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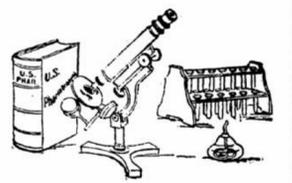
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TUESDAY, NOV. 23RD, 1897.

DAMAGES FOR BLACKLISTING.

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—Fred R. Ketcham, a blacklisted freight train conductor, a friend of Eugene V. Debs, and a former member of the American Railway Union, was to-day awarded a verdict for \$21,666.33 damages against the Chicago and Northwestern Railway. He averred he was put on the blacklist of every railroad in the country.

A score of similar suits, it is said, will be begun by former employees, who assert that every means of gaining a livelihood were taken from them after the strike, through the powerful Vanderbilt influence.

When the American Railway Union members were called out to support the Pullman strike in July, 1894, Ketcham gave up his freight train. Traffic on the Northwestern was tied up for a week.

All the strikers were dismissed, and when they applied to other roads they found their names on a blacklist.

After struggling two years to obtain steady employment, Ketcham entered suit against the railway company for \$25,000 damages. The case has been on trial for three weeks, and has been closely watched by railway employees and officials all over the country.

The main question before the jury was whether the corporation had entered into a conspiracy with other and similar corporations to prevent Ketcham from earning a living.

The chief witness for Ketcham was Andrew Stader, an employee of the railway company. He testified that T. B. Lawrence, superintendent of Wisconsin division, and E. E. Osborn, attorney for the company, had attempted to bribe him to evade service of the court and not testify to the facts in the case.

A warrant was asked for these officials. Judge Clifford at the time refused the request and the matter is still pending. The judge said he would make an investigation after the case was sent to the jury.

Many witnesses for both sides were heard during the trial, and at each session of court the room was crowded with men who claimed to have been deprived of work in the same manner as Ketcham.

The case was tried once before and the jury disagreed.

The present case, although it will be appealed, is a decisive one, and the final outcome will be watched by railroad employees and corporations. The decision of the jury established an important precedent, as it gives to laboring men the right to declare themselves in times of strikes and other labor differences. Probably out of the twenty-seven railroads entering Chicago, there is only one which will not be directly affected by the decision in Ketcham's case.

All during the trial at least one former director of the A. R. U. was among the interested listeners of the proceedings.

Ketcham testified he found employment with other roads, only to be in a short time discharged. No reason was given.

Not long ago Ketcham obtained employment with the Michigan Central Elevator Company, at Kensington, and moved his family to that suburb. He worked a short time there and was

discharged.
 "I am more than satisfied with the verdict," declared Attorney Strong, as he made his way out of the court room, to be at once caught up by a great crowd of railroad men, all anxious to shake his hand.

"The men composing this jury were all business men with the exception of one, a driver for an express company. The railroad authorities cannot raise the cry that the damages were awarded by a crowd of union men. Within the month I shall push each of the fifty similar claims which are now in my hands, and every railroad entering Chicago with two exceptions will figure as defendants. The two exceptions are now in the hands of receivers.

"If I were the state's attorney I would send a number of these railway managers to prison. The evidence of bribery in this case is apparent. These acts have been those of criminal persecution.

"Ketcham came down to hear this jury's verdict with \$1.60 in his pocket and between his family and starvation. He was ordered to leave his home for non-payment of rent more than two weeks ago. He has been kept out of work—even losing a job with an elevator company, the railroad officials causing his dismissal.

"I am satisfied with the damages accorded me," said Ketcham. "I sued for \$25,000 and the verdict certainly shows the justice of my claims."

"The appellate court will never sustain this decision," said an attorney for the defense.

The verdict is in line with the recent decision of Judges Sanborn and Thayer, of the United States Court of Appeals, in St. Louis, that a boycott placed upon a certain firm by union labor is illegal. In that case labor placed the boycott, in this case it has been the victim.

BRUTAL SPORTS.

If there is anything of which there is an abundance in this world it is inconsistency. Not infrequently we hear from the press, the rostrum and the pulpit, denunciations of pugilistic combats, bull-fights and the like, and those who attend out of curiosity as well as the participants of the frays are stigmatized as brutes. Yet at the gymnasiums of Christian associations, and of colleges, religious and otherwise, we find apparatuses for exercise of the young students fistic propensities. All colleges that make any pretense at being prominent must have a football team. The student now-a-days covets a place on the football eleven in preference to the honor of valedictorian, and the more dexterous he can be in disabling his opponent the more secure is he of his position. If the game was free of danger only when opposing college teams meet casualties would be less frequent but the practice games too are dangerous to life and limb. While in the past year only one matador was killed by Spanish bull-fights, a four months' record of the American football reports 8 killed, 16 permanently injured, 120 seriously injured, and 130 minor casualties. The author of this report says that the above does not represent one-twentieth of the casualties of the past year.

The following from the New York World will give some idea how a football game is played.

"On Oct. 8, 1896, in the game between the Denver Athletic team and the Kansas University eleven, Mosse, a Kansas player, deliberately fell on John Good with his knees after Good had called 'down.' Good was carried from the game with the life nearly crushed out of him and was ill for several days.

During the same game 'Donnybrook Fair' tactics were used throughout. In the first minute of the play Harry Heller emerged from a scrimmage with blood streaming from his mouth, where he had been hit by a Kansas fist. 'Slugging' was so common in the first half of this game that the umpire had to overlook it altogether to keep enough men in the game. Several times players on top of the scrimmages were seen viciously to lunge underneath, where it was 'supposed' a head or stomach should be.

Rev. Moody and the Sunday dailies are at war with one another. Moody denounces the Sunday issues as immoral for Sunday reading and states that he does not read them, while the dailies declare Moody incompetent to judge of papers he does not read.

CURRENT COMMENTS ON POLITICS.

STOP QUARRELING.

If some of our populist brethren who are now indulging in mutual criticism and redimination would drop their tomahawks for the present and indulge in a little meditation and sober reflection, to try to find out where they are at, it would be vastly better, we think for all concerned.

We had hoped that all strife between the fusionists and anti-fusionists could have been left severely alone until convention times, until a representative state convention could pass on the final fate of the party. But we understand that already zealous efforts are made by the two factions to gather for the fray.

THE DIFFICULTY.

From what we can gather from one source and another it appears that the alliance populist element favors the anti-fusion side of the cause. But the fusionists urge that to adopt the middle of the road course is simply to play into the hands of the republicans. And it is of course an argument of a good deal of force in certain quarters.

On the other hand if the fusion program be adopted, and the people's party merge bodily into the democratic party then the republican party can and will go before the public and urge that we are democrats, and nothing else, and use all the old democratic blunders of the past against us.

ORDINARY MEN CAN'T AFFORD TO MIDDLE WITH POLITICS.

We talk glibly about freedom of conscientious opinion on public matters. But it is only a dream. Let any man no matter how excellent a citizen take sides in politics, and provided this cause is strong and his influence of some weight, his political opponents will use every dirty means to down him in business and every other way. Hence few able men can afford to meddle with politics unless they go into it as a matter of gain. And in the latter case they lower themselves to the level with the average politicians.

HOW THIS REPUBLIC DIFFERS FROM A MONARCHY.

In a monarchy the reigning family governs the country mainly for their own glory and profit. The people simply watches the trend of policies pursued and adopt themselves to make the best of circumstances. In this republic two parties takes shifts by turn to govern the country for the benefit of their respective office holding class, and the ordinary business people will have to content themselves with watching and guessing which party is apt to be in power, and adopt their business accordingly. Business in this country is really nothing but a speculation based on what monetary and tariff policy will prevail at the quadrennial national elections. The man that can foresee the result and adjust his business accordingly makes a fortune, and vice versa.

THE PROOF OF THE VIEW.

In proof of this we only need point out a few events of this decade. As an example of the enormous profits on bond deals under Cleveland's administration may be cited. The Morgans and Rothschilds knew of the approaching panic, repeal of the Sherman law and treasury deficit were coming and laid their plans for a harvest. The still greater profits made by importers at present in anticipation of the Dingley bill is another case in point. In a few years we shall have another change in the tariff law and the monetary policy and these same parties will reap another harvest. Don't be surprised if Wall street and the importers support free silver and low tariff in 1900. They'll angle their game with the low tariff on a silver hook, just as lief as with a high tariff on a gold hook. C. J.

When a man enlists in the regular army he bids farewell to manhood and all rights assured to American citizens under the constitution, and becomes a slave, a dog, a but for abuse and persecution of every petty tyrant who happens to wear a stripe on his coat sleeve, and has absolutely no redress. A case in point is the outrage recently perpetrated on a private sol-

dier at Fort Sheridan, Chicago, who was dragged by the feet through the barrack yard, while his superior officer followed and jabbed him with his sword and kicked him in the face. A court martial exonerated the officer from all blame, and now one of the witnesses at the court martial, Corporal New, has been reduced to the ranks for telling what he knew at the investigation. We may well tremble for the manhood of our citizen soldiery when such abuses are permitted and upheld, and when persecution can follow unrebuked to those who dare to speak the truth.—Clinton Advocate.

Morris Sun (Rep.): The result of the recent elections discloses a sentiment that would be folly for the national administrations to disregard, for it denotes dissatisfaction. Positive and distinct platform promises were made that tariff legislation should be for the whole people, not for a favored class, but the protective principle was prostituted, its policy perverted and the new law as promised became when enacted, a measure for the benefit of the classes, not the masses, its excessive duties being an impost levied on the consumer for the benefit of the manufacturer. Reform legislation was expected; nothing of the kind so far given was either anticipated or demanded by the masses, and the recent elections showed that there was more that a falling off in the total vote cast, to be accounted for in the results.

It seems at present as if McKinley will join hands with Spain in giving the Cubans autonomy. The United States have looked upon the struggle for independence carried on but a stone's throw from our shore, and now, when the Cubans have reached a point by their own perseverance where Spain must "put up or shut up," it seems that our prosperity President will back Spain in making terms with Cuba. He says that war scares and belligerency revolutions disturb business, retard prosperity and do no good.

Some time ago Senator Ingalls was criticised by a clergyman for reporting prize fights and the Senator defended himself by showing how the clergyman was no better, because he read such reports. What will the clergyman do anyhow? If they do not read they are not capable to give advice and if they do read they sin like the rest of them.

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 Bruss, Miss Lidia
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 Frye, Chanley
 Gullikson, Miss Lina
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