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A TRUE COMPROMISE.

The Democratic compromise on a measure of tax reduction will be no jag-handle arrangement—all on one side.

Last year, and indeed up to the time of the President's Message, the Old Whig relics and the other Obstructionists would hear to nothing but a repeal of the internal taxes. They defended the war tariff, root and branch, with the blind fetish-worship of BLAINE himself.

But now they are willing to come to a "middle ground." The compromise which THE WORLD has favored for a year is accepted as the basis of "Democratic union." It is well.

SHERMAN'S CHANGE.

Senator SHERMAN gives notice that after the holidays he will address the Senate on the President's Message.

Will he say "ditto" to Mr. BLAINE? Well, hardly. JOHN SHERMAN is nobody's fool.

It would be a most sagacious stroke for the Ohio statesman to combat Mr. BLAINE's plea for a war tariff forever and a distribution of the surplus, by favoring a conservative reduction of duties that are no longer needed either for protection or revenue, and a stoppage of the surplus.

The country is moving that way. SHERMAN'S only chance to counter on BLAINE is to favor tax reduction.

THE SLIPPERY CORPORATIONS.

The case against the gas companies for polluting the waters of the North and East rivers should not be permitted to fall through on account of legal technicalities.

There is no necessity of stopping at the indictment of a corporation "with no body to kick and no soul to damn." Why not also indict some of the officers and bring a civil suit against the offending companies.

There cannot be too many weapons employed in fighting the slippery corporations.

STILL ON THE BOX.

The Mugwumps in Massachusetts still seem to be "sitting on the box and driving"—by turns.

Two Republican postmasters have been re-appointed in the Bay State, at the instance of that lively young Mugwump, GEORGE FRED WILLIAMS.

But inasmuch as both officials were capable and faithful public servants and their retention was desired by nine-tenths of the people whom they served, including the Democrats, the "irreconcilable spoilsmen," as the President calls them, will kick in vain against this application of reform principles.

The Government's business is business, not politics.

THE OLD ROMAN.

Judge TRUMAN, "the noblest Roman of them all," has consented to prosecute the election fraud cases in Ohio in response to the request of the Citizens' Committee.

The fact that the frauds were committed in the interest of Democratic candidates does not deter this sturdy honest old statesman. He hates the fraud and will fight the rascals all the harder for putting so foul a blot upon the fame of the party that he loves.

An infusion of Thurmanism would help our District-Attorney's office mightily just now.

THE CABMEN'S AMBIGUOUS DEMAND. The striking cabmen have the sympathy of the public. But the gifted individual who evolved the following agreement for the employers to sign, is entitled to nobody's sympathy.

I do hereby agree to restate all my employees, without prejudice, giving them the wages asked for, and shall sign this contract as standing good for one year.

be maintained for a year for such as are employed.

The strike seems to hinge upon this ambiguity and the consequent misunderstanding. The way out of the difficulty is for the cabmen to present their case in intelligible shape.

DON'T ABUSE THE NEWSBOYS.

A correspondent very properly calls attention to the brutal treatment of newsboys by some horse-car conductors and drivers.

The newsboys have some rights that brutal-minded adults should be made to respect. They board the horse-car for the convenience of the passengers, and, as long as this is allowed at all, they should be safe from kicks and cuffs.

Fortunately, most of these alert little chaps are able to take care of themselves. But it is none the less contemptible to abuse them.

"The population of the world" furnishes an eminent foreign statistician with a great opportunity for guessing. The circulation of THE WORLD is a known quantity, and can be verified by any one who will visit its press-room and examine its books.

The Vienna editors have been officially warned not to publish any information about military matters. This involves an unjust accusation. It is a lack of such information that has distinguished the European press of late.

Of course, like the Prince of Wales, everybody "disapproves" of prize-fighting. But if the sluggers persist in slugging, why, it is some consolation to know that the champion belts belong on this side of the water.

Champion SMITH'S backers would better start the exercises about twenty minutes before dark if he is to meet SULLIVAN. He would take a nap after the "big one" had sent him to grass the third time.

Senator RIDDLERBERGER is laboring in the temperance cause. In addition to serving as a "frightful example" of the effect of too much todd, he is now presenting petitions in favor of national prohibition.

There is a great opportunity for the international arbitration committee over in Europe. But somehow this movement seems to flourish best in the piping times of peace.

When the belligerent powers over the pond get their war budgets voted the "war cloud" will probably disappear.

A corner in honey is reported. Does this mean that Gen. SHERMAN has opened another oculatory campaign?

If the pugacious Englishmen cannot hold their own in the prize ring, where can they hope for supremacy?

WORLDLINGS.

The store of a man named Windley, at Hunter's Rock Springs, N.Y., was plundered by burglars recently. When informed his wife of the fact she fainted and died before she could be restored to consciousness.

James Evanson came to Washington, N. C., from the country to buy an axe. While departing from the store with his purchase he dropped it and it fell on his right foot, completely severing the second toe.

A Maine man as an experiment clipped the fleece from a pet Newfoundland dog and had it carded and spun into yarn. It yielded four skeins of jet black yarn, weighing two and one quarter pounds, and was as soft as wool.

A handsome buck deer was recently shot near Rock Springs, N.Y., which for the past ten years has been a target for the rifles of the hunters of the neighborhood. It weighed 175 pounds and its antlers were of unusual size.

There is a man in the Kansas Penitentiary who, beginning with a term at Sing Sing years ago, has served his time in regular succession in the penitentiaries of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Kansas.

A ducky applied to the County Clerk at Smithville, Ga., recently for a marriage license, but on being informed that it would cost \$1.75 he departed without one, saying that "he wasn't in any hurry, now, and he guessed they'd be cheaper any other while."

John B. Alley, of Massachusetts, is said to be worth considerably over \$100,000. He is the richest Republican in the old Bay State and is fond of politics. The greater part of his fortune was made in speculation and he is constantly adding to it. Mr. Alley is seventy years old.

A Philadelphia merchant says that, in opening the mail in the morning, he always reserves for the last those letters which have "The Honorable" prefixed to the address. His experience has been that in these cases out of ten they are written by persons who ask some favor, and make use of the prefix in a mild attempt at flattery.

A Chicago clergyman, in a recent sermon on the vice of great cities, gave a severe rap on certain eminent divines who have been in the habit of visiting the slums to obtain clear evidence of their iniquity. "I have not personally visited the vile places of the city for the purpose of afterwards preaching about them," said he; "that is to say, 'Whereupon the congregation audibly smiled."

The region around Plainfield, Ind., is very rich in relics of the Mound Builders and of later Indians, and almost every week some farmer brings into town a collection of stone implements, rude ornaments and pieces of ancient pottery which have been dug up on his farm. The most recent discovery was that of an immense spear-head of slate, which must have been wielded by some giant of prehistoric times.

George Fry, of Oil City, Pa., wrote a letter to his brother in Michigan a few nights ago, and after sealing it he happened to glance at the clock. It had stopped at 2.45. Mr. Fry set the clock from his watch, and the sound of the ticking seemed to him strangely like a low voice calling out: "I'm gone, I'm gone." In the morning Mr. Fry received a telegram announcing his brother's death, and a subsequent letter contained the information that he died at 2.45 and that his last words were: "I'm gone!"

Senators in Town.

United States Senators, G. F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, and N. W. Aldrich, of Rhode Island, and ex-Senator Warner Miller, of New York, arrived in this city last evening and went to the Fifth Avenue Hotel, where they passed the night. Senator Wm. Mahone, of Virginia, reached town to-day and also registered at the Fifth Avenue.

Jacob Sharp Goes Out Driving. Jacob Sharp was much better yesterday. He has not been as well before since he left Ludlow street Jail. Dr. Loomis found him in such good condition that he allowed the old man to take an airing in a carriage. He enjoyed his outing very much, his appetite is still very poor, however.

KNIGHTS AS FIRM AS ROCKS.

STANDING BY THEIR ORGANIZATION WITH UNDAUNTED FRONT.

The Great Body of the Knights of Labor Not Affected by the Withdrawal of Discontented Leaders—The Secession Movement Not More than 30,000 Strong—What the Knights Say About the Outlook.

The attempt of certain leaders of labor organizations, and newspapers which have ulterior motives in supporting them, to bring about a revolt in the order of the Knights of Labor is viewed by the knights themselves as of little practical account.

General Master Workman Powderly, in a recent interview, gave the true condition of affairs, and a later report from THE WORLD'S Philadelphia correspondent showed minutely the thorough and businesslike system upon which Secretary Litchman keeps the records and accounts of the order.

Five hundred thousand workers of all kinds were shown to be upon the rolls of the assemblies in good standing which render regularly their accounts to the general office, and a healthy state of affairs within the great organization was clearly indicated by facts and figures known to many members of the order here and elsewhere.

Leading and steady member of the order, who is known for his sincerity and for his fidelity to the cause of labor, was asked to-day by a reporter for THE WORLD his opinion of the alleged revolt and its extent and the men who are in the movement.

"I see by some published reports," he said, "that the seceders from the order are said to number 100,000. I have means of knowing that such is not the fact, but that the leaders of the revolt, as they choose to call it, come to make up their membership rolls they will not find more than 30,000 all told, if, indeed, they will have so many."

It is a well-known fact that a number of local assemblies—some of them very small as to membership—were suspended a few days for non-payment of dues, and assessments and fines, and that the order has since then, by the laws of the order and for insubordination.

Under the last-named head came the Montauk Assembly, of Brooklyn, which set up a new district organization after secession from No. 42. The General Executive Board would not grant the Montauk kickers a charter, and could not lawfully do so and maintain any sort of discipline in the order.

"Now, the leaders of the Montauk Assembly are among the seceders as a matter of course. The General Assembly which met at Minneapolis in October sustained the General Board in that matter, as it did in the case of the carpet weavers who composed District Assembly No. 126, and who are now under the pale of the order for insubordination.

There are several thousands of the rank and file of the assemblies referred to who are in sympathy with the order, and who have already made application as individuals for reinstatement, because they are in sympathy with our principles and our cause, and well know the power and influence of the greatest organization of American workmen ever founded.

"No," the leaders who seek to turn whole local assemblies away from the order into another organization, should be aware that as will count such their host when they seek for members.

It is folly for these rebellious leaders to attempt to set up an order on a par with the one founded by Uriah Stephens and so ably led by Terence V. Powderly. Why, sir, some of the very men who are now recalcitrants were at one time in Powderly's praise and insisted on his re-election as General Master Workman.

"Then, when they massed their strength at Richmond and Minneapolis before the representatives of the order, they were shown the error of their ways and were set down upon for their wild ideas and folly in attempts to create a division.

"The order is an American institution, founded and maintained by American workmen, with an eye to the emancipation of the toiler everywhere, and cannot and will not tolerate any turbulent and anarchical element in its ranks. Events have proved the wisdom of its judgment.

"With the elimination of the radical disturbing elements composed of Anarchists, Socialists and men who seek only their own aggrandizement, the order is in a healthy condition and is increasing in membership rapidly, but not too much so for its good.

More care is used in accepting applications for membership in the order, and the district boards in forming new locals. The formation of the national district trades assemblies, which give each distinct set of mechanics and artisans their own affairs without reference to any other set of workers or tradesmen, shows our attitude towards trades unions.

"The national district assemblies are numerous and powerful bodies, and have added greatly to our strength. Others are in the course of formation, and soon every distinct trade will have its charter.

"It is not our purpose to antagonize any body of workmen, but to aid them by all reasonable means in our power. But we cannot entertain turbulent leaders who seek to overthrow the order, for they are their own personal ends and for political purposes.

"We are silent as to the methods employed by some of these leaders who have recanted and withdrawn from the order, and sufficient reasons. If their organizations are fit to still follow them so much the worse for them. Some day they will find the need of our powerful aid.

"The Order of the Knights of Labor is founded on true principles and will never die while it has a good purpose to serve and a reform to urge.

"The knights who were interviewed declared that their order was stronger than ever, because the malcontents had been forced to quit it, and its growth would be healthier in the future than it has in the past.

About the Hotels.

Judge Potter, of Whitehall, is registered at the Hotel Hamilton. Judge of the Supreme Court William Rumsay is a room at the Glacy. Austin Lathrop, of Corning, Superintendent of State Prisons, is at the Albany Hotel. W. J. de laza, of Buenos Ayres, D. G. Wickham, of Washington, are at the Fifth Avenue.

Among others at the Sturvenon are H. Reeve Smith, of England, and Lieut. John Pope, U. S. A. C. E. Lord, General Manager of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, is at the Hoffman House. The Hon. Henry Edwards, of the British Legation, Washington, and Mrs. Edwards are at the Brevoort.

NOT UP ON PROPERTIES AT ALL.

The "Lift" Boy's Van Efforts to Woo a Lady Into His Elevator Car.

In an uptown studio building there is a new "lift" boy. He is called "lift" boy because the building has an English name.

He is of Teutonic origin, assimilates anything mental slowly and is not up on artistic properties at all. But, barring an occasional sudden pull up which has the soothing effect of a collision on the nerves of his passengers, he has mastered the simple management of an elevator.

One day, as he was taking a passenger up, he saw a lady standing, or rather, half leaning against the wall of the second car, which is a little dark. She was quite motionless and quite dressed.

On his way back he stopped, thinking the lady wished to go downstairs, although she had not signalled.

"The lady desires to move towards the car and did not after her somewhat strained position. Fritz thought she might be ill, and, going over, asked if she wanted to go downstairs. No answer. Fritz was frightened. She must have a fit. He pushed gently, and instead of being roused, the lady fell stiffly to the floor and lay motionless.

Fritz was nearly frightened out of his wits. He bowed and called the porter, who brought a shot to the office floor and told the janitor the lady was dead.

The janitor hurried to the elevator and with the assistance of the struck lady with a pistol. He pushed gently, and instead of being roused, the lady fell stiffly to the floor and lay motionless.

As soon as he could control himself he said: "Why that is the shape that Lumly dresses up to paint. He must have put it out to have the studio portrait."

It was a wretched painter's lay-figure. Fritz hates to meet Lumly now, who is a jolly dog given to napping and chaffing.

PASSING EVENTS IN SOCIETY.

The Patriarchs will give their first ball for this season this evening at Delmonico's. Although each Patriarch has the privilege of inviting nine guests, and the other invited people will probably attend. The ballroom will be much more elaborately decorated with flowers than in former years, with an attempt at a Yuletide general effect. Holly will be used in masses, and branches of mistletoe will hang from various places. A number of large plaques composed of every flower to be had will ornament the walls, and the balcony will be completely covered with yellow amandaria, and garlands of white roses.

Kiander has the decorations in charge. Mr. Ward McAllister will dance with Mrs. Ogden Gould. In place of the four Patriarchs, the late William H. Travers, Hamilton Fish, Jr., August Belmont and Levi P. Morton, who have dropped out of the list, are Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Mr. Bradley Martin, Mr. J. P. Kerchohan and Mr. Elbridge T. Gerry. The other Patriarchs are Messrs. William Astor, W. W. Astor, Edward Livingston, N. M. Beckwith, Charles H. Berryman, S. Van Henseler Cruger, James G. Duer, J. Townsend Burden, Smith Child, Edward Cooper, Robert Golet, William Giton, Ogden Gould, George G. Haven, William Hayward Cutting, John W. Hamersley, Robert B. Mintrue, H. A. Johnson, C. O. D. Iselin, DeLancey Kane, Pierre Lorillard, Johnston Livingston, Ward McAllister, J. Pierpont Morgan, William W. Phelps, Charles B. Dickson, William Cragg, Pell, James Kerchohan, A. Newbold Morris, James Roosevelt, Adriaan Iselin, Robert G. Remsen, Blynn K. Stevens, Frederick W. Stevens, Cornelius Vanderbilt, John Stewart, Jr., George S. Bowdoin, Eugene Schieffelin, B. Martin, E. N. Teller, Geo. Henry Warren, Matthew Wilkes, Alexander S. Webb, Buchanan Withrow, B. S. Wells, Geo. B. Woodruff, Norman Livingston and H. Winthrop. Among the other invited guests are Mrs. A. Newbold Morris, Miss Morris, Miss Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. John Munroe, Mrs. Clarence Cary, Mrs. Henry Ascher Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Roosevelt, Mr. Ferguson, Miss Ferguson, of Scotland, Mrs. Bradley Martin, Mrs. William Bacon, Miss Grace Seelie, Miss Lily Belmont, Mrs. Frederick R. Jones, Miss May Brady, Mrs. Winthrop, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. George W. Depew, Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Mrs. John W. Depew, Mrs. Reginald Rives, Mrs. Lloyd Bryce, Mrs. Griswold Gray, Mrs. Howard Potter, Mrs. G. P. Wetmore, Mrs. G. S. Bowdoin, Mrs. C. A. Post and Mrs. John Kane.

The marriage of Mr. Belknap and Miss Garner will take place on Jan. 9 at the Church of the Holy Trinity.

Mrs. D. W. Sawyer, of 166 West Seventy-third street, will give a reception this evening at seven o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. You Campen, nee Welbuck, will give receptions on Jan. 4 and 18.

Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey M. Depew, of 22 East Forty-fifth street, will give a dinner on Dec. 27 to Mr. Ferguson and Miss Ferguson, of Scotland. The guests will include Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Roosevelt, whom they are now visiting. On Dec. 29 Mr. and Mrs. Depew will give another dinner in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson.

The engagement of Mr. John Fordyce and Miss Jennie K. Bird is announced. Invitations are out for a tea to be given by Mrs. Abram S. Hewitt in honor of her son, Mr. Cooper Hewitt, and his wife, nee Work.

The marriage of Mr. Thomas F. Somers and Miss Elizabeth M. Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hill, of 10 West Twenty-first street, will take place on Wednesday evening, Dec. 28, at 7 o'clock, at St. Francis Xavier's Church, on West Sixteenth street.

Admiral and Mrs. Charles H. Baldwin, of 500 Fifth avenue, will give a dinner this evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Munroe.

Mrs. Gulliver, of 40 East Fifty-eighth street, will give a reception this afternoon.

Mrs. Joseph Strouse, of 11 East Forty-ninth street, will give a wedding reception for her daughter to-day.

Mrs. George A. Osgood, of 607 Fifth avenue, will give a reception this afternoon.

Mrs. William Anony will give a dinner this evening at her home, 102 East Thirty-ninth street.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Woodford, of 225 Madison avenue, will give a reception to-day.

CHAMBERLAIN HERE AGAIN.

HE DECLARES HIMSELF WELL PLEASED WITH MR. AND MRS. CLEVELAND.

While in Washington He Was Kept Busy Going Out to Dinners—The Fishery Question Still as Open as It Was Before He Came—His Party to Start This Evening for a Visit to Lord Lansdowne, in Ottawa.

Joseph Chamberlain, who was sent to America by the British Government to adjust the fishery dispute, arrived in New York late yesterday from Washington.

He is accompanied by the Hon. Henry Edwards, Secretary of the British Legation, and Mrs. Edwards, Willoughby Maycock, Mr. Chamberlain's Secretary, and J. H. G. Berne, Head Clerk in the Treaty Department of the Foreign Office.

The party will go on northward this evening, and will join in the Christmas festivities at the home of Lord Lansdowne, Rideau Hall, Ottawa. They will go by the New York Central Railroad, and may possibly spend to-morrow at Montreal.

In the meantime, Mr. Chamberlain, who is much like an American in his business and social manners, spent the morning in writing letters to private and public correspondents. This afternoon he is calling upon social acquaintances in the city.

Among the New Yorkers honored are Chauncey M. Depew and Whitelaw Reid.

The party will return to Washington immediately after the holidays, stopping first at Niagara, and arriving in Washington in time for the great ball given by Sir Lionel Mackenzie, West, at the British Legation.

Mr. Chamberlain smiled pleasantly, but disapproved when asked by a reporter to say something regarding the success or failure of his mission. He said that he was forbidden to talk of his business at all.

He was distinctly much pleased with the reporter turned to the subject of America, his impressions of it, and of Washington and official circles. He declared his pleasure at meeting Mrs. Cleveland and praised her unreservedly for her beauty, sprightliness and social excellencies, and declared President Cleveland to be a man of delightful frankness, good humor, and admirable for his common sense.

American, Mr. Chamberlain said, struck him as first-rate people, and he made no distinction between Democrats and Republicans. He was struck by the similarity between Americans and Englishmen. The resemblance, Mr. Chamberlain declared, made him feel quite at home here and not at all like a stranger.

Mr. Chamberlain delicately turned the subject, and, in the event of the death of Mr. Gladstone and consequent upon the ill-health of John Morley, it was not probable that he would be called to London to lead the Liberal party.

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COST OF THE POLICE SIGNALS.

The \$75,000 Appropriated Sufficient to Equip Only One-Quarter of the City.

Estimates for the proposed police electrical boxes have been submitted to the Police Commissioners, and, as a rule, the cost is much higher than was anticipated.

It is pretty well settled that only as many boxes will be put up as will exhaust the \$75,000 appropriated. One will be erected on short posts and two on the longer ones in out-of-town precincts. The present appropriation will cover about one-fourth of the city, so that it will require \$350,000 to make the system which may be accepted available all over the police district.

The Herzog and Gamewell systems are the chosen for police selection. The Herzog is regarded by many patrolmen and sergeants as being very intricate. It has no telephone attachment, as its four rivals have. On the other hand, some of the Police Commissioners claim that during the busy hours of the day the telephone is valueless, the noise of passing vehicles drowning the sound.

The other systems include a patrolman's signal to the sergeant, a fire alarm, an ambulance and patrol wagon call and a telephone—all inclosed in a box which can be used by any citizen. The commissioners will not approve the use of iron boxes for the sidewalk walks, but will require that the selected instrument be attached either to lamp-posts or to telegraph poles.

The officers and managers of the five systems offered for competition are keeping up a brisk button-holing of Commissioners and their personal and political friends. It is very likely that there will be a material reduction in the cost of erecting the boxes before a final determination is reached.

FATHER RIORDAN'S REQUIEM.

A Mass Celebrated by His Fellow-Alumnus of St. Francis Xavier's.

A solemn high mass of requiem was celebrated to-day at St. Francis Xavier's Church, in West Sixteenth street, for the repose of the soul of the late Father Riordan, the Castle Garden missionary.

The mass was conducted by the Jesuit Fathers of St. Francis Xavier's. Father Murphy, the pastor, acted as celebrant, Father Keveney as deacon, Father McKinnon as sub-deacon, and Master W. J. Smythe as master of ceremonies. Among the fellow-alumni of the deceased within the chancel were Father W. A. Wallace, of Doherty's Church, Rev. Dr. Braun, of St. Elizabeth's Church, Fort Washington, Father Gallagher, of St. Peter and Paul's, Williamsburg; Fathers William J. Hamilton and Thomas McGroun, of St. Anthony's Church, Greenpoint.

Father Cahill, of the Mission of the Rosary, Castle Garden; Father G. O'Callahan, of St. Bernard's, on West Fourteenth street, and Father J. J. Mahoney, of St. Connor, S. J., were also present.

WORKING THEIR WAY UPTOWN.

Ingenuous Newsboys Would Fill the Street-Cars if Allowed To.

"Here! Here-o-o!" The exclamation was a mild one and the second and prolonged "here" was almost affectionate.

It emanated from a big, burly Third avenue surface-car conductor, and was addressed to a blue-nosed youngster who entered the car in Park Row, crying the evening edition of THE WORLD, which he carried in a small bundle under his arm.

The conductor's call and a pull at the abbreviated tail of the boy's jacket brought him up standing, and he hastily bustled from the car, saying: "I hate to treat the kids that way," apologetically explained the conductor to a World reporter who stood with him upon the car platform. "If I didn't though, we'd have only newsboys for passengers. That kid lives way up in Third avenue, and he just wants to work his way home without walkin' the streets with all of 'em. They buy their papers on the Row and then they work the cars for a ride home."

ELLA SIMPSON'S DISAPPEARANCE.

A House in Brooklyn Said to Have Been Watched by a Female Detective.

The pretty girl, Ella Simpson