

Philosophy.

Of making many pills there is no end. Every pill-maker says: "Try my pill," as if he were offering you bon bons! The wise man finds a good pill and sticks to it. Also, the wise man who has once tried them never forsakes.

..Ayer's Cathartic Pills..**THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.**

BY F. D. CRAIG, (Lessee.)

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Bank Examiner Breidenthal of Kansas announces that there are too many banks in that state for the volume of business and urges consolidation.

The people will hold a bigger monetary conference in November 1898 and in 1900 than the puny one sided affair just closed in Indianapolis.

Ugly stories are current as to Hanna money having been used in the North Carolina legislature to secure the re-election of Prichard, who was a pronounced gold bug in the recent campaign.

The Kansas Farmers Alliance, that was reported to be in a moribund condition, has taken a new lease on life and a plan for co-operative work is being prepared by Anna L. Diggs and others.

Gov. Holcomb's message is characterized by great good sense. He urges a better ballot system, economy in state affairs, an anti-railroad pass law and speaks against the beet sugar bounty.

It is conceded that Gov. W. J. Stone could have succeeded George Vest in the senate had he indicated a wish for the place. He was urged by the new democracy and Populists to accept the nomination but he declined.

Coxey's meeting at St. Louis on Jan. 12, to organize a new party, was something of a "frost." About twenty persons of more or less prominence were in attendance and regrets were read from as many more.

President McKinley is having a serious time getting his cabinet made up. All so far honored decline, and Thos. Reed gives it out cold that they do not desire to be the tools of Mark Hanna and that is what all McKinley appointees must be.

Among the many signs of better times (?) is the eviction of 51,000 families in Greater New York. Kansas will be avenged for the recent slanders of the press of that metropolis by sending several train loads of grain and provisions to the sufferers.

After a most harmonious meeting January 6, at Lincoln, Nebraska, the State Bimetallic Union appointed a committee consisting of one Populist, one silver democrat and one prohibitionist to have charge of the affairs of the union until such time as another meeting should be held.

Gov. Altgeld in his final message displayed his wonted vigor. He scored newspaper men and methods and it is generally believed that he intends starting a paper to show just how it should be run. Tanner cut Altgeld's name off the inaugural program and then openly declared himself against the "common" people and for corporate wealth.

With gold democrats celebrating Jackson Day, by banqueting and speeches at one place, and Silver Democrats (Popocrats) doing the same at another we fear that the shade of "Old Hickory" was moved to righteous wrath. W. J. Bryan was an honored guest at Chicago the 7th and at Lincoln the 8th, the banquets having been so arranged that he might attend both. At both places he reiterated his desire that no clubs should be called by his name and that he should not be held in the attitude of a presidential candidate for the next four years.

Gov. Pingree in his inaugural address urged the abolishing, in his state, Michigan, of political conventions and the use of the direct vote in nominating candidates; the use of the referendum in granting quasi public franchises; two cent railroad fares; and inheritance and income tax. Pretty good People's party man is Pingree, if he is like others, afraid of the name! At the joint meeting of Populists, silver democrats and republicans held there they did not endorse this message in its entirety but warmly commended the portions referred to. The joint meeting was harmonious.

George F. Washburn, of Boston, whom every Populist knows, has issued an address filled with earnest words to the party but the rather unnecessary assertion that Populism is not democracy. He reiterates the facts, in which all real Populists join without argument, that Populists are not silverites, but believers in scientific money, that the union in the last election did not injure our cause or party but that on the contrary we have to-day every reason for satisfaction. Mr. Washburn closes with the suggestion that a meeting of party leaders be held as soon as practicable to perfect plans for the future.

Li Hung Chang is getting credit for breaking up a well-laid scheme of John Rockefeller, George Gould, Calvin Brice and others to get a government franchise, build and control a vast system of railroads in China; "Reaper" McCormick has had his picture taken off of the treasury notes because other business men objected to his getting so much free advertising; Claus Spreckels' daughter has not only eloped with a poor man but has returned with thanks the one and one half millions that he had given her for pocket change; and Hetty Green, has contrary to all precedent, been obliged to buy her a new bonnet; so we must conclude that even the "plutes" have trouble of their own.

The Duty Of The Hour.

If the government has one duty more imperative than another it is to protect the weak against the strong. What is the particular encroachments of the strong on the rights of the weak, which is peculiarly characteristic of our civilization? Does it not consist in depriving them of their right to enjoy the fruits of their work?

What is the government of the United States doing today to protect the weak against the strong in this respect? Is not every man or woman who is driven into enforced idleness a proper subject for the government to stretch forth its strong arm and protect? We believe that they are, and we propose to make the demand that the government of the union and all the various states shall act on these cases. We want the Assemblies of the Knights of Labor everywhere throughout the United States to take up this subject and discuss it and act upon it. Make your demands on the government and make them so strong that they cannot be disregarded.

Then send to the Journal your suggestions as to what particular immediate action you think the government should take to right this grave wrong and injustice which is being inflicted on hundreds of thousands of the best people in the country.—K. of L. Journal.

In our last letter we referred to the departure of Senator Wolcott for London to attend an alleged Bimetallic Conference. He has been welcomed there in his true colors. The London Times of January 8th says: "Senator Wolcott will be welcome here. For several reasons Mr. McKinley could not have chosen a more acceptable envoy. But public opinion in England is more hostile than before to bimetallism. Nothing can be hoped from the visit, except as a political movement and a salve to the silverites. The failure of his mission is certain. No public man, whatever his theoretical views, would think the present an opportune moment to moot the question, and this opinion will exist, at all events, as long as bimetallism appears to be dropped or revived according to the exigencies of American domestic politics."

A dispatch from Topeka, says that a bill has been framed and will be pressed before the state legislature requiring persons who own more than 160 acres of land to sell if a reasonable offer is made; if a tender is refused on the ground that the price is too low, then a jury will decide. If that tribunal fixes a greater price below the tender made the land owner pays the cost of the suit. If the jury fixes a greater price the intending purchaser pays the cost. If such a law was passed it would doubtless be declared unconstitutional, but there is a remedy for landlordism which the Kansas legislature can apply that will be equally effective and cannot be set aside by the courts. Make a homestead, to the value of two thousand dollars, free from tax and every acre of land held in Kansas for speculation will be offered for sale and it will sell without a jury having to fix a price, either. Yes, more than that, it will bring to the state a million more people in the next five years. This act alone would immortalize the name of populism in the United States.—Chicago Express.

Who Doesn't Pay His Taxes?

At a banquet tendered the members of the Illinois legislature by the Civic Federation of Chicago a few evening ago, President Baker of the latter organization, in his introductory address, said, among other things: In 1873 Chicago had approximately a population of 300,000; then our assessment was \$277,000,000. Now we number nearly 2,000,000 and our assessment is 11 1/2 per cent, under \$277,000,000.

Think of what that statement means. Think of the hundred thousand homes the working-men of Chicago have built since 1873. Think of the hundreds of thousand of homes erected by the lawyers and doctors and business men in general during the past twenty-three years. Is there a Chicago workingman who is exempt from taxation? Is there a Chicago lawyer or doctor or merchant who is not paying higher taxes than his fellows did in 1873? Who is it that doesn't pay his taxes?

On pages 91 and 92 of the Eighth Biennial Report of the Illinois Bureau of Labor Statistics is a story told in figures which reveals one of the methods employed to bring about the results referred to by Mr. Baker. We may safely reckon that the experiences given have been repeated many times over by other wealthy Chicago landlords. In brief, Potter Palmer bought in 1882 twenty-two lots on Chicago's famous Lake Shore drive, paying therefore \$90,696. In 1885 the market value of the property had increased to \$198,187, but the assessor's valuation of it had decreased to \$10,080. What purpose that \$80 was to serve, except to hoodwink the people, does not appear. In 1893 the figures at which the property was held reached \$505,500. Of course, the assessor was compelled to recognize this great raise, and so fixed the assessment at \$34,780. The percentage of increase in value from 1882 to 1893 was 556.59; the percentage of increase in assessment during the same time was 76.55.

Is there any wonder that the plain people who live by the sweat of their brow are disheartened and insist that the government aids the rich and crushes out the poor, when such conditions as these are shown of record? What is the remedy?

A simple form of taxation which shall make it impossible to cover up anything whatsoever, based upon something open to the eyes of all the world, in which no assessor's action may have influence, and which no man's perjured affidavit can change. Mixed reality (land and improvements) have been found an easy aid to fraudulent assessments; the income tax has developed perjuries, but never an honest and equal taxation; personal property tax is a delusion and a snare, for the poor man pays on his piano always, but a Chicago paper the other day declared there were no diamonds to be found by the assessor on Drexel boulevard, one of Chicago's most famous and wealthy residence avenues!

Where lies the remedy? Has anything more perfect than the natural taxation of land values ever been devised by man to correct giant evil, which is the destruction of the poor?

Pacific Railroad Bill.

The Pacific Railroad funding bill, which has been under discussion in the House for several days, presents a case of "you'll be damned if you do, and you'll be damned if you don't"; so the Pacific railroad question will probably remain an unsettled political issue for years to come.

The bill under consideration provided for a new issue of bonds bearing two per cent interest with annual payments, which would extinguish the debt in 80 years, but the government would be holding a second mortgage; the first lien of sixty-three millions being a prior claim, and one that would at any convenient time cover the property and wipe out forever all other liens. The Huntington railroad lobby has made a fight for this, but exactly why they should, can only be conjectured to mean that this action suited them best because it left them in unmolested control for the present.

The defeat of the Funding bill on Monday is for this reason, at least, a commendable course.

When the facts are fully considered the absurdity of the situation becomes apparent.

To foreclose on the road and pay off the 63 millions which stand as a prior claim would require more money than would be needed to build a new line to take the place of the present streaks of rust which are in question.

The 112 million dollar claim of the government has been juggled into a valueless condition, and the robbers who have manipulated the affair can scarcely want any thing better than to have the government pay them the prior claim and take the dilapidated road.

They have already paralleled it with better lines and could reasonably care very little for anything further than to rob the government of as many millions more as possible. The belief that the road prefers to have a foreclosure, is strengthened by the statement that Cleveland will order that course in case congress fails to take any action.

The people have no recourse now that will afford any legal protection whatever. The bill which has been before congress, or the proposed amendments to that bill, none of them really contemplated any remedy, because under the law there is no remedy. The government claim of \$112,000,000 is not today worth a cent, nor would anybody buy the claim at any price whatever.

But if the government will take sixty three million dollars in legal tender greenbacks and set a force of men to building a railroad across the continent, it will settle more questions than one, and for many years to come there would be no further agitation about "the unemployed."

This measure would be a proposition which would solve the railroad question forever and would be a thousand times better than taking in the Union Pacific and paying the first mortgage. That \$63,000,000 should never be permitted to go into the hands of that robber gang.

Put it into a railroad, but not into a first mortgage on the old Union Pacific.

If handled properly that sixty-three million would build a railroad from New York to San Francisco.

Mount's Gag Law.

Governor Mount in his inaugural address spoke against the choice of nominating conventions being subject to the "traffic, barter and change at

the behest of a committee of party tricksters."

The governor and his party propose to remedy this evil by not allowing a name to appear but once on a ballot; in other words they propose, by law, to prohibit fusion.

By what plan they propose to prevent a "committee of party tricksters" from putting up or taking down a ticket they have not yet declared.

Now, it very often happens that it is of great concern to two parties whether or not a third party is in the field; one party will "bid and barter" for a third ticket, the other party will "bid and barter" for the keeping out or the withdrawal of a third ticket; how will the governor and his party remedy this?

The republicans in the last campaign offered thousands of dollars to the Populist party if it would put a full Bryan and Watson electoral ticket in the field in this state.

The gold bug democratic ticket was put up in all the states and carried through by republican boodle. Can Mr. Mount give us a remedy for this evil?

We fear our governor is getting too goody good in spots; spread yourself out little man and see if you cannot banish "trade and barter" from all political conventions.

We believe we have really heard something before about corrupt methods in party conventions and committees; yes, heard about them before we ever heard of either fusion or Mount. The milk in this cocoa-nut of political virtue is to be drunk by the republican party, in an endeavor to so disfranchise the voters of this state that a minority may rule. The very attempt to prevent fusion is evidence of corruption, and belies this pose of righteousness.

Slander Is Not Argument.

The Chicago Tribune, in a long editorial on one of the recent bank failures, has the unparalleled effrontery to say that second vice President Hammond who was a Silver man, voted for Bryan with a view of cheating the depositors by "paying them in 50-cent dollars."

The holier-than-thou Tribune, with rank hypocrisy, which it vainly endeavors to conceal, will not deceive anybody by assuming a lofty attitude from which to discuss the financial question. It may prate from now till doomsday about "50-cent dollars" and "financial honor," but it cannot much longer delude its readers, who are beginning to see by such object lessons as it strives to turn to advantage, that "sound money" and scarce money are synonymous terms.

The fact that second vice President Hammond, of the bank which was compelled to close its doors, was a Silver man only shows that he realized the sham and fraud of the gold standard.

He was one of the men, who, by personal experience, was having the thing driven home. He knew there was no prosperity, and could be none as long as prices continued to go down, and business languished because of an insufficient volume of money. In voting for Mr. Bryan and the restoration of Silver he simply acted upon advice often given in the Chicago Tribune when that paper pandered to The People, and not to plutocracy.

If he read the Tribune during the campaign, or any of the other "great" dailies what arguments did he see to convince him that free Silver was wrong? Platitude about "honest dollars" and abuse of Silver men were the sum total of every thing in such papers as the Chicago Tribune; and even now it keeps on in its vile trail of slander. It alleges dishonest motives against Mr. Hammond simply because he voted for what the same paper once advocated, was the Chicago Tribune dishonest when it urged the free coinage of silver in 1877? Was William McKinley dishonest that same year when he voted for free coinage? The bullion in a dollar then had gone down to 90 cents, and President Hayes told Congress that a "90-cent dollar" was dishonest—why was the Tribune for a 90-cent dollar then?

The same evil course against Silver has brought the full measure of ruin—gold has gone upward and upward—Silver and all forms of property have correspondingly gone downward and downward. Still when the friends of the old Constitutional

monetary unit ask for its restoration they are insolently termed repudiators and anarchists.

But no matter how desperate the organs of plutocracy become they cannot long withstand the daily and hourly pressure that is coming against them and their robber dollar. No permanent relief can come on the narrow basis of a gold standard. This is why the apologists of their country's spoliation keep on vilifying those who are determined to fight them to a finish.

Never in the history of the nation has been felt more keenly the need of a change of method in electing members of the United States senate whereby the people shall have a direct vote in their choosing. A veritable phantasmagoria of corruption is reflected in the legislative halls of many states where the work of choosing senators has been or is in progress, and if we trust the statement of the press representing the party in power, the men chosen, or likely to be chosen, are destined to make of the senate a very shambles where the interests and rights of the people will be bartered away as suits the interests of these pigmy statesmen.

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THE SAN JOSE SCALE:*Aspidiotus Perniciosus (Comstock)*

There are many species of scale insects which infest fruit and ornamental plants to a greater or less extent, but of all those known to the entomologist at the present time, the San Jose scale is the most to be dreaded on account of its destructive character, the rapidity with which it increases and the difficulty with which it may be eradicated when once it has become established.

It has been only a few years since this pest was introduced in to some of the nurseries of the eastern States from California through the carelessness of one or two nursery-men in not thoroughly disinfecting the stock sent out. From these nurseries it has been widely scattered, and recent investigations have shown that it is already present in a number of orchards in Ohio and Illinois, brought there by shipments of trees from these infested nurseries; and we have no reason to suppose that these shipments of trees have been any less frequent in Indiana than in these adjacent states. In fact it has already been found in some of the southern Indiana counties, and unless vigorous measures are adopted very soon the loss to the fruit growers of this state from this cause must necessarily be very great.

Judging from the many specimens of scale infested branches received by the Experiment Station during the past season, it is very evident that but little is known concerning this scale by the fruit growers of Indiana in general.

The San Jose scale is much smaller and of a different shape, the female being nearly circular in outline, than the oyster shell or bark louse, while the other mentioned are readily distinguished by the naked eye.

As already stated this pest becomes distributed by means of nursery stock which is sent from one state or locality to another. It is also spread locally by being carried by the wind and on the feet of birds, etc., so that if but a single tree is infested at the time of planting, so great is its reproductive power, it may soon spread until the entire orchard is infested. It has been ascertained that the progeny of a single season, may amount to more than three billions of individuals.

Thus it will be seen that the greatest care should be exercised in this matter, not only by the nurserymen, but by each individual planter.

As a further precaution and as a matter of self protection Indiana should follow the example of Ohio and Illinois in passing a law making the sale or offering for sale, or harboring trees or plants infested with this or other noxious insects a misdemeanor punishable by a suitable fine. It should be placed in the hands of a competent entomologist who will see that the law is enforced.

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