

SUGGESTED BY SENATOR TILLMAN'S SPEECH IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

KILLED HIS FAMILY.AND THEN ENDED HIS OWN LIFE
IN THE SAME WAY.Because They Were Cold and Hungry
and He Was Out of Work and De-
spondent—The Awful Deed at Chi-
cago.The following dispatch, dated Feb.
5, comes from Chicago:

"An entire family of six, father, mother, wife and three children, were murdered last night by Richard Klatke, a Lake View carpenter, who then completed his work by killing himself. The dead are:

"Richard Klatke, carpenter, aged 38.
"Kate Klatke, his wife.
"John Klatke, his father, aged 73.
"Wilhelmine Klatke, his mother, 71.
"Mina Klatke, daughter, aged 9.
"Anna Klatke, daughter, aged 8.
"Emma Klatke, daughter, aged 7.

"The members of the Klatke family were found dead early this morning in their cottage at 207 Berteau avenue. The discovery was made by Matthew Brown, a saloonkeeper. Mr. Brown wishing some work done, called at the Klatke residence to secure the services of the carpenter. He rapped on the door, but there was no response. Knowing that the Klatkes were early risers, he became suspicious, called neighbors and broke in. In the house he found the seven corpses. Each had a bullet wound in the head. In each case the ball had penetrated the brain and death had evidently been instantaneous.

"Beside the body of Richard Klatke lay a revolver, and empty cartridge shells were scattered about the rooms. One peculiar feature was the lack of any indication of a struggle on the part of any of the victims, and a heavy odor which appeared to be that of chloroform pervaded the house. From this it was surmised that Richard had first chloroformed the entire family, and had then at his leisure taken deliberate aim and had put the bullet into the brain of each. Mr. Brown took a hasty survey only of the premises, and then hastened to send word to the police. A detail of officers was sent to the scene in a patrol wagon and a more careful examination was made of the surroundings. There seemed but little more to complete the tale told by Brown. Everything pointed to a deliberately planned murder by the head of the family, and a desire to place himself and family beyond any further earthly troubles.

"A close examination of the remains showed that one of the victims alone had any warning of her fate. This was Mrs. Kate Klatke, the wife of the murderer. She, it appeared, had struggled with her husband before the fatal shot was fired. Her hands were scratched and her clothing torn. She had evidently been overpowered and thrown on the bed beside the dead body of her little 7-year-old daughter Emma. Both were found in the rear room of the frame cottage where they lived. The pillow and bed clothing were saturated with blood, which had flowed from the wound in the right cheek, just below the eye of each. The bullets had been fired at close range and the faces of the victims were burned and torn by the force of the powder. The spot for

the revolver's mark was carefully chosen and was the same in each of the victims.

"On a chair lay a whetstone and two knives, each of which had been sharpened to the keen edge of a razor. It was evident that Klatke had prepared for a possible failure of his revolver and had arranged for a sure substitute, if needed.

"Klatke was despondent. His family were cold and hungry. Since Christmas he had been out of work, and he ended his troubles just as relief was in sight.

"This morning his next door neighbor, Adolph Smith, called at the cottage with the joyful news that he had found a job for Klatke. At the same time Matt Brown arrived on the same errand. They came too late, just how much no one knows, for the bodies were cold when discovered.

"Oh, God, how long?"

In this beautiful world of sunshine, and peace, and plenty, a man denied by law the right and opportunity to earn his living.

In this land of wonderful rivers, shimmering lakes and babbling brooks, the poor choose death by violent means rather than by the slow process of starvation.

The fields of golden grain fill granaries and elevators to overflowing. The fertile fields of the sunny South produce cotton for half the world.

On the backs of million of sheep grows the wool to clothe the nations. Our extensive forests contain lumber to shelter the world.

From the bowels of the earth we produce ores such as old Ophir ne'er dreamed of.

In our great cities are hundreds of churches whose spires pierce the blue above.

So plentiful and bounteous do all these stores of nature yield, that "over-production" has been named as one of the evils of the times.

Amidst all this plenty, and right at the threshold of the church and almshouses, people are literally dying by inches through the slow process of starvation.

Only a short time ago a woman murdered her family in Kansas and then took her own life. Cause, hunger and cold—destitution.

Now a man murders his family and himself for the same cause.

One was in the rural districts, while the other was in the city.

Had he only waited a day longer he would have had work.

But it came too late.

The deed was done.

The cold, stiff, stark bodies were past all suffering.

The white, silent, upturned faces appeal to heaven for vengeance; for "vengeance is mine, saith the Lord."

"I will repay."

"I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not; sick in prison, and ye visited me not."

"Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me." Special laws and our system of distribution gives millions to one and misery to thousands.

Christian people uphold these systems, this condition, by their votes.

We lay it to their door, the condition, and they are responsible for these murders.

Government Railroads.

The New Orleans Picayune of a recent date contains the following facts and figures relative to the working of the railroad system in Australia and other countries where the government owns the railroads:

"In Australia you can ride a distance of 1,000 miles across country for \$6.50 first-class, while workmen can ride six miles for 2 cents, twelve miles for 4 cents, thirty miles for 10 cents, and railroad men receive from 25 to 30 per cent more wages for eight hours of labor than they are paid in this country for ten hours. In Victoria, where these rates prevail, the net income from the roads is sufficient to pay all the federal taxes. In Hungary, where the roads are state owned, you can ride six miles for 1 cent, and since the roads were bought by the government the men's wages have doubled. Belgium tells the same story—fares and freight rates cut down one-half and wages doubled. Yet the roads pay a yearly revenue to the government of \$4,000,000. In Germany you can ride four miles for 1 cent on the government owned lines. Yet wages are over 125 per cent higher than they were when the corporations owned them, and during the last ten years the net profits have increased 41 per cent. Last year the roads paid the German government a net profit of \$25,000,000. People who favor the government ownership of railroads claim that if our government owned the railroads we could go to San Francisco from Boston for \$10. Here is the proof: The United States pay the railroads not quite \$275 to transport a loaded postal car from Boston to San Francisco. A passenger car will carry fifty passengers, which at \$10 each, would be \$500, or a clear profit of \$225 per car, and this, too, after paying 5 1/2 per cent on watered stock. Which is fully 100 per cent on the cost of the road. These quoted figures are from a reliable source."

"The percentage of assets to liabilities in 1895 was 55.4 per cent as against 33 per cent in 1894 and 65 per cent in 1892."

As will be seen the business failures of last year exceeded those of 1894, notwithstanding the plutocratic dailies proclaimed that we were upon the eve of a great "tidal wave" of prosperity. There can be no prosperity until the present infamous robbing and wealth destroying financial and economic system is destroyed root and branch.

Pay no attention to the promises of the republican party. They are the many times recorded enemies of silver and more money for the people.

The "my policy" men in the people's party are only in the way. The people's party wants no bosses.

More Failures in 1895 than in 1894.

We clip the following report of Bradstreet's commercial agency from the daily papers: "According to Bradstreet's the total number of failures for 1895 is 13,013, as contrasted with 12,721 in 1894, an increase 2.2 per cent. The commercial death rate during the year was 1.23 per cent as compared with 1.21 per cent in 1894.

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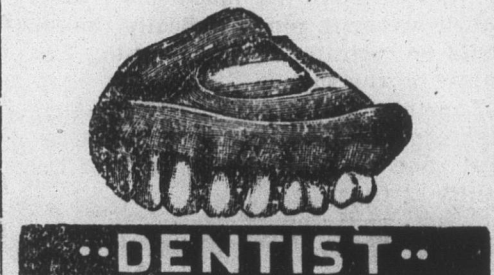
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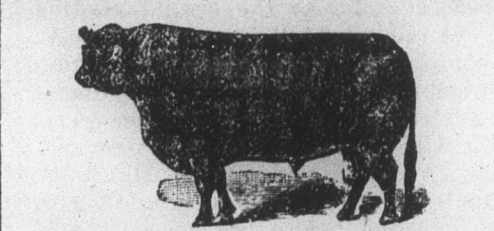
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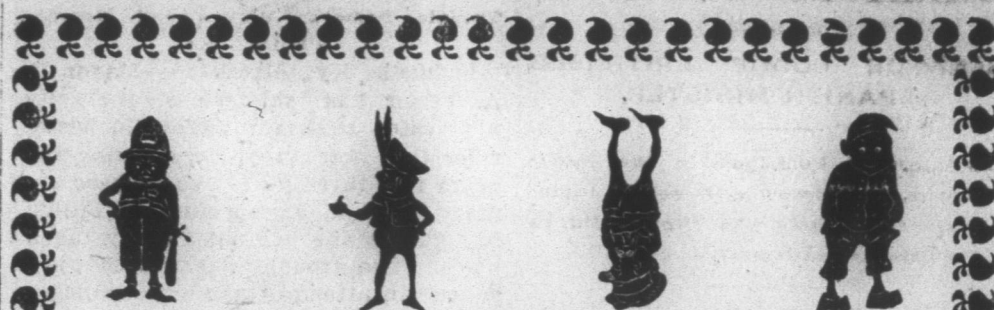
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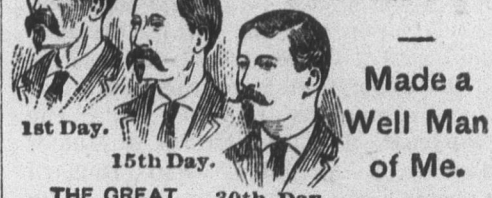
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