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change, 14th street, bet. Penn. ave. and F street.

Some one in Illinois has discovered that

Governor Altgeld and the Lieutenant

Governor are absent from the State. A

State with 125,000 Republican plurality

has no need of a Governor like Altgeld.

It is said that a congressional apportion-

ment can be made of Indiana so

absolutely representative that the party

which has six or eight thousand plural-

ity will be sure of a majority of the dele-

gation.

Those papers which refer to the Hon.

Hoke Smith as an ex-confederate

brigadier do him too much credit. He

is the son of an ex-confederate and is

less considerate toward Union veterans

than his father, who was in it him-

self.

While there is no probability that the

Republicans will re-enact the McKinley

bill in every particular, they can be

trusted to enact a law which will insure

the American markets to the American

producer with the highest wages paid

in the world.

Isn't it a rather curious proposition on

the part of the silver mine owners that

they demand that their silver be coined

into dollars at the ratio of one of gold

to sixteen of silver when it takes thirty-

three of silver to buy one of gold in

the open market?

Since the event of Nov. 6 Senator

Voorhees has not repeated his brilliant

prophecies regarding the price of wool,

but in content to predict that the De-

mocratic Congress during the rest of its

life will do little more than pass the

appropriation bills.

The venerable Holman has got himself

together sufficiently to say to a Wash-

ington reporter that "the Democratic

party is not dead." The verdict of the

jury may be correct, but it has taken

a long time to ascertain the condition

of the overwhelmed.

The Congress which reduced the revenue

below the level of expenditure is in

duty bound to make it possible for the

administration to borrow money for the

payment of current expenses without

resorting to the device of selling gold

bonds to keep up the gold reserve.

Never has the financial proposition of

an administration been so generally con-

demned by all those who have knowl-

edge and experience about banking as

has the Cleveland banking scheme. But

there has never been such an objec-

tionable measure devised by an admin-

istration before.

The one redeeming feature in the

career of ex-Governor Tillman, of South

Carolina, is that he did not use the re-

markable powers conferred upon him by

the Legislature to put a dollar into his

pocket which did not belong to him.

Bed-rock integrity in public affairs is

no insignificant virtue.

The fact that there is no room in any

United States soldier's home for any of

the needy veterans who are now apply-

ing and who are most deserving men

should cause the few papers which ad-

vice the Republican Legislature to dis-

honor the party's pledge to cease oppos-

ing the construction of a State soldiers'

home at Lafayette.

During the year which ended Oct. 31,

1894, a period of unparalleled depression,

fifty national banks were organized,

with a capital of \$5,255,000, while twenty

gendered dissensions, which, if con-

tinued, would result seriously. On the

other hand, those who favor an inde-

pendent labor party claim that all the

trouble has been political action in the

past are to be attributed to the selling

of the independent party to one of

the others.

THE POOLING BILL.

There has been no measure before

Congress for some time which involves

so many unknown quantities as the

pending pooling bill. If it had been un-

der consideration twenty years ago in-

terelligent public opinion would probably

have been opposed to its provisions on

general principles. Then railroad com-

petition was held to be of first im-

portance, and the consolidation of com-

peting lines was regarded as the same

thing as high rates, and by the imagi-

native reformer as the placing of the

Yoke of servitude upon the necks of the

people. In twenty years intelligent peo-

ple have become wiser. The much feared

consolidation of competing lines by

lease or absorption has taken place in

many instances, resulting in the re-

ducing of expenses, the better equip-

ment of the roads, and in lower rates

of transportation.

Pooling, that is, the putting together

the money earned by several competing

lines and dividing it by a prearranged

compact or by leaving it to an arbiter,

was destroyed by the interstate-com-

merce law. At first thought it seems

objectionable because it would seem to

destroy all competition and create a

monopoly which would result in ex-

cessive rates of transportation. Still,

the pooling arrangements it is a

matter of degree. The cost of trans-

portation has declined. This is because

railroad managers have learned that it

is more profitable to haul large quanti-

ties at low prices than to establish rates

which will make it impossible to ship

cheaper merchandise, just as they have

learned that there is more money in

running excursion trains to Buffalo for

\$5 than there is in holding up regular

rates and running light trains or no

trains at all.

Pooling was prohibited by the inter-

state-commerce act on the assumption that

it would kill competition. The re-

sult is that the country has had some-

thing else—alternate seasons of reckless

competition with inadequate rates on

trunk lines, and seasons when rates

agreed upon by compact were main-

tained. The result has not been satis-

factory. Either a railroad owner or ship-

per, the putting up and down of trans-

portation rates has been very demoral-

izing to business. Men in the same bus-

ness get widely different rates of trans-

portation to the same place, according

to the competing railroads are engaged

in a reckless race war or are operating

under a temporary agreement. Again,

rate wars on trunk lines compel the

railroads to make up losses, in part, by

charges on local business. For instance,

at the present time railroads charge

no more for hauling British tin plate

from New York to Chicago or St. Louis

than they do for hauling American plate

from Kokomo to Cleveland, O., or from

Kokomo to any place 250 miles distant.

Then, there is such a thing as too cheap

transportation. It is to be cheap when

the roads are instructed to keep up

roadbeds, equipments, and to pay the

labor necessary to maintain a first-

class railroad and first-class service.

The ruin or depreciation of a railroad

by reckless competition is an injury to

the country through which it runs.

Readers of the Journal can recall the

railroads which are so poor that they

cannot keep up safe tracks, sound en-

gines and decent cars, and whose facili-

ties were so poor that property in-

trusted to them for shipment suffered

deterioration. Besides, the stockholders

of railroads, only a small part of whom

are millionaires, have a right to have

some return on the money which they

have invested. Under reckless competi-

tion such as has put a score of railroads

in the hands of receivers, thousands of

people of limited means have lost their

all. There was the case of Mrs. Barna-

by, of Providence, R. I., who was

poisoned by Dr. Graves, a man of ap-

parent refinement and culture. Dr.

Meyer, lately convicted in New York of

a similar crime, is described as a man

of high intelligence and one who had the

confidence of his associates. The more

recent case of Howard, charged with

Christian world that minor objections

will be disregarded. He does not pro-

pose to dispense with the heathen

names of the days of the week, but con-

fines the reform entirely to the months,

though perhaps the weeks will be taken

in hand later. At all events, the mat-

ter is now before the public for its con-

sideration, and as it is not likely to be

settled at once it may be expected to

serve for a subject of discussion at in-

tervals when other issues rest between

this date and 1900.

MERCENARY MURDER.

The remarkable feature of the murder

of Miss Gine at Minneapolis is that it

was planned, if not actually committed,

by a man who passed as a reputable

member of the business community.

There are now intimations that he was

engaged in various illegitimate transac-

tions, but if this was really the case

he had no reason to part in them with

such success that he was looked by

the majority of people who met him as

respectable and worthy of confidence.

He was, according to all accounts, one

of the young men of whom every town

is full—occupied in making a living or

in the eager pursuit of wealth by what

methods or occupations few who know

them could exactly define, perhaps, but

still so free from open offense that they

are able to maintain a fair and other

well-deserved social and business stand-

ing. Among these men who do not tie

themselves to one calling, but dip into

everything are venturesome spirits—

speculators, schemers, experimenters,

who may develop into successful finan-

ciers, or who may fall into disreputable

practices, needing no other aid than

the strength of their principles may be.

It causes no great surprise, therefore,

that tempting opportunities have overcome

their honesty and that they have com-

mitted forgery, robbery or other com-

mercial crimes. The trail of the dollar

so covers everything in nineteenth cen-

tury life that it is not to be wondered

at when men who are following in hot

chase forget the command that they

shall not covet nor steal. But, with all

the temptation that the fierce desire to

accumulate money involves, deliberate

murder for the sake of gain is not

looked for among this class of men.

Such crimes are assigned by common

sense to a grade of persons much

lower in the scale of intelligence and

respectability. Any man of strong and

undisciplined passions in any rank of

society may be overcome by sudden

rage that he will kill or maim a fellow-

creature. Such acts may be un-

derstood by all who realize that they