

## CAPITAL OUTDOES ROYALTY.

Some Considerations Pertaining to the Great Strike.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—And first, all condemn Pullman as the occasion of the strike—the same as Carnegie of the Homestead strike of a year or so ago. For a modicum of sense is enough to enable one to understand that these couldn't roll up such millions from the labor and sweat of others without these others coming short of their share. I argue from general principles that labor is oppressed and aggrieved, without going into details as to wages. For it, in the distribution of the proceeds of labor and the products of industry for the past quarter of a century, 25,000 or 30,000 families have raked in more than half of all the property of the country, is it not self-evident that someone else has not got his share and that a vast many others have been suchered in the division? There can be no other conclusion. For suppose the 30,000 had got the whole instead of only half, where would the other 60 millions of people have been left? Without a cent, of course. And so, measurably, when the 30,000 capitalists receive half the swag, somebody else must come short and be monstrously underpaid. And that's what's the matter. One party can't take the whole and leave the other enough under any process of reasoning you may employ.

Again, the census of 1870, showed a product of the manufactures of the country of about 1,800 million dollars, of which labor got a certain share and capital the rest. But the census of 1880 showed a gross product increased to near 6 billion dollars. Now, did labor get its proportionate share or increase of this? Not much. It only got a slightly-increased percentage, while capital scooped in an increase of 300 per cent. or 5 to 1. No wonder there are thousands of millionaires in the protected industries of the country, from 100 to 200 in each of the cities of Cleveland, Pittsburg and Chicago, made such by the aid and assistance of the government, and whole streets of them in Providence, R. I., bred of government legislation, while their tollers live from hand to mouth, accumulating nothing from year to year, and not one in a hundred is enabled to own the house he or she inhabits. And this is to be among the virtues growing out of the strike, as out of the Coxy demonstration, to call the attention of our authorities and of the people to the condition of things in the country and secure a correction of evils. That there are evils, and serious ones that have produced such a state of affairs all now admit. Even the Kansas City Star, a regular old-party organ, is moved at last to say that, "Abuses have crept into the American system of government which must be eradicated. It has been claimed of late years that fraudulent accumulations and aggregations of wealth are as inviolable as the fair rewards of thrift and enterprise. Stocks have been watered. Wealth has been padded out to unnatural proportions. The wage-earners have been squeezed in order to pay dividends on fictitious stock, and the public has been fleeced to meet the same unfair purpose."

"The time has come when the water must be squeezed out. The artificial values must be wiped away. The quasi-public corporations, to use the language of the supreme court of the United States, must be made to conform to the same principles of justice which govern private business. They must be content to earn fair dividends on the actual value of their plants. Railroads in the hands of receivers and others which

ought to be must be "reorganized" on a basis of actual values. Manufacturers and business men must be content with fair remuneration for their efforts and their capital without the false stimulant of government protection, either in the way of bounty or the delegation of "sovereignty" in the guise of public franchises.

"It is only under this revised order of things that the workingmen will no longer be confronted with the constant sense of oppression which, more than all other considerations, is at the bottom of strikes and boycotts. While every general menace to industry and traffic must be put down, the root of the evil must also be attacked—not in a spasmodic, nervous, excitable way, but in a determined, rational and peaceful movement against the fatal theories of legislation which are responsible for trusts, monopolies and legitimized extortion."

How the American people have departed from the theory and philosophy of the fathers and founders of our institutions—have ignored and repudiated their designs and all their intents and purposes in the organization of the republic! If any one idea was uppermost in their minds in the framing of our institutions, it was the idea of man as man, disassociated from his worldly condition and uninfluenced by his surroundings. All were to be regarded as alike made in the image of the godhead and, therefore, entitled to equal consequence and consideration whether arrayed in a broadcloth coat with silk stockings or with no coat or stockings at all. Clemens' speech on the death of Carnot reflected the idea of the fathers. True, a small element, represented by Hamilton, Fisher, Ames and a few others, discounted such socialistic theories and denounced them as demagoguery. But these were set down upon pretty hard and the democratic spirit of equality became dominant as every man became a ruler and a sovereign. The genius of the age was represented in the inauguration of President Jefferson, riding to the capital on horseback, hitching the animal to a picket and going in and taking the oath and riding away unheralded and unannounced. Whereas, the inauguration dinner and ball of a modern president is modeled after and rivals those of a European monarch, while the flunkeyism of the men and the flummery and fineries of the women in attendance are a close imitation of the ridiculous social systems of the Old World which Jefferson and his school aimed to discountenance and discourage. It is history, that at the first social parties of President Washington, those who organized the arrangements had him and Mrs. Washington perched upon a platform at one end of the room, which all approached and then made their devoirs to the occupants in imitation of the czar or pope. But this aping of royalty struck the average American offensively and was soon abandoned. Of course the toadies of aristocracy were disgusted at such deference to the demands of the common herd; but the initiated throng went the way of all such gew-gaws, all the same. But we have very largely revived them, till our capital out-does royalty in its base and vulgar aping of the latter, and the spirit of the fathers seems deadened in that devotion to display and pretention marks the age while man and the government that represents him is indifferent to the wants and the welfare of his fellow and leaves him as in monarchical governments to shift for himself, even though he become the victim of the shrewd and cunning or of wealth and power. If the 25,000 or 30,000 families whom we have referred to

succeed by and through the drag-net of bonds, mortgages, securities and titles in securing the entire property of the country, the garishness of wealth and display will not have the same rest for the American people as now. And we shall have time between meals to sympathize with the strikers and their families and with Coxy and his armies. For many who little dream to-day that deprivation can overtake them, will find themselves right there.

A LINN COUNTY FARMER.

Don't Tax Industry.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—The ADVOCATE recently had an editorial advocating the abolition of the tariff, the government ownership of railroads, telegraphs and telephones a tax upon large estates and legacies, a graduated income tax, and a tax upon unoccupied lands, as a means of removing some of the fruitful sources of the concentration of wealth.

It is unnecessary and unjust to tax industry in any form. If we remove all taxes, direct and indirect, and other restrictions from industry, and raise all revenue by a direct tax on the value of land, regardless of whether it is used or not, those who now hold valuable land out of use for speculative purposes would be encouraged to put it to use or sell to somebody who did want to use it. The whole field of natural unused resources would thus be thrown open to labor. All labor then could find profitable employment, and with the ownership of such monopolies by the government as the railroads, telephones and telegraphs, and with a currency issued by the general government direct to the people, it would be unnecessary to tax the rich man to prevent him from oppressing labor. Under such a system as above described, the man of large income could receive it only by the employment of many laborers, and as labor would be free to employ itself, the man who employed labor would be forced to pay the laborer as much as he could make working for himself, so, then, the man who received a large income would be a benefit to the whole community. No industry should not be restricted in any manner. An income tax is a tax on industry, and to that extent a restriction on industry. Free production and exchange, then other reforms will be easy.

J. S. LEWIS.

St. Louis, Mo.

Lincoln on Capital and Labor.

(From President Abraham Lincoln's message to the second session of the Thirty-seventh congress to be found in the appendix to the Congressional Globe of the Thirty-seventh congress, second edition, page 4.)

Monarchy itself is sometimes hinted at as a possible refuge from the power of the people. In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit raising a warning voice against this approach of returning despotism. It is not needed nor fitting here that a general argument should be made in favor of popular institutions, but there

is one point with its connections not so hackneyed as most others to which I ask a brief attention. It is the effort to place capital on an equal footing with, if not above, labor in the structure of government. It is assumed that labor is available only in connection with capital, that nobody labors unless somebody else owning capital somehow by the use of it induces him to labor. \* \* \* Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration. \* \* \* No man living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty; none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned. Let them beware of surrendering a political power which they already possess, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them till all of liberty shall be lost.

## THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO, July 16, 1894.

WHEAT—Cash, 50½ cents; Sept., 57½ cents; Dec., 60½ cents.  
Corn—Cash, 43½ cents; Sept., 43½ cents; Dec., 39½ cents.  
OATS—Cash, 35½ cents; Sept., 39½ cents.  
PORE—Cash \$11.70.

## LIVE STOCK.

KANSAS CITY, July 16, 1894.

CATTLE—Shipping steers, \$1.80@4.75; native cows, \$1.30@2.90; stockers and feeders, \$2.00@2.75; bulls, \$1.30@2.50.  
HOGS—Bulk of sales, \$4.75@4.80; lights, yorkers and pigs, \$4.50@4.75.

## HORSES.

W. S. Tough & Son, managers of the Kansas City Stock Yards horse and mule department, report:

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Extra draft, 4 to 7 years   | \$100 00 @ \$195 00 |
| Good draft, " "             | 60 00 " 90 00       |
| Extra drivers, " "          | 100 00 " 175 00     |
| Good drivers, " "           | 65 00 " 90 00       |
| Saddle good to extra        | 75 00 " 175 00      |
| Southern mares and geldings | 35 00 " 75 00       |
| Western range, unbroken     | 30 00 " 50 00       |
| Western ponies              | 12 50 " 20 00       |

## MULES.

Market fairly active. A little more movement in all grades. Prices steady at quotations.

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1½, 4 to 7 years, extra   | \$45 00 @ \$60 00 |
| 14 " " " good             | 35 00 " 50 00     |
| hands 4 to 7 years, extra | 75 00 " 90 00     |
| 15 " " " good             | 70 00 " 80 00     |
| 15½ " " " extra           | 100 00 " 130 00   |
| 15 " " " good             | 90 00 " 100 00    |
| 16 to 16½, good to extra  | 100 00 " 185 00   |

## CHICAGO SHEEP PELT MARKET.

CHICAGO, July 13, 1894.

P. C. Porter, 123 Michigan street, Chicago reports as follows:

Wool and skins are beginning to move again. Values are on so low a basis that prices have not fallen off very much during the late strikes. Quotations are to some extent nominal, but sales can be made at about the following prices:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Best green, salted wool skins (estimated for the wool)   | 15c to 19c |
| Fine and country wool skins (estimated for the wool)     | 13c to 15c |
| Best full wool butcher dry flint, western skins, per lb. | 5c to 8c   |
| Good average lots, per lb.                               | 5c to 6c   |
| Shearings, each  | 10c to 20c |
| Lamb skins, each   | 15c to 30c |
| Common bright wool                                       | 10c to 13c |
| Common bright wool, western                              | 8c to 10c  |
| Quarter and three-eighths bright wool                    | 10c to 15c |
| Quarter and three-eighths bright wool western            | 11c to 14c |
| Fine and one-half blood bright wool                      | 9c to 13c  |
| Fine and one-half blood bright wool, western             | 8c to 12c  |

The stock of wool is fair, but of pelts small. Good wool skins can be sold on arrival.

**HORSES** YORK HORSE FOOT LINIMENT **FEET.**  
will cure your horses feet. Try it. Costs only \$1.00 for a quart bottle. Ask your druggist for it. Circulars free. Address, YORK HORSE FOOT LINIMENT CO., 1231 MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO.

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