in person and property, and that the right of peaceful assembling, and will be protected in their rights as guaranteed by the constitution.

R. A. CHOSMAN, Chairman.

CONFIDENCE IN COURTS.

The New York Evening Post of recent date prints the following paragraph in an editorial article:

It is in the highest degree important that the very poorest member of the community should possess unshaken confidence in the integrity of our judges and the impartiality of the administration of justice. We fear that many of the common people, especially in the Western States, entertain the belief that the courts have allied themselves with the great corporate interests of the country, and it is eminently desirable that this belief should have no sound basis.

The fears of the Post are well founded. Not only is it true that in the "Western States" the "common people" believe the courts "have allied themselves with the great corporate interests," but the belief is almost universal, not only among common people but uncommon people as well, and if the half that the papers report is even half true, the Post need not go beyond Manhattan Island to obtain a ton of facts, all of easy verification, that the courts, some of them at least, are in alliance with great corporate interests, and that the interests of the "common people" are in the main studiously and corruptly ignored. Why not? Who are the gentlemen, the raw material, out of which judges are manufactured? Some of them were mere 3x4 jack-leg lawyers—others corporation lawyers. The first, a set of legal nincompoops, elevated by the party machine for blind subserviency to party, easily swerved to pursue any course mapped out for them by superior intellects, and the second, whether appointed or elected, receiving the aid of corporate money-power because satisfied, if on the bench, corporate interests would never be made to suffer if they could prevent it. As a result the "common people" distrust courts, just as they distrust Congress and Legislatures—where corporations control legislation—and their interests are studiously ignored.

If it is "eminently desirable" that the "common people" should "possess unshaken confidence in the integrity of judges," a very great and radical change must occur in their "administration of justice." There is evidently such a thing as justice, but, as against dollars, and the devices of corporation the "common people" rarely have a taste of it, hence, the growing belief that "the courts have allied themselves with great corporate interests"—and the wrong is steadily going from bad to worse. That some judges are corrupt goes without the saying, and the wrong might be borne with philosophic composure until "Time, the tomb builder," had given them a furlough, but the trouble is, that the rottenness of some judges, like small-pox and other infectious diseases, has spread havoc along the entire judicial line, and few judges have escaped the contamination. To get corrupt men off and pure men on the bench is not an easy task. Having been placed there by corrupt partisan influences and the money power the same forces are applied in keeping them where they are, or if one fortunately "hands in his chips" another as greedy and vicious is elevated to the vacant place. That there are exceptions only emphasizes the conclusion that it is possible to purify the bench and substitute honest men for those who have "allied themselves to great corporate interests." It can be done by the ballot wielded by honest men for honest purposes. Will it be done? That's the question, and there are few, if any, of more importance.

PRESENT AND FUTURE.

The Voice writes of impending slavery, and says:

In all the progressive nations of the world, civilization is to-day rocking amid the throes of industrial revolution. What is the matter? In America, in England, in Germany, in France, and in other countries the story is the same—a persistent, unceasing, tumultuous grapple between labor and capital.

Here is the stern and solemn truth that confronts the world to-day: We are drifting steadily and swiftly into a condition of industrial slavery.

What, then, is the best way to avert this impending despotism? What is the solution? Where is the remedy?

What is "industrial slavery?" and what is industrial liberty? and what is "industrial revolution?" The Voice asks "What is labor contending for?" For better food, better clothing, and better shelter? and answers "NO," and avails:

The fight is not primarily for these things. The laborer of to-day is better housed, better fed, better clothed, on the average, than ever before, and it is where he is best fed and best clothed that this struggle is the fiercest. Why, then, this intense, deepening feeling of resentment? The answer brings us to the very core and center of the whole struggle. The fight is not one for higher wages or shorter hours, or better material conditions, but it is for LIBERTY, INDUSTRIAL LIBERTY—emancipation from the absolute dominion of aggregated capital.

In this the Voice becomes strangely muddled—gets things strangely mixed—in a word becomes incoherent. It is not logical. The Voice talks of the "throes of industrial revolution," the agonies and pangs of revolution. It speaks of an "unceasing, tumultuous and persistent grapple between labor and capital," of "drifting steadily and swiftly into conditions of industrial slavery" and of "impending despotism," and then informs its readers that labor, on the average, is better housed, clothed and fed than ever before, and that it is not grappling with capital to secure more food, better clothing and better shelter, but for "industrial liberty."

Nothing is more misleading than the introduction of the term "average" in matters of wages, food, clothing and shelter in discussing the conditions of labor.

WILL ADVANCE THE CAUSE.

Rev. J. V. Ferris, of St. Paul's church, at Rogers Park, a suburb of Chicago, sent the following communication to the Chicago Tribune:

Do not deceive yourself by coolly assuming that the imprisonment of Mr. Debs will prevent others who abominate oppression by capitalistic power from imitating the course pursued by him during the labor troubles of last summer. Your assumption, as expressed editorially, as to the effect of Judge Woods' decision, is evidently not based upon a knowledge of past social, industrial and revolutionary facts. You err grievously in supposing that the imprisonment of a leader by a thoroughly prejudiced and biased judge will defeat labor or any other kind of movement and cow other men who are bound to resist oppression and corporate tyranny. You may depend upon it that Debs' imprisonment will do more to advance the cause espoused by him than anything else that might have happened. The one-sided and, as I believe, thoroughly unconstitutional decision of Judge Woods will be responsible for more results, both good and bad, than he may imagine.

In conclusion, as one of the many readers of The Tribune, I desire to protest against your editorial persecution of Mr. Debs. It is a pity that a paper so good and broad minded in many respects as is The Tribune should so belittle and stultify its editorial influence by engaging in such personal persecution.

An exchange, whose editor has been engaged in the beatitude business, says:

Blessed are the poor, for they shall be poorer.

Blessed are the scabs, for they shall be our slaves.

Blessed are the syndicate saloon-keepers, for they shall be swallowed up by British capitalists.

Blessed are the editors of the capitalist press, for they shall be fed by capitalist corporations.

Blessed are the rich, for they shall be made richer and shall taste of the good things of this world.

Blessed are those who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed.

Blessed is the campaign liar, for he is our main dependence.

Blessed are the weak, for they shall be kicked off the face of the earth.

Blessed are they who do hunger, for they shall have plenty of company.

Blessed are the traitors to labor organizations, for they shall inherit the fat offices in the land.

Blessed is the legalized thief, for he shall have abundant opportunities to steal.

Ye are the salt of the earth; therefore salt down everything in sight.

Ye are the light of the world, for you carry torchlights in every campaign.

Let your torchlights so shine before men that they can see the rooster on your hat and glorify your foolishness.

JAY GOULDS' estate, according to official assessment, amounts to about \$90,000,000. When old Jay wanted a judge or a legislature he went out and bought one or both, just as he would have bought a shot-gun or a dog. Old Jay set the pace, and the stock of judges and legislatures now offering is about up to the demand.

Pickings.

Laborers that will not organize to protect their interests deserve nothing better than slavery.

When Wicks gets through with his divorce case I wonder if he will say "There is nothing to arbitrate."

For a wonder, one New York City paper (Press) takes a stand in behalf of the striking trolley car men of the city of Brooklyn.

If every member of the A. R. U. were incarcerated, the principles of their constitution would still live.

The banner of the A. R. U. will be waving in the breezes of the future (bidding defiance to its oppressors) when its detractors have sunk into insignificance.

I expect to live long enough to see G. M. Pullman doing little better than blacking boots in the city of Chicago. I won't be very old either.

A few years ago Mackey the great railroad king swore he would "break the back bone" of a strike on his system if he died a pauper. He is a clerk in a shoe store in an Illinois town now. Many a truth is spoken as a joke.

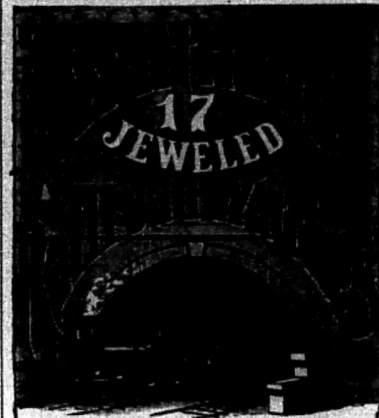
The semi-annual report of the earnings of Pullman cars shows a falling off of nearly 11 per cent. as compared with its report of last June, (see Railroad Gazette.) I wonder if the travelling public are not boycotting him. Call out the troops.

The great strike of the trolley car men in the city of Brooklyn is now on. The men have had the best of it so far and with few exceptions have retained the good will and confidence of Brooklyn's thousands of people. The plutocrats, seeing they were about to be whipped, have resorted to the usual tactics of hiring the slum element to commit depredations and are now calling on the state for troops to protect their scabs. If they cannot make slaves of their employes in an honorable manner they will do so dishonorably and the law seems to protect them with federal bayonets. God speed the day when capital will be forced to bow in humble submission to the just demands of labor.

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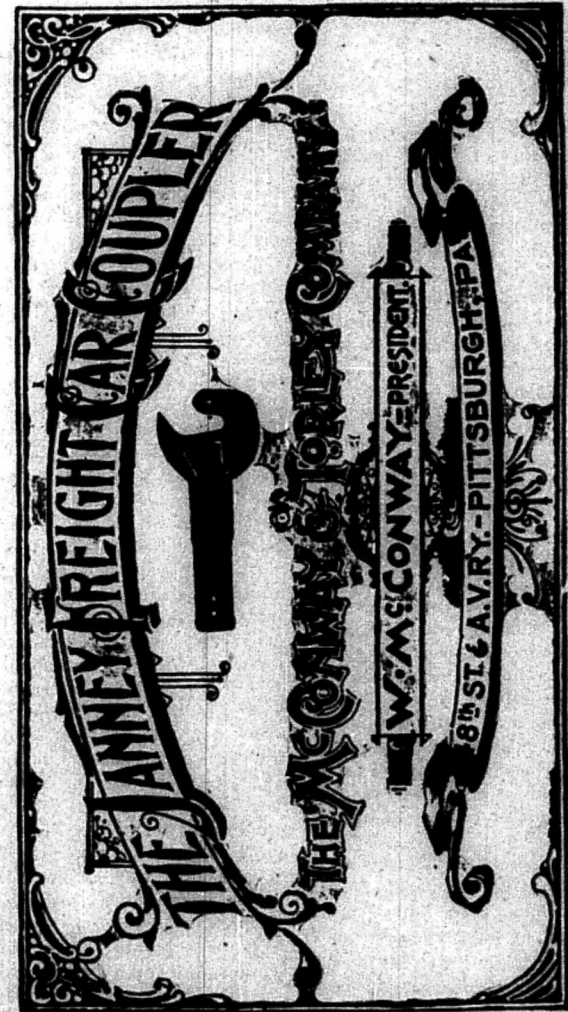
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