

The Sentinel.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10.

Coin now in the treasury is said to be \$197,415,133, but there is no telling as to the truth of the statement. The rats have been caught in the crime of making figures lie—in one instance to the extent of \$19,000,000.

The Indianapolis Journal begins the work of the campaign by publishing a fac simile of the letter written by Senator Voorhees in December, 1869, introducing a southern sympathizer to friends in the south.—Inter-Ocean.

But the Journal is careful not to begin the campaign by publishing its editorials favoring a peaceful dissolution of the union. The Journal was not in favor of "One country, one flag, and one destiny."

The official report of Hon. B. H. Bristol, secretary of the treasury, showed that from 1869 to 1876, a period of seven years, shows the defalcation of government officials to have been \$5,560,593.93, or \$785,839.13 per annum. This, however, only includes the petty thefts. We don't mention the whisky frauds, by which the government lost nearly sixty millions of dollars in seven years. This is ancient history, but it's good.

There is no longer any doubt but that the radical rascals who have had charge of the treasury of the country have been guilty of the most outrageous stealings, and have sought to cover up their rascality by false bookkeeping. The unearthing of one steal of \$19,000,000 shows conclusively that other steals of greater magnitude will be shown up at no distant day. Senator Davis, of West Virginia, knows of a steal of \$300,000,000, but has been unable to persuade a radical senate to demand an investigation. It will come, however, in due time.

While the Journal is indulging in matters of ancient history we call its attention to the following figures, based on official reports of the past: From the year 1789 to 1861, a period of 72 years, the entire ordinary expenses of the general government of the United States amounted to \$1,581,706,194.00, while from the year 1861 to 1875, a period of 14 years, under republican rule, the net expenses of the general government, exclusive of the public debt or war debt, amounted to \$5,220,250,750.00, nearly four times as much as the expenditures for the entire 72 years prior to 1861.

The Indian war, now just commenced, and which is likely to become one of the most destructive the country has ever had, is attributable directly to the curse of radicalism. "The Bannock chiefs," says the New York Sun, "whose outbreak has afforded General Howard an opportunity to send 'more warlike telegraphic dispatches,' and to be in time to be too late for more skirmishes, complain that 'they were driven to hostilities by the lies, 'frauds and outrages of their agent, Reinhardt, who had made them work, promised 'them pay, and refused to keep his promises. 'He had 'starved them, abused them and 'lied to them.' Even the peaceable, root-digging Bannocks could not stand this, and 'they have joined the list of formerly friendly tribes upon a corrupt and fraudulent 'Indian policy has made bitterly hostile.'"

It is announced from Washington, as a great triumph for the "workmen," that the attorney general has written an opinion upon the eight-hour law of congress in which he holds that "the intent of the law was to give a full day's pay for eight hours' work." Of course it was. It scarcely needs an official opinion to assure us of that. But no act of congress or of anybody else can compel employers to pay more for eight hours' work as they would for ten hours, for the sufficient reason that it is not worth as much, and there is no reason why the government departments should be run upon principles which would not hold in private business. We may enact eight-hour laws or six-hour laws or three hour laws till we are tired, and still it will be the most productive labor that will earn the highest wages.—Philadelphia Times

The fact is well understood that the employees in the various departments of the government at Washington do not work, on an average, more than three hours a day, and still they draw full pay. This being true, we see no reason why others should work more than eight hours for a full day's work. This thing of working a man to death for sufficient wages to keep starvation from his door, affording no time for physical or mental recuperation, is the policy of the lowest order of Shylocks and skinflints, and find them where you will, their influence is always detrimental to the well being of society. This is by no means the first instance when the law has had to regulate the hours of labor. It has been the practice of certain industrial institutions to take advantage of the necessities of employees, particularly minors, and work them into premature graves, and the law has had to step in and correct the evil. We hear much now-a-days of cruelty to animals, and of the punishment of heartless owners and drivers who impose upon brutes excessive burdens, and he fact that the law seeks to give some protection to human animals against the rapacity of employees ought to be hailed as an advance movement in our boasted civilization.

Huzza! This is the glorious Fourth; and this is the land of tramps, of idleness, of poverty and starvation. Huzza! Radicalism has been in power for many years, and has bankrupted the country. Food is cheap and abundant, but the people are too poor to purchase it at any price, and the highways and byways of the country are filled with beggars. Huzza! Radicalism put forth its accursed hand and hushed the industries of the land as if they had been struck by lightning, and thousands of willing workers became idlers and mendicants. Huzza! Radicalism clasped hands with Shylocks and demanded specie payments, and with the commencement of contraction shrinkage followed in the track of desolation. Houses and lands lost their value, failures followed failures; losses were piled upon losses; poverty usurped the place of wealth; bankrupt hoards, bearing to bankrupt grave yards the remains of hard earned fortunes, were forever passing along the streets, and all the marts of business were draped in mourning. Poverty, hunger, starvation, rags and crime are the monuments of radical rule. Curses with mouths that speak, curses with eyes that see, curses with hands that strike—such are the trophies of radicalism. Look where you will and they confront

your gaze. Seek as you may to drown their anathemas, they still shriek on and every day their wail becomes more penetrating. What subjects for contemplation on the 4th of July, the Sabbath of liberty? No; no; no huzzas to-day. Let it be a day of deep humiliation and of stern resolve to dethrone radicalism. It matters not that the republic is ocean girl—that its soil is fertile, or that its mountains are bursting with precious metals; millions of the people are too poor to buy bread, too poor to buy clothes—too poor to pay for shelter from the storm, and too poor to worship God in his sanctuary. Such curses were unknown in the "land of the free and the home of the brave" until radicalism obtained control. The 4th of July is a good day to think upon such things, and a good day to resolve that hereafter the people will not wear the yoke of radical despotism.

Muley-Grant as president was very much like Muley-Hassan, son of Sidi-Muley-Mohamed, and late emperor of Morocco. Muley-Hassan while emperor was an absolute despot, and Muley-Grant while in office as president played part of Muley-Hassan just as much as possible. Muley-Hassan didn't care a pinch of snuff for any laws, civil or religious, and Muley-Grant didn't care a dern for constitutions or laws. Muley-Hassan took what money he wanted from his subjects by an armed force. Muley-Grant replenished his exchequer by accepting bribes and dividing with an army of thieves that he kept about him. Muley-Hassan did not keep employed an army of carpet baggers to plunder his subjects. In this respect Muley-Grant got ahead of the emperor of Morocco. When one of Muley-Hassan's officers was caught in appropriating money for his personal benefit he was killed forthwith and his body given to the buzzards; but Muley-Grant, when one of his high officials was caught stealing, dismissed him with a florid indorsement of character. Muley-Hassan was a very happy man, but not more so than Muley-Grant. Muley-Hassan is dead, while Muley-Grant is alive and kicking, and quite a number of thieves who grew fat on plundering revenues while basking in his favor want to give him a third term as president or first term as emperor.

THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1878.

One hundred and two years have come and gone since the thirteen colonies declared their independence of Great Britain. The declaration of independence is an immortal document. It evidences consummate ability. It was written under a pressure of solicitude such as had never before given force and power to any mere human production. Every word was weighed and measured as if it had been a diamond. It was the outgrowth of advanced thought upon the rights of man—the sublimest plea for humanity that had ever gone sounding through the world. It was the recognition of the truth that "God is no respecter of persons." It unfettered three millions of British subjects and threw the shackles in the face of kings, and with unwavering trust in the rectitude of their cause, the emancipated colonists defied the world. Patriotism never spoke in clearer tones. Humanity never rose to grander proportions. Liberty never achieved a more enduring triumph. The lifting power of the declaration of independence has never been measured. It cannot be comprehended. Like the fiat of Jehovah, it created a nation. It placed a new luminous in the system of governments. It elevated three millions of people to the dignity of freemen—to sovereigns by birthright, and gave to them the privilege of shaping their own destiny, of forming their own government, of creating their own institutions and of worshipping God according to the dictates of their own consciences. The full significance of the declaration of independence is not understood. The grandeur of its sweep is silently encircling the world. The great truths it embodies are laying hold upon men in all countries. The down trodden millions of Europe are beginning to catch the pencillings of light that tell of the dawning of a new era, and the full orb of day is coming—come, it may be, through wars and blood—come like the tramp of earthquakes—come with the resistless power of winds and floods, but come it will. Truth is pledged, the right is pledged, Heaven is pledged, and the down trodden nations will yet have their declarations of independence, and will celebrate the anniversaries of their deliverance from despotism. Americans will rejoice to-day. The grand achievements of the years, since the declaration of independence became a part of recorded history, make facts read like fiction. From thirteen colonies to thirty-eight states is a stride of such gigantic proportions that it has to be mapped out to be fully understood. The eye as well as the ear has to be addressed. From 3,000,000 of people to a population of 45,000,000 is another item, showing the growth and march of empire, and a country stretching across a continent, from ocean to ocean, from the rock ribbed Atlantic coast to the golden shores of the Pacific, completes the picture as America will contemplate it to-day. But these things are in fact only the outlines; there is a grand filling in of triumphs compared with which geographical lines become of secondary importance. The railroads that bind the sections together in social and commercial relations will not fail to attract the attention of those who to-day meditate upon the grandeur of the American republic. Still more, the fabulous productiveness of the country, which is even yet in its infancy, will not fail to excite the wonder and the gratitude of the people. With these, the growth of benevolent enterprises, schools, colleges, asylums and churches, complete the picture. That all this advancement could have come independent of the truths enunciated in the declaration of independence we do not believe. The liberty of the people was the first thing to be achieved; this done, and all the problems of growth could be solved. Then let the people huzzas; let bonfires blaze; let the great national heart throb in unison with the truths of the declaration of independence, and let all people in all lands who hate tyrants and believe in man's capacity for self government devoutly worship at the shrine of liberty.

THE CURSE OF RADICALISM.

An important campaign is just now commencing, and it is therefore in order to present to the people such facts as serve to illustrate the curse of radicalism upon the country. Since the year 1855 the radical party has been in a position to shape the financial policy of the country and influence business affairs. What have been the results? It has been held by political economists and intelligent business men as well as statesmen that abundant crops insure general prosperity; that a country overflowing with food products, the wealth of field and farm, must necessarily be prosperous and happy. If a different state of things exist, if with abundant harvests there is a steady increase of poverty and a wider derangement of business, then the conclusion is inevitable that there has been set in operation a combination of vicious forces so powerful as to reverse the natural order of things, creating innumerable ills where peace, prosperity, happiness and general advancement should have held sway. We hold, and it is the verdict of the country, that the radical party has so shaped legislation that instead of the blessings we have enumerated, curses widespread and continuous have fallen with crushing effect upon the country, and are now holding it in their deathlike grasp. Assuming that abundant harvests underlie the prosperity of the country, it becomes an easy matter to demonstrate by authentic data the fact that radicalism has been the most colossal curse that ever blighted any land under heaven. The census reports of 1870 give the following figures showing the principal cereal productions of the United States:

Wheat, bushels.....	287,745,628
Rye, bushels.....	19,918,795
Indian corn, bushels.....	780,944,540
Oats, bushels.....	232,167,157
Barley, bushels.....	29,761,245
Buckwheat, bushels.....	9,821,721

Total.....1,486,299,144

Since 1870 there have been no crop failures; on the contrary the harvests have steadily increased in magnitude, and the land has absolutely overflowed with food. The shout of the harvest home has sounded from Maine to California. Foreign countries have been urged to purchase, and the exports of domestic produce have exceeded all former years, and the boast now is that the balance of trade is nearly \$300,000,000 in our favor. It is safe to say that the average annual increase of the cereal products of the country since 1870 has been fully fifteen per cent., and this will be regarded as a low estimate. Taking this as a fair approximation of the actual increase of products of field and farm, and we have the following results for eight years, including 1878, of the product of the cereals above tabulated:

1871.....	1,494,000,000	Bushels.
1872.....	1,581,289,057	
1873.....	2,108,387,720	
1874.....	2,424,582,858	
1875.....	2,758,276,063	
1876.....	3,206,517,472	
1877.....	3,867,493,062	
1878.....	4,196,149,359	

Total bushels.....21,768,948,273

Here then we have an exhibit of the vast product of cereals for a series of years, showing a grand aggregate that almost defies comprehension. With such a showing the United States of America ought to have been, upon all accepted theories, the most prosperous country on the face of the earth. But just the opposite has been its condition. Under radical rule the beneficence of heaven has been to a very large extent neutralized. In the year 1870 the country was prosperous, notwithstanding the radical party had even then laid the foundation for the disasters that have since transpired. Contraction had even then commenced its devilish work, and with the dawning of 1873 the radical policy, under full headway, was prostrating business of every description and in every direction. Its sweep was continental, and not a city, county or state escaped its death dealing force.

YEARS.	No. of Failures.	Total.
1872.....	4,959	\$121,096,100
1873.....	5,183	228,490,000
1874.....	5,830	155,239,000
1875.....	7,749	201,090,833
1876.....	19,112	391,612,000
1877.....	9,572	193,899,536
Total.....	47,776	\$1,087,622,055

And these figures are but a fraction of the sum total of disasters that have fallen upon the country. The recorded liabilities of those who went down beneath the curse of radical financing, while indicating the force of contraction, furnishes meager data upon which to predicate a satisfactory estimate of other losses, the sum total of which appeals to those most familiar with the subject. The shrinkage of values of real estate is estimated at 40 per cent., or \$12,000,000,000. The loss sustained by throwing at least 3,000,000 of working people out of employment is not less than \$7,000,000,000, and this error upon the material prosperity of the country is still going forward. It will be noticed that while these disasters have fallen thick and fast upon the country crops of fabulous abundance have been gathered, not cereals alone, but every other product of forest, field and farm. The people now stand confronted with the facts. There is no escape from their logic. Radicalism is responsible for the ruinous state of things that has filled the land with idleness, poverty, financial distrust and business prostration. We have had crops each year meeting the largest estimates, but they have not brought prosperity. There is everywhere an absence of confidence and an exhibition of reluctance to engage in legitimate business pursuits. The season is advancing, and from every quarter of the country the crop reports are cheering, but they come with reports that people are idle, and those who can obtain employment are working for wages that barely keep soul and body together. Evidently what is wanted is wise legislation; more currency for capital to transact the business of the country. Until this is done, the devastating forces radicalism has set in operation will continue to neutralize the legitimate effects of abundant harvests, and intensify the business gloom that enshrouds the land.

JOHN OVERMEYER, Esquire, another member of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," has been nominated by the republicans of

Jennings county for representative. Shade of Key, Longstreet, Mosby et al. protect us! Here in the great state of Indiana, only fifteen years after the rebellion, a great moral party goes off on a reasonable trail and asks the people to support a man who was known in his secret political lodge as "Beauregard" and who said in a speech to his fellow members that "in the hereafter 'hell would be full of republicans that their legs would stick out of the windows, etc.' And yet the loyal republicans are asked to support him.

WHEAT.

The winter wheat has matured, a part already garnered, the remainder soon to be. The only adverse contingency is the effect of possible weather between harvest and threshing. Spring wheat is less far advanced, but remarkably vigorous that it can resist any except an extraordinary adversity. A large field may therefore be confidently expected. Notwithstanding croaking on one side and gushing on the other the minimum yield of the whole country has never been less than ten bushels, and the maximum record has never reached fourteen. A medium crop upon 30,000,000 acres would be 300,000,000 bushels, or the present would be more than a medium crop. With the crop indications as here presented the reader can form his own conclusion. At thirteen bushels the product would be 390,000,000; at fourteen, 420,000,000 bushels. The very average need not go beyond that figure, which is nearly 50 per cent. larger than the five crop of 1869.

With a large crop and medium price the home consumption will be likely to be 235,000,000 bushels; 45,000,000 more will be required for seed; 70,000,000 will probably be needed abroad; making a demand for 350,000,000 bushels, with a probable surplus sufficient for export to an increase in the foreign demand, caused either by war or unforeseen injury to the European crop, for waste and losses by fire or accident. While there is sure to be a demand for wheat it will not be a drug in the market, and from the present outlook, will not be sacrificed in the hands of the farmer.

England is declining in wheat production; her bread imports are rapidly increasing. The United States is the only source of supply. I have witnessed an immense importation of wheat and flour, and 61 per cent. of it has gone from this country, amounting to an equivalent of 24,000,000 bushels of wheat. The following are the figures for four months of three years past:

Wheat—	1876.	1877.	1878.
Russia, cwts.....	2,885,898	1,774,324	1,500,118
United States, cwts.....	4,841,587	7,053,610	4,494,194
All countries, cwts.,	14,566,347	12,301,189	10,411,713

Flour—
United States, cwts..... 900,421
All countries, cwts..... 2,312,282
All countries, cwts..... 2,110,625
All countries, cwts..... 3,287,508

This is a remarkable contrast with the past. For fifteen years, prior to 1873, the proportion contributed by Russia was 24 per cent., and by the United States 27 per cent. of all. Since that date our proportion has been constantly advancing and that of Russia declining.—New York Herald.

The papers are filled with such glowing statements with regard to the wheat crop. But this is not all; the prospect for abundant crops of corn, rye, oats and barley are equally flattering. There will be an immense crop of hogs, and the cattle outlook will be never more flattering. The root crop will be abundant. The cotton crop will be large, and sugar and rice will meet the expectations of planters. The mines of iron and copper and of the precious metals respond to the largest demand, and streams of wealth, to all appearances, will never have rolled their tides deeper over the country. All of this looks like prosperity. But we have had all these things for a series of years, and still the country has been not only not prosperous, but business of every description has been prostrate, bankruptcy has increased at a fearful rate, failures have multiplied, idleness has extended its conquests, poverty has taken a deeper hold every month upon the people, until the business demoralization has extended from the center to the circumference of the land. Wherefore all this? How does it happen that in the midst of boundless plenty there is a growing inability to purchase the absolute necessities of life? There is but one answer to these queries. The country has been in the hands of the radical party and legislation has been so shaped that the producing class have been sacrificed that a few moneyed Shylocks might increase their gain. The purchasing power of a dollar has been increased, while the money power of skilled labor has been a thousand fold diminished; indeed, in millions of instances, it has been deprived of any income whatever, and left to perish. Thus, while the country has been blessed with abundant harvests, it has been cursed with such a stagnation in business that millions of people, notwithstanding the plentifulness and cheapness of food, have been unable to purchase at any price. The season is advancing, but we do not hear of returning confidence. We are not told that industries are reviving. There is no increased demand for laborers. Winter will soon be upon the country. Commercial reports may show an increased foreign demand for the surplus food products of the country, and the balance of trade in our favor may be increased and commented upon as an evidence of national prosperity. But until labor finds employment at remunerative wages, until working people are able to earn enough to feed and clothe themselves and their families, statistics of large crops and increased exports will not evidence a condition of general prosperity. They will give false impressions and mislead those who accept them as conclusive testimony upon the subject of the improved condition of the people.

WAR WITH MEXICO.

A good many people seem to think that a war with Mexico is inevitable, and if reports of proceedings along the border, between Texas and Mexico, can be relied upon as embodying as much truth as fiction, war is evidently nearer at hand than a good many people suspect. It is generally believed that Diaz, since he has been recognized by the United States as president de jure of the Mexican republic, has shown precious little concern about the troubles along the Rio Grande; so little indeed that he permits outlaws to keep up their raids upon the Texas frontier, stealing cattle and horses and murdering citizens without making any proper effort to arrest or punish the outlaws. As a matter of course, such a state of affairs can not long exist without producing the most serious consequences. If Diaz can not control the guerrillas who claim Mexican citizenship, the government of the United States will take the matter in hand and make short work of it. Advice from Washington are of a character showing a purpose of prompt action on the part of the government, and when all the facts are made public the probabilities are that the popular demand will be for vigorous measures to effectually suppress the pillaging outrages of the Mexican bandits. The correspondence between the United States and Mexico is likely to assume at once the

greatest gravity, and Mexico will be called upon to act with energy or the United States will assume control of the matter, and station troops in all the Mexican towns along the border. If this leads to war then the United States will move our frontier line a little further west, and still further in that direction, as her policy may be opposed by the Mexicans.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The duchess dowager of Montrose won \$52,500 on the Derby.

Who hath seen a newspaper bore? Don't all speak at once, now.

The mayor of Jefferson, Texas, receives the princely salary of \$1 a day.

The Hon. W. F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) is dangerously ill in Nebraska.

Minister Lowell is at Athens, whither he went after a painful siege of gout.

The shah only took with him to Paris 36 boxes of gold coin, valued at \$24,000 per box.

Syracuse Herald: Grant is a man of iron, but Robeson appears to have been a man of steel.

Perkins, the Hanson bond robber, is described as wearing a "Jim Anderson" mustache.

Henry W. Raymond, son of the late Henry J. Raymond, proposes to practice law in Chicago.

A humane gentleman is trying to raise funds in Dublin for the establishment of a home for destitute dogs.

Senator Ben Hill announces that he is in favor of a law permitting states and corporations to issue paper money.

Life sized portraits of Anderson and the Jenks have been ordered by the Sazerac l'ying club, of Austin, Nevada.

Bancroft, the Harvard oarsman, told a friend last Friday after Harvard's victory that he had rowed his last race.

Only think. Here are 3,000,000 miles further from the sun than we were six months ago, and yet it is ninety-eight in the shade.

The American crews which are to take part in the international regatta are said by the London Sportsman to be objects of great interest.

Count Andraszy is slim, tall and handsome, with a stylish carriage and military deportment. His greatest fault is his uncertainty.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: The Hon. David Davis will return to Illinois as soon as the bridges between this state and Washington are strengthened.

Philadelphia Press: Let us not delude ourselves with false hopes. The next congressional delegation from the solid south will be a solid democratic one.

Says the New York Telegram: "The clerk who got married on \$5 a week, and is living at the rate of \$17, as he testified himself, may yet be in John Sherman's position."

Speaker Randall says he always sets down any man who talks to him in favor of free trade as either an ignorant man or a deceiver. How would he classify John Stuart Mill?

Twenty years ago Albert Grant, the London financier of Emma mine and Lisbon tramways notoriety, swept a wine merchant's office for \$3 a week, and was charged because he was "not sharp enough."

Philadelphia North American: The national political situation can not be materially changed until one party or the other shall become overwhelmingly powerful and dominant, and thereby be able to develop the entire scope and tendency of its views without interference. The present situation is not satisfactory to anybody, because it is merely a sort of armed truce.

Dennis Kearney, the successful labor politician of the Pacific slope, is something of a bowler. All that he asks when his life is ended, he says, is a humble slab over his grave in Lone Mountain with this inscription: "Here lies Kearney, the drayman, who led the victorious charge of the miners against the hordes of tyranny and corruption, and died for liberty and the rights of man."

A Portland paper gives this as a proof of the force of imagination: "The owner of a standard thermometer, on Exchange street, etherized the mercury to-day, reducing it to temperate. Men came along perspiring at every pore, with faces aglow and nostrils open, and when they saw the indications, lowered the umbrellas, folded their fans, and remarked how quickly they felt the sea breeze."

Joe Hooker, at the reception of the army of the Potomac, occupied a big arm chair, having a beautiful little girl of seven on his knee, who he kissed repeatedly. One of the company remarked to the child, "You must remember this. Ten or fifteen years hence you will be very proud of having been kissed by Fighting Joe Hooker." Whereupon the general wittily retorted, "I should not mind it either, my dear, if you were ten or fifteen years older now."

When Mr. Eli Perkins, the great American humorist, read James Anderson's testimony, he wept copiously. He felt that his laurels and occupation were gone. Then raising his right hand to heaven, he vowed that he would make his next newspaper article sink Anderson's Anatomy efforts into nothingness, or fracture a spinal column in the attempt. Eli's last newspaper contribution says he has traveled some 900,000 miles by railroad during the past six months, hence we judge that his spinal column is still in good repair.

Soldiers in the Poor Houses.
[St. Louis Times.]

In the course of a political speech in Boston, on the night of June 28, General Horace Binney Sargeant, among other things said: "More than 200 men who fought the battles of the rebellion are to-day in the poor houses of Massachusetts, men, every one of whom is more loyal than one-half the congressmen who are to-day talking about honest money." There is a whole volume of meaning in that sentence. Two hundred men who "saved the Union" are paupers in the poor houses of a single state. Nineteen, if not ninety-nine hundredths of them are everywhere poor, utterly impoverished. This is not all. Nine-tenths of the industrial classes, the men who labor on the farms, in the workshops and factories, who produce the wealth that sustains us all and make our country great are about as poor as the soldiers. Why? Because through the instrumentality of vicious legislation the few have been enabled to gather into their plethoric garners and treasuries nearly all the entire surplus of the unconsumed products of labor. This it is that has driven so many out of employment and created a grand army of tramps. This it is that has swallowed up small capitals employed in various industries. This it is that has caused 13,000 bankruptcies annually. This is the cause of all our woes.

LAND.

Who Owns England, Wales and Scotland.

[London Correspondence New York Sun.]

Some years ago, when the evils of the land laws and distribution of the land in this country were under discussion, John Stuart Mill and John Bright averred that less than 30,000 persons owned the land of Great Britain and Ireland. The present Earl of Derby, who is himself the owner of 63,834 acres, said he believed there were more nearly 300,000, and at his motion a kind of modern "Domesday Book" was prepared, containing carefully collected returns as to the ownership of the land in the kingdom, except the metropolitan area of London. These returns showed no less than 1,173,724 owners of land, and that 852,438 of these owned less than an acre each.

Immense areas of land are leased on terms of 99 and 999 years. The number of these leases, even of the longest term, is enormous. Strange to say, all leaseholds for more than 99 years have been classed as freehold, and certain classes of leases for only 99 years, have also been called freeholds. That is, immense numbers of leasehold have been classed as ownership of land. A gross mistake could not well be made. The essential feature of ownership is that the land shall not be under tribute to any one else. These leases always lack this element of freehold property, for a good rent is always paid. More than that, all fixtures, including houses, not matter how large, have been put there at the expense of the tenant, become absolutely the property of the owner of the land on the expiration of the lease. The tenant has no legal claim upon them. Many almshouses, asylums and other charitable or public corporate bodies have also been called owners of land. This also is manifestly an error. Then, again, most absurdly of all, each individual owner of land has been counted as many times as the number of counties in which he owns land. The duke of Buccleugh and Queensbury owns land in two counties, and counts twelve owners in the list. The duke of Devonshire is still more fortunate, for he counts for just fourteen owners of land. Many good authorities believe that a just calculation would have proved Messrs. Mill and Bright within the mark when they put the number of land owners in the kingdom at 30,000.

The great area of land in this country owned by single individuals are paralleled in no other country. Whole towns often pay ground rent to one man. Rochdale, a town of 40,000 inhabitants, has very little freehold land, and three men receive ground rent from about nine-tenths of the land on which the town is built. Sheffield has fully a quarter of a million inhabitants. The greater part of the lands upon which it stands belongs to the duke of Norfolk, and pays ground rent to his grace. Such land monopoly is the prevailing rule in town and country everywhere in the kingdom. London is no exception. The vast estates of the duke of Westminster, the duke of Portland, and Lord Portman, in the metropolis, are well known. Whole districts pour rents into their already half-bursting coffers. Everywhere there is a tendency toward the concentration of estates, and the small peasant proprietors, who used to be plenty in some parts of the country, are rapidly disappearing.

Parliament does not touch the land question, for peers and commoners are alike usually great landowners themselves. Mr. Froude, who is an advocate of the present system of land laws, candidly admits that "the house of lords does own more than a third of the whole area of Great Britain." Primogeniture is, of course, very largely to blame for the unjust distribution of land. Great estates have descended almost unchanged from father to son, through many generations. The value of the land, especially in the towns, is always on the rise, and the incomes of these great landlords are constantly growing. But primogeniture is not all that divides the division of the great estates. The land laws are preposterously intricate and clumsy, and the work of transferring the ownership of a tract of land is a very serious matter indeed. An English writer, well versed in the land laws of the country, says:

"I have known the deed of settlement of one estate to require many months for its preparation; to cover nearly a barrow load of paper when written out preparatory to being engrossed on parchment, and to cost over £400 (or about \$2,000) for the conveyancer's charges alone, without reckoning either the solicitor's charges or the cost of the necessary stamps."

The same writer adds:

"And yet, with all this cumbersome, costly and almost unmitigable verbosity, the title of such an estate is scarcely ever free from some doubt or question."

The total area of England and Wales, not including London, is 37,244,850 acres. One man owns more than 186,393 acres, another more than 132,996 acres, and another more than 102,785 acres. Sixty-six persons own an aggregate of 1,917,076 acres, or about one-third of the whole area of Great Britain. One person owns 3,917,641 acres; 280 persons own 5,425,764 acres, or nearly a half of England and Wales, and 710 persons own one-fourth of all England and Wales. A very moderate sized church would hold all these princely land-lords.

The total area of Scotland is 18,946,094 acres. One man owns 1,358,425 acres; a second owns 431,000 acres; a third 424,000 acres; a fourth 373,000 acres, and a fifth 306,000 acres. Twelve persons own nearly one-fourth of Scotland, and 20 persons have more than 120,000 acres each. Seventy persons have about 9,400 acres, or about one-half of Scotland, and 1,700 persons own no less than nine-tenths of the whole of Scotland. Nowhere else in the whole kingdom have the small peasant proprietors suffered as badly as here. Whole districts have been almost depopulated to make room for game parks, and where hundreds of thousands of sheep used to feed only deer are kept.

The area of Ireland is 20,159,678 acres. One person owns 170,119 acres; three persons own more than 100,000 acres each; fourteen persons own more than 50,000 acres each; ninety persons own more than 10,000 acres each; and 135 own more than 10,000 acres each. Seven hundred and forty-four persons own 9,512,728 acres, or nearly half the entire island.

In the whole united kingdom eight persons own more than 220,000 acres each, and no less than 41 persons own more than 100,000 acres each. I give the number of acres held by a few of the largest owners:</