The Democrat.

BRONSON & CARR, Publishers.

MANCHESTER, - - IOWA.

A fat man has more trouble than he has sympathizers.

If a man finds that marriage is a failure he puts it all in his wife's name.

Cuba is free, but it should not overlook the fact that we are its rich uncle.

The way of the transgressor may be hard; but a good deal of it seems to be asphalted.

"What costs nothing is worth nothing," which is also true of much which costs much.

Some automobiles can travel 100 miles without being repaired if they are shipped by train.

The man who has seen every President since Andrew Jackson is beginning to blow around again.

When a baby girl is born she at once begins to yell for clothes, and she never gets over the habit.

The ruins of the campanile at Venice have been cleared away. Under them was found the building inspector.

The German editor who writes so witheringly of "American arrogance" is doubtless bothered somewhat by our commercial expansion.

Hall Caine has been showing King Edward the sights on the Isle of Man. Of course Hall exhibited himself as the most important of them.

Mr. Stead's saying that "the English workman fights machines, whilst the American workman improves them," explains a great deal of America's prosperity.

The young gentleman with an attenuated cash balance will indorse with enthusiasm the statement of the food commission that ice cream soda is a most dangerous and pernicious beverage, unfit for human consumption.

Schwab's riches came so quickly that he was not able to keep pace in the cultivation of a millionaire stomach and nerves. These, when not born in one, must be carefully acquired. Inability to manage course dinners has wrecked many a promising career.

It is said that the Duke of Marlborough has vowed never to set foot on American soil again. Oh, well, he can make that kind of a vow without running any serious risk. The Vanderbilts will no doubt be willing to send the money to him regularly if he seriously objects to coming after it.

How inequitable sometimes seem the decrees of fate! A poor woman who merely feared that she might become insane killed herself the other day, while dozens of people who are undoubtedly crazy not only refuse to kill themselves but insist upon publishing historical novels, lecturing on English literature or getting up political conventions.

In a recent test of accuracy in firing torpedoes the vessels of the torpedo boat f[illegible] in the North Atlantic made [illegible]rable hits of a floating tar[illegible]ds away. As each hit [illegible]t utter destruction in [illegible] the importance of [illegible]vy is being her[illegible]able discovery. [illegible]ght, of course, [illegible] with automat[illegible] main thing in these [illegible] is to get close enou[illegible]y to lodge a shot. Long before any torpedo boat could have approached within 1,000 yards of an enemy it would have been blown out of the water.

A Kansas paper notes that, of the dozen carloads of old iron received every week at the local junk-yard, "probably nine-tenths consists of farming implements ruined by rust. Many of the implements look as if they could still be saved from the junk pile by a blacksmith; the farmers thought differently, and bought new ones." Such are signs of that carelessness which sometimes accompanies prosperity; but the same thing precedes adversity—and then, how ugly it looks! If the mortgage also could be left in the field to gather rust and ultimately wear out, the condition of the plow and mower and binder would not so much matter. Since that is impervious to moisture, even to tears, [illegible]ld seem business-like to take care [illegible] machinery that may help to pay it.

Horace Walpole complained that a caller at Strawberry Hill broke off the bill of a beautiful marble eagle, and then to cover the accident carried the piece away in his pocket. The modern sightseer is perhaps more prone to leave something behind him. The generous citizen who opens his grounds to the public is too often repaid "with ingratitude and orange peel." In public grounds empty bottles are broken into bits which are dangerous to other picnickers and to animals; pieces of paper are strewn over lawns, flower beds and ornamental ponds; names are carved on fences and inscriptions written on summer houses. To say "don't" is ever a thankless task; but if every tourist in private or public grounds would make a point of gathering up with glove or stick a few banana skins, papers and broken bottles, and hiding them under the shrubbery, a sentiment of public tidiness might be created which would force reform upon the careless.

Prof. E. Benj. Andrews declares that parentage among the poor should be discouraged. The multiplication of this class of citizens Prof. Andrews lists among the social evils that should be eliminated. He insists that it is one of the duties of society to discourage the birth of children "under conditions which render it unlikely that they will become self-supporting citizens." This is a good enough theory to create a sensation, but beyond that end it has no merit whatever. Had this theory been in force the world would have had no Lincoln, no Franklin, no Spurgeon, no Gladstone, no Homer, no Shakspeare. The best in literature, philosophy, science, theology, statesmanship, music, art would be unborn. Erase from history the names and accomplishments of all born in poverty and multitudinous volumes would shrink to a lean pamphlet. The brilliant galaxy of the world's luminaries would be obliterated, their reflected light would be gone, and remaining would be only indistinct nebula of small stars. All life teaches that the child born healthy has no limit set upon its opportunities. None can foretell what strength and precision of grasp may be developed in those tiny hands, what power may grow in that eager brain, what stamp may be slowly, surely pressed upon the character. Poverty is no obstacle to character building; it is a positive help. Early toil becomes a fixed habit and deprivation teaches soul deep the divine lessons of wholesale aspiration, of self-denial. "Conditions which render it unlikely that they will become self-supporting citizens," is rot. The elder Rothschild, the elder Vanderbilt, Jay Gould, Cyrus W. Field, John W. Mackay and a host of others, most eminently capable of self-support, were born under just such conditions, if there be such. The unrestrained breeding of disease and vice is another question, and one of vital importance. But poverty is not hereditary.

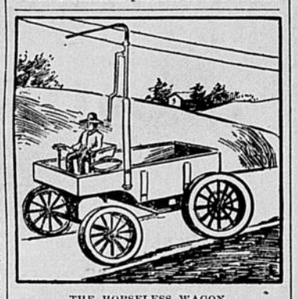
A good many of the boys and girls who have taken diplomas from high schools and academies and colleges this year have been talked to by various persons, from the President of the United States to the selectmen of the town, but have had no chance to "talk back." There are still some schools that cling to the olden fashion of holding commencement day as the opportunity for youth and its dreams—not for age and its wisdom. The commencement program of one New England academy shows an extraordinary devotion to this idea. The exercises began at half-past nine in the morning. They consisted first of twenty-seven essays by members of the graduating class. Then there was an intermission, and in the afternoon there were fifteen more essays. The subjects covered a wide range—eulogies on George Washington, Hannibal Hamlin, William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt; studies of "The Ship Subsidy Bill," of "Submarine Navigation," of "The Marconi System," of "The Uses of a Library," of "The Bible in Tennyson," of "The Holy Grail" and of "Moses." Of the forty-two subjects there was not one of a trivial or sensational character, not one that would not invite to a fuller knowledge and promise reward for study. Now, surely, those forty-two boys and girls, in writing for this notable day with its rapt audience and friendly applause, must have gained much good knowledge and some power of thinking clearly and of speaking lucidly and forcibly. Meantime, a widening circle was instructed and inspired. Mary does not read and write on "The Holy Grail" without interesting father, mother and sister in the mystic story. John does not study the career of Hannibal Hamlin without reviving grandfather's memories of the stirring '60s, and setting the whole family to reading aloud a life of Lincoln. Altogether, is it not probable that the hundreds of parents and friends who sat patiently through those somewhat long and arduous hours of the old-fashioned commencement had gained something when the day was over that even the most polished orator in his happiest periods might have failed to impart?

NOW IT'S HORSELESS VEHICLES FOR THE FARMER'S USE.

The inventors seem to be striving faithfully to relieve the horse of all the heavy hauling which it has in the past been called upon to perform. The latest thing along the line of horseless vehicles is the farmers' trolley road, which will make it possible for the raiser of produce to go to town with his load, dispose of it and return home without the aid of his team, the electric current being the medium of the apparatus shown in the illustration.

The inventor contemplates the installation of private lines by the farmers in a certain locality, or the rental of electric service from one of the suburban trolley companies which now cover the country around every large city. As will be seen, an electric motor is placed on the wagon, and power is obtained from the overhead wire, the connecting pole having a flexible adjustment to overcome all inequalities in the roadway.

The horizontal portion of the conductor is divided and insulated, receiving the current from one wire and returning it to the other after it has passed through the motor to drive the wagon. The reason for using a return wire parallel with the power wire is to avoid possibility of shocks to the driver when standing beside the wagon and in contact with it, which might prove dangerous if the return current passed to the earth after use. By gearing the driving shaft low very heavy loads could be transported with comparatively little expense for current, and as there are no heavy storage batteries or power generators aboard there is plenty of room in the wagon for the loading of produce, etc. Daniel S. Bergin, of Chicago, is the inventor.



THE HORSELESS WAGON.

An Unpoetic Name.

A lady once gave Robert Browning some flowers, and when he asked for their common name, hesitated about telling. Finally, says the Cornhill Magazine, on being urged, she shyly confessed that they were called "bloody noses."

Mr. Browning was very fond of telling the story, and one day, after finishing it, he "dropped into poetry, to this effect:

I'll deck my love with posies,
I'll cover her with roses.
Should she protest,
I'll do my best
To give her bloody noses.

"Gems of Current Thought."

The example of the newspaper which has begun the issue of the Bible as a serial (a process that will require about fifty years) recalls the Texas editor who came across the Ten Commandments somewhere and was so struck with their excellence that he clipped the passage and ran it under the head of "Gems of Current Thought."—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

What has become of the old fashioned boy who held a bone as high as he could, and made the dog "speak" for it?

Having had experience with fleas, we object to the expression, "as lucky as a dog."

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

POLITICS SHOULD INTEREST EVERY MAN.

By Marcus A. Hanna, United States Senator from Ohio.

M. A. HANNA.

If you do not make it a point to interest yourself in politics—actively, I mean—to work for the best principles and to support the best candidates, you are not a good citizen. Your country is a collection of individuals. Its power results from the union of these individuals. Your country gives you tremendous benefits. It protects you in the enjoyment of your life, your liberty and your happiness. It guards your home, your family, holds up high ideals for you and your children. What return do you make for all this? Think the matter over. Do you honestly think you do as much as you should do?

The government of your country begins with the neighborhood caucus—the caucus that is held just a few blocks from where you live. It works up from the caucus to the city, county, State and national conventions, from the township board to the United States House of Representatives, the Senate and the White House. Do you attend your caucus? Do you care to know when or where it will be held? Would you give up your least important business or social engagements to attend it? Let each man answer these questions for himself. The man who does not discharge this plain duty is not the citizen he should be. Politics would be on a higher plane if all the citizens interested themselves in the caucus.

If you want to do something for your country you always have the chance if you are in politics. No doubt you would respond to a call to arms. Of course you would, you say. Then why don't you respond to the simplest demand? In the matter of working for the interests of this country there must be no distinction between classes. Each man as a man must do his duty. He must prove that he is worthy of the suffrage by interesting himself in the government of his own community.

FUTURE OF THE INDIAN.

By General T. J. Morgan.

Will education save the remnant of American Indians? Yes, as men and women; not as tribes. The Indians as a peculiar, distinct, separate semi-barbarous people are doomed to disappear. Indianism is an anachronism and must pass away.

Education is the only hope of the red men and women; it offers them salvation. Those who accept it will be saved as American citizens. Those who refuse it will perish.

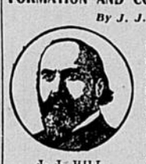
What I mean by this is that it is inevitable that the Indians, like all other elements in our national life, must become absorbed by the nation and lose their distinctive racial peculiarities, the one exception to this probably being the negro.

It is impossible that the Indians should maintain their tribal organizations with separate governments, being a sort of nation within a nation, and have their own peculiar civilization; it is both undesirable and impossible.

Education is the means of bringing the individual Indians into such relationship with our national life that they will desire the same things which the white people desire. They will adopt our ideals or individual hope, cease to think and feel like Indians and feel and think only as American citizens.

FORMATION AND CONTROL OF TRUSTS.

By J. J. Hill, President of Great Northern Railway.



J. J. HILL.

The only serious objection to so-called trusts has been the method of creating them—not for the purpose of manufacturing any public commodity in the first place, but for the purpose of selling sheaves of printed securities which represent nothing more than good will and prospective profits to the promoters.

If it is the desire of the general government, through Congress, to prevent the growth of such corporations, it has always seemed to me that a simple remedy was within its reach. Under the constitutional provision allowing Congress to regulate commerce between the States all companies desiring to transact business out of the State in which they are incorporated should be held to a uniform provision of federal law. They should satisfy a commission that their capital stock was actually paid up in cash or in property, at a fair valuation, just as the capital of the national bank is certified to be paid up.

With that simple law the temptation to make companies for the purpose of selling prospective profits would be at an end, and at the same time no legitimate business would suffer.

IS FRIENDSHIP DYING OUT?

By Rev. J. Hudson, British Essayist.

There is an apparent decay of friendship, and if we inquire into the reason of this I think we might attribute it to one or other of all of the following causes or circumstances:

1. In these days of rapid communication by sea and land, in the frequent and incessant congregation and congestion of human beings for purposes of business and pleasure which is such a characteristic in the age in which we live, the numerical increase of every man's acquaintance as compared with that of his forefathers is simply enormous. The acquaintances of any busy man in the busy hive of twentieth century industry are numbered not by the score nor by the hundred but by the thousand.

2. With an increased humanitarianism under which men are more truly brothers than ever before, there is no need in ordinary cases for the formation of friendship's link, at least as a means of mutual succor and support.

3. Moreover, the very wear and tear of modern life, its ceaseless and increasing struggle in the teeth of ever fiercer competition in all walks of life, the effort that is needed to gain a livelihood or make a name—all these leave scanty leisure and small inclination for forming new friendships or even keeping up those already formed.

Friendship, however, perhaps has not changed so much in degree as in kind. No arguments are needed to establish the admitted truth that the social intercourse of the sexes, which now supplies so many of the closest and most exalted friendships, was in former years far less satisfactory than under modern civilization it has now become. Indeed, in most cases it was simply non-existent.

And in this great and almost magical elevation of womankind mentally, physically and morally, is to be found what I called just now one of those providential compensations that are frequently to be met with when at first sight one is apt to imagine that such and such a virtue that flourished in the good old times is beginning to fall into decay.

ANNEX CUBA AS A TERRITORY.

By Representative Robert G. Cousins, of Iowa.

ROBT. G. COUSINS.

I cannot see any assured happiness for the Cuban people, and I mean, of course, commercial prosperity when I say this, except through annexation. I have always believed that to be the only solution of one of the most vexatious problems that has ever confronted the people of the United States, to whom Cuba looks as a child toward its parent. The men who represent the business interests of the island have always favored annexation, and to-day they desire it more than ever. I think it rather premature when Cuba is spoken of as a possible State in our Union. That is so remote that it is a waste of time to consider it.

The bone and sinew of the island, the thinking men there, who have the best interests of their country at stake, desire a political alliance with the United States, for without it they cannot occupy a position which gives them standing commercially with other countries. I fear the first outbreak will come from the laboring class, and such a happening would be most disastrous. Let Cuba come in as a territory before internecine strife brings back to her once more the devastation and misery she suffered through Spanish tyranny.

COLLEGE COURSE MUST BE SHORTENED.

By President Harper, University of Chicago.

The feeling grows stronger in every quarter that the college course, at least for those who are to engage in a profession, must be shortened. Many men who are preparing for a profession are distinctly injured by the last year or two in college. There are some men for whom the college atmosphere, as distinguished from that of the professional school, is not a wholesome one. Men who in college idle away their time in many cases find the more strenuous life of professional training exactly suited to their needs.

It does not seem that the Harvard plan of three years meets with general favor, even in Cambridge, although, according to the official report, 40 per cent of the men now graduating from Harvard College finish their academic work in three years. It would seem to be a better plan to allow those who do not contemplate a professional course of study to take the full four years of work in college and to arrange for the other class to count their early professional work as a part of the work accepted for the bachelor's degree. A great forward step in the direction of this policy has been taken in the recent action of Yale. This policy has been adopted as the basis for the organization of the schools of medicine and law in the University of Chicago. It is the most practical solution of the problem which confronts us and bids fair to be the commonly accepted solution within a short time.

CHARACTER VS. SALARY.

By George G. Williams.

Men who are trusted with such large amounts ought not to be too young, for temptations are stronger with the young than with those who have arrived at more mature years and have experienced the severe trials of many temptations.

It goes without saying that men who are trusted with large amounts of securities ought to be better paid than those whose duties are of less importance and whose positions are without special responsibility. But so far as character is concerned, a man of principle ought to be just as safe to be trusted with a million dollars as with one. In my mind it is a question of the man and not of the salary.

ARTISTIC TIN VASES.

Several women in Germany are now making beautiful and artistic ornaments and household utensils out of tin. Apparently the first to utilize her talents in this direction was Frau Clara Hoppenrath, of Berlin. She fashioned artistic tin vases, and since then she has made a beautiful imitation of a cluster of silver thistles, which has been bought by the King of Roumania. Tin is an easy metal to manipulate, and any woman who is a good artist will have little difficulty in shaping it as she desires. The design must first be carefully drawn on the tin, or rather punched in it, and then as carefully cut out. Only a few tools are needed for the work, and the necessary skill in their use can soon be acquired. As decorations for articles of majolica and wood delicate tin ornaments are now becoming popular in Germany, and almost all of them are made by women.

FLIES AND ADMINISTRATION.

Much Is Being Done Toward a Better Understanding.

The present administration is opposed to flies and is fighting them through the Department of Agriculture. Dr. Howard, chief of the division of entomology, is the general directing the campaign, which is being prosecuted at present chiefly by the distribution of pamphlets telling about all sorts of flies, their various habits and dangerous propensities. For the better study of them 2,300 were caught in kitchens and dining rooms in all parts of the country and put on trial, says a writer in Harper's Weekly. Of these, 98 per cent were common house flies. The house fly does not bite or sting. The greatest danger from him arises from his neglect to wipe his feet. He will tramp over filth and infected matter and straightway track his accumulation over anything that any nearby family may be having for dinner. It is easier to discourage flies altogether than to teach them better habits. General Entomologist Howard talks of a war of extermination, but the first and most practicable thing to do is to teach people in general as much as possible about flies; when and where they breed and why they are dangerous. It is well known that stables are great nurseries of flies. It seems hopeless to attempt to regulate stables so that flies won't breed in them, but a good deal can be done by the use of knowledge and of sense; and where stables are so placed that their flies are particularly annoying the use of chloride of lime will help matters very much. The great central truth about flies and the danger from them seems to be, the cleaner the place the fewer the flies and the less danger from those that are there. Common flies do not secrete poison; they merely carry it. Don't leave any poison around where they can get at it. Bury filth; keep garbage in proper receptacles, and remove it promptly.

PRETTY BOOKKEEPER JOINS SALVATION ARMY RANKS.

For the love of a poke bonnet and the belief in the blood and fire doctrine of the Salvation army, as taught by the lads and lassies in red and blue, Miss Nellie Johnson, a fair Beverly, Mass., miss, will stand in postoffice square in that city and in a fervent appeal will invite all sinners to come to the fountain of the Lord, and be saved.

For all the years the army has been in Beverly, the army has few more interesting recruits than bonnie Nellie Johnson. Because she believes that she

MISS NELLIE JOHNSON.

has been called to the work, Miss Johnson leaves business life with a bright future before her and casts her lot with the soldiers of Christ who go out into the highways and byways to bring the fallen back into grace.

This new recruit up to a few days ago was employed as a bookkeeper by a Beverly concern, but now she has forsaken the pages of figures and the nerve-racking problem of a trial balance for that of the instruments and appeals of the Salvationists.

Miss Johnson's parents do not like her decision, and her minister, Sunday school teacher and friends have tried to prevail upon the girl to leave the army, but she would sacrifice everything for the sake of saving souls.

SOLID AIR RESISTS HAMMER.

While it is known that air can be made solid as well as liquid, up to the present comparatively few experiments have been made in this direction. A scientist recently converted a certain quantity of liquid air into a small solid mass, and on examining it found it was as transparent as clear ice, and as elastic as rubber. To test its elasticity he struck it with a hammer, and the latter immediately rebounded. That solid air may prove to be of commercial value is the opinion of some scientists in Germany, but it is admitted that many more experiments will have to be made before any certainty on this point can be arrived at.

Arabian Coffee.

The Arabian coffee maker, having prepared his fire of charcoal and placed near it a huge pot containing water, takes a few handfuls of green coffee berries, carefully culls out all imperfect berries and foreign substances and then places the best of the berries in an iron ladle held over the fire. The berries are permitted to roast until they begin to smoke, and are then, while still uncharred, placed in a small mortar and carefully brayed with a pestle closely fitting the cup of the mortar.

The berries are not, however, reduced to a dust. While this process has been going on a small pot has been half filled with tepid water from the large pot and placed over the fire. When the water in the small pot has begun to boil the broken coffee berries are thrown in, and the boiling is permitted to go on for a short time, the decoction being stirred with a spoon when it shows signs of boiling over. The coffee is then served in small cups without cream or sugar.

Dogs of War.

There are numerous instances on record where dogs have displayed wonderful intelligence in war, when carrying messages while in action and when acting as carriers to points or stations at a distance. An officer of my acquaintance, while campaigning against Indians in the Northwest, would always collect a few dogs from each settlement he passed through and take them along to the country of the hostiles. When important to send back messages at a time when it was impossible to get a soldier through the surrounding tribes, these dogs, with papers attached to their collars, were dispatched to the settlements from which they came, and thus official communications were passed along to headquarters.—New York Press.

Pulque for Consumptives.

One of the reasons why Mexico is taking the lead as a health resort is that the national intoxicant of Mexico, pulque, made from the agave, or century plant, is one of the best remedies in cases of asthma and consumption known. Unfortunately, pulque is only good when freshly fermented, and will not bear transportation, and for that reason one has to go to Mexico to drink it. The value of pulque in consumption was discovered several years ago by American invalids, who went to Mexico for their health, and who were almost cured by drinking small quantities of liquor at stated intervals. It is now recommended by physicians to all persons troubled with pulmonary complaints.

Professional hypocrites confess the sins of others and overlook their own.

REFUGE FOR SLAVES.

ONE OF THE STATIONS ON THE "UNDERGROUND RAILROAD."

Located in the Hills of West Virginia, Where Fugitive Blacks from the South Were Given Shelter and Assistance—Michell's Log Cabin.

Scattered here and there throughout the States which border on Mason and Dixon's line are many relics of the famous "underground railroad," which furnished fleeing slaves a means of escape to the next station and thence onward until they reached their ultimate destination and place of refuge in Canada. One of these is an old log house in West Virginia, which once connected with the celebrated "railroad," and its mysterious apartments are characteristic of the stations along the route.

Hidden away in the hills is this relic of slave days. The house was kept in the '40s by John Mitchell, an abolitionist, who made a practice of sheltering negroes till they could be passed along to the next station. The building is two stories in height, with an

OLD MAN MITCHELL.

opening through the middle of the lower story. The cellar takes up all the space under one end, the rest standing on solid ground. The mystery to-day is how the house could ever have concealed anybody. This was explained by Bentley, one of the present residents, who said the other day to a visitor who was examining the premises:

"Look here," pointing downward to the broad, thick doorsill; "that sill looks solid, don't it, and it looks just as if it were part of the long, bottom sill log? Now look!"

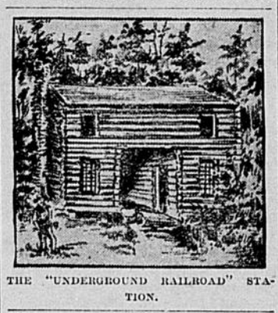
Entering the Cave.

Bentley stooped over and removed a couple of wooden pins on either side which appeared to have been driven into the heavy door casing to hold it firmly in its place. After he had removed the pegs Bentley touched one end of the foot-thick sill with his foot and the huge block settled down at one end, disclosing an opening over a foot in width and about twenty inches in length.

"Now wait till I light a lantern," said Bentley, lighting a piece of candle in an old-time tin perforated lantern. "Take holt of them pegs, they're good an' strong, fer I put new ones in only 'bout a year ago; they'll hold ye, an' foller me."

The visitor did so, descending about ten feet, when his feet touched solid ground, and he found himself at the narrow entrance to a cave or tunnel twenty feet or more in length. The walls of the cave were built of solid logs, and the roof was composed of the same material. Half a dozen pieces of logs, two feet long, strewn about the floor; a few pegs in the rotting oaken walls; the crumbling remains of two or three wooden bunks alongside the walls composed the furniture of the underground cave.

"Here's one of the air holes, an' here's another," said Bentley, indicating two holes about three or four inches square, on opposite sides of the cave, one near the roof and the other about two feet



THE "UNDERGROUND RAILROAD" STATION.

above the floor. "The air cum thro' wooden pipes made out o' oak bo'ds 'bout six inches wide. That one," pointing downward, "cums out on the crikbank under the roots of a big beech, an' t'other cums out in a thicket of brush 'bout thirty yards from the house. Of course they're rotted away now an' caved in, but they was all right when ole Mitchell lived yer."

Clever Deception.

Houses like Mitchell's, with tunnels leading to places of safety, were common throughout the border States in slavery days. When the band of sheriffs would come in pursuit of the escaping negroes, with bloodhounds to aid them, the people about the house would resort to a clever expedient to save whatever negroes were there. When the news of an approaching posse reached the house the negroes would be led to the river and then back to the house, their tracks being obscured by vilely-smelling turpentine. There were twenty-seven stopping places between Mitchell's and Ohio.

Mitchell was arrested at least half a dozen times. Once he was taken to Richmond, Va., where a mob wanted to hang him. Another time he was taken to Wythe County, where a mob broke into the jail and took him out, but the sheriff saved him just as they were putting a rope around his neck.

One Definition of It.

"What do you consider domesticity in man?"

"It is the trait of wanting to stay home when his wife wants him to go out with her."

"And what is domesticity in woman?"

"That is the trait of being willing to stay home when her husband wants to go out without her."—Chicago Post.

A good many elderly people marry for domestic convenience. A man is lost without a woman to look after his home, and a woman is lost without a home to look after.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

Cost of Living.

While the Indiana Republican literary bureau is engaged in telling the people of Indiana that they are paying less for their supplies than they did ten or twelve years ago and that they are really better off than they were then, it is interesting to note that Carroll D. Wright reports that the demand of the coal miners of Pennsylvania for an increase of wages is based on the claim that the prices of the necessaries of life have so advanced that they cannot live on their old wages.

This same point is urged in a recent public letter by William Cammack, a Pennsylvania miner, who says he has "been on a strike, together with other miners, for nearly three months, striking for an increase of wages in keeping with the price we have to pay for the necessaries of life and for recognition of our union, which seems to be the only hope that labor (outside of voting right) has in these days of this 'imaginary prosperity' and 'government by injunction.'" And furthermore Mr. Cammack specifies the increased prices that he has to pay, as follows:

"In 1902 I have to pay 80 cents per gallon for oil that I use in the mines, but the cans hold only three quarts. Everything else is in proportion, itemized as follows for the years 1898 and 1902:

	Prices in 1898.	Prices in 1902.
Bank oil, per gallon	$ .58	$ .80
Powder, per keg	1.20	2.25
Flour, per barrel	3.50	7.00
Bacon, per pound	.08 1-3	.16 2-3
Beef, per pound	.08 1-3	.18
Granulated sugar, per lb.	.06 1-2	.10
Tea, per pound	.40	.70
Canned tomatoes, per doz.	.60	1.50
Corn, per bushel	1.00	1.00
Rice, per pound	.05	.08 1-3
Breakfast food, per box	.10	.16
Rolled oats, per box	.08 1-3	.12 1-2
Currants, per pound	.06 1-4	.12 1-2
Raisins, per pound	.08 1-3	.12 1-2
Dried apples, per pound	.04	.12 1-2
Meal, per bushel	.50	1.00
Lard, per pound	.07 1-2	.13
Dried beans, per pound	.03	.05
Condensed milk, doz. cans	1.00	1.50
Coarse salt, per pound	.01	.04 1-4
Toilet soap, per box	.10	.25
Cheese, per pound	.08 1-3	.20
Butter, per pound	.16 2-3	.35
Vinegar, per gallon	.20	.40
Potatoes, per bushel	.75	1.40
Kerosene oil, per gallon	.10	.20
Laundry soap, doz. bars	.25	.50
Ham, per pound	.12	.18

These are commodities that the miner has to have to live, and it will be noted that many of them have advanced 100 per cent or more. Coal has gone sailing skyward, but the men who dug it get no advantage from that. Mr. Cammack further says:

"These are the prices that the average workingman pays now and what they had to pay in 1898. I trust that this statement may be of service in opening the eyes of the laboring men of this country, so that they may vote against the trusts and the party that makes it possible for them to rob the laboring men by charging them these outrageous prices, and if they make any complaint enjoin them from walking on the earth."

It is not surprising that with this sort of sentiment developing among the miners Senators Platt and Quay have made an effort to induce the mine operators to arbitrate the questions involved. The time has come when the common sense of the people revolts against the exactions of the divinely constituted trustees of property who operate the trusts.

Vain Republican Ruling.

An angry resentment of the popular demand for tariff revision is the most noticeable characteristic of Republican comment thereon, making plain the truth that Republican unwillingness to act against the monopolies enjoyed by the trusts unfits that party for service to the people.

The leading organs of Republicanism stigmatize as "tariff-smashers" all those who are in favor of a revision of the tariff. The only variant of this favorite term in which they indulge is the second-choice epithet, "business-killers," which they employ hopefully as tending to deter voters from a conclusive insistence upon tariff revision. In their desperation they are preaching the doctrine that the maintenance of monopoly is necessary to the prosperity of the masses.

The millions of Americans now bearing the tax burden of the Dingley tariff have passed that stage where they could be fooled by such tactics. They do not see "prosperity" in the fact that they are compelled to pay higher prices for the products of the American trusts than are paid by Europeans for the same products. They fail to feel "prosperous" merely because the cost of living in this country has been tremendously increased in order that the food trusts should make exorbitant profits and pay millions in dividends to a few multi-millionaire monopolists. They can only see and feel that the Dingley tariff is a mighty good thing for the trusts and a mighty bad thing for the people.

Nor is there any popular apprehension of American trade being injured by a revision of the tariff. American merchants and manufacturers are underselling their competitors in all the markets of the world. They are more than equal to holding their own in American markets. They can, without the slightest danger of loss, do without the "protection" of a tariff whose duties are necessarily paid by American consumers. They are very sure that business will be healthier when a healthy competition is possible and when individual enterprise and the conduct of smaller business concerns stand some show of profit. There is no prosperity for the people in the fact that a few hundred trust magnates, out of a population of nearly 80,000,000 souls, make fortunes every year and proceed to spend the bulk of those fortunes in foreign lands.

That form of "tariff-smashing" which would revise the Dingley tariff to the wholesome basis of a tariff for revenue only is heartily favored by American public sentiment. This sentiment is so strong, indeed, as to make tariff reform the leading issue of the day. Republican organs can no longer frighten American voters by calling them "tariff-smashers" and "business-killers." The only business to be killed is the monopoly business, and the only tariff to be smashed is the unjust Dingley tariff that has created and maintained the monopoly business at the sore cost of the people.—St. Louis Republic.

Queer Reason for Annexation.

Recent announcements from Washington that the Government is considering the possibility of annexing Hayti is a curious illustration of the persistence of the jingo itch for grabbing territory. But the reason assigned for this contemplated annexation is the most interesting aspect of it. It is asserted that the Haytian people are so degraded and sunk in the depths of savagery that in the intervals of revolution and the setting up of dictators they resort to voodooism, embellished by the practice of eating each other up. And because they are so degenerate the United States regards them, according to this story, as eligible for annexation.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Roosevelt' Humiliation.

It appears that all of President Roosevelt's explanations and Secretary Shaw's explanations that the administration is not vindictively hostile toward trusts have not been sufficient to satisfy the trust magnates who control the Republican party, and they have forced the most prominent candidate for the Presidential nomination in 1904 to declare unequivocally against any serious effort to get rid of trust domination. In his speech at Fitchburg, Mass., he made his confession as follows:

"As sensible men we must decide that it is a great deal better that some people prosper too much than that no one should prosper enough. So that the man who advocates destroying the trusts by measures which would paralyze the industries of the country is at best a quack and at worst an enemy to the republic."

This is plain, in the light of recent events. The remedy that "would paralyze the industries of the country" is understood by everybody to be the reduction of the tariff on trust-made products. The only effort made by President Roosevelt in that line was in the bill for Cuban reciprocity. The objections made to the Cuban reciprocity bill by the tobacco and sugar trusts were exactly the objections that President Roosevelt now makes to remedial legislation by removing tariff donations to trusts. The trusts have forced him to join them in the condemnation of his own policy.

And the most humiliating part of this humiliation is that the condemnation is based on falsehood. The idea that the reduction of the tariff on tobacco and sugar in favor of Cuba would have destroyed either of those industries was an utter absurdity, and every sensible man in the land knew it. It is equally absurd to say that the removal of the tariff on trust-made goods which the trusts are now exporting to foreign countries and selling in competition with the world would ruin their industries. And yet President Roosevelt is driven to assume that position and make that false plea to the American people.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

Examples of Tariff Robbery.

Picture this little scene to yourself: An American housewife goes into a store and buys a pound of borax, paying 8 cents for it. As she turns away with her package another housewife comes in, buys two pounds of borax and is charged 5 cents for her purchase. "Why do you charge me 8 cents for one pound of borax and let that other woman have two pounds for 5 cents?" the American housewife demands. "Oh," answers the storekeeper, blandly, "she's English, you know.."

How long would that storekeeper, openly discriminating in favor of the foreign and against the native customer, be able to do business anywhere in the United States? Yet this transaction in borax illustrates perfectly what the trusts are doing on a colossal scale in the home and foreign markets.

The foreigner gets his American meat chopper for 75 cents, the American is charged $1.04. The American pays $11 for a fruit press, the foreigner gets it for $8.82. A hundred pounds of wire nails cost the American $2.05, the foreigner $1.30. A piano for which the American pays $375 is exported at $300. And here are the figures on sewing machines: No. 1 home price, $20, foreign price $13.25; No. 4 or 9, home price $25, foreign price $17.48. Typewriters which sell in the United States for $100 are sold abroad from $50 to $65. Barbed wire for fencing costs the American $2.90 the 100 pounds, the foreigner $2.25. The home price for wire rope is $9.70 the 100 feet, the export $3.12, or 211 per cent less.

Columns of the American could be filled with like extortions practiced upon the people under the protection of whose laws those trusts have been built up. It is the tariff, which shelters the monopolies from competition, that enables them to charge what they please at home while selling at fair prices to the foreigner, for in other countries rivals have to be met in the markets. How long will the American people tolerate this robbery?—Chicago American.

How to Get the Persimmon.

The lowest trust persimmon hangs about fifteen feet high. President Roosevelt stands under the tree jabbing and thrashing away at it with a nine-foot pole. You see the pole bend and you hear it whiz, but it fans the empty air. He never touches the persimmon. So long as the President continues his assault upon the trust persimmon with the nine-foot pole of a constitutional amendment, the owners of all the persimmons on the tree will continue to regard his operations with amused indifference. But if he should take up the long and effectual pole of tariff revision you would see them all begin to jump up and down and holler.—New York Times.

They Have Awaked Too Late.

Republican Senators and Congressmen are too late in learning that the American people demand a revision of the tariff. The record of the Fifty-seventh Congress in its first session makes it certain that the task of tariff revision will be intrusted to the Democratic party.—St. Louis Republic.

Germany's crown prince has become infatuated with the automobile. He is said to be a capable chauffeur and thoroughly understands the mechanism of the larger road and racing cars.

At Plougnastel, a small town in Brittany, all the weddings of the year are celebrated on one day. In February last thirty-four couples were married simultaneously.

Human nature is so constituted that all see and judge better in the affairs of other men than their own.—Terence.

Nothing is so great an instance of ill-manners as flattery.—Swift.