SINGLE TAX DEPARTMENT.

THE DEVIL TO PAY.

The King was puzzled, for his treasury was empty, and he knew not how to fill it. While he pondered this mighty question of state, the devil came to him, not in a dream, but in sober earnest. And the devil, as is his habit, went at once to business.

"You are in trouble, sir," said he to the King; "shall I help you out of it?"

"No, thank you," replied the King, "you charge too much for your help. I do not forget that my father is still working out a debt to you which was beyond all proportion to your service."

"Yes," said the devil, "I did charge the old man about all the traffic would bear; but I have tried to be considerate, and although he is still working out the debt, let me assure you that his position is the most comfortable, in winter, in all my dominions. But that is beside the question. Your treasury is empty, and I can fill it. I will make no conditions. You may command me freely. What say you?"

"And has the devil turned saint?" the King inquired.

"Not by a long shot. I shall get my pay; though not from you, from your subjects."

"My subjects be ——."

"Stop!" interrupted the devil, "that sentiment is not original with you. It is the motto of my kingdom, and I won't permit it to be appropriated with impunity. Come, what do you say; shall I tell you how to fill your treasury?"

"Yes," the King whispered.

"Then, listen. All your subjects have plenty, have they not?"

"They have. There is not a poor man in my kingdom, except myself."

"How do they get it?"

"They work for it."

"Why do you allow them to work?"

"It is the command of God ——"

"Silence!" the devil screamed, his face purple with rage and his tail lashing the floor of the palace till the air was laden with sparks.

"Well, then," gasped the frightened king, "they would starve if I stopped them, and what good would that do me?"

"It would do you no good if they starved," the devil answered, as he gathered his tail under his left arm and opened the window to let out the stifling fumes. "But it would do you some good to charge them for working, wouldn't it? They would pay rather than starve, eh?"

"Good idea!" exclaimed the king.

"I thought so," said the devil. "Now, suppose you issue a proclamation that no one may work without a royal charter."

"Yes," the king interrupted, impatiently.

"And then suppose you sell charters to one man to work in a certain territory and to another man to work in another territory, and so on."

"Yes."

"And suppose you allow the owners of these charters to farm out the privileges under them."

"Yes."

"And suppose you issue no charters at all for some of the best territory; don't you see that you will get a lot of ready money from the sale of charters and have a permanent income from the territory reserved, and be favored with a wealthy leisure class in whose society you may enjoy yourself?

"Capital!" exclaimed the King, but before the word was out of his mouth the devil had vanished.

The King lost no time. Having issued his proclamation forbidding his beloved subjects to weary themselves with work, he sent for his attorney-general and ordered that functionary, on the basis of a contingent fee, to draft a form of charter. It read in substance like this: Be it known that his pious and gracious majesty, Impecunious X, having from love of his faithful subjects forbidden them to work without his command, does now, by these presents, confer upon his well-beloved Bylighote, lord of Towmaytokahn hill, his heirs and assigns forever, full power and authority to permit the good people of all that territory known as Quad, and bounded, etc., etc., etc., to work or not to work, as to him may seem best, and on such terms as to him may seem just. Signed, sealed, etc., etc., etc.

The proclamation caused an uproar among the people, for the seeding season was just opening; but when Lord Bylighote appeared with his charter in Quad, quiet was restored and terms were made. "I will give so much a year to be allowed to work," said one, and "I will give so much," said another. And in this way it went, until Lord Bylighote had arranged with all the people in his territory. And while Lord Bylighote was adjusting things in Quad, Lord This and Lord That and Lord Tother were doing the same in Quam and Quim and Qurl. And so it was that the King's treasury was full from the sale of charters, and the Lords, instead of working as they used to do, lived on what the people paid them for the privilege of being allowed to work, while the Attorney General's contingent fee was big enough to make a shyster respectable. And between them the King, the Lords and the Attorney General enjoyed their leisure amazingly.

But as the King's subjects increased a great many could not buy the right to work and had to hire themselves to those who could, and many of these could not find men to hire them, and many more found it easier to follow the example of the Kings and lords and live on plunder than either to buy the right to work or to hire themselves out. And it came about that there were paupers in the kingdom, which was something novel, since the King had theretofore been the only pauper; and there were criminals there, which was also novel, for when nobody had to pay to be allowed to work, and everybody got rich by working, no one ever thought of being a criminal.

In the course of time the king died and the lords died but the charters lived and new kings and new lords profited by them.

At last the people got so restless and made such grim threats that the lords were frightened, and when a rebellion was imminent the lords were on the point of burning up their charters. But this did not meet the views of the devil, and he put it into the heads of the people who were paying for the right to work to buy the right of their lords for a lump sum. Of course the lords were glad to compromise in this way, and it came about that each man who worked in a certain place bought the right of his lord to work there forever, him and his children after him, and to sell the right to others. It took a good many years to complete this change but when it was done the devil rubbed his hands and switched his tail gently, now this way and now that, saying: "Surely the devil will be to pay!"

And it was so.

Some of the purchasers from the lords found that where they had the right to work they could make a good deal with only a little effort, and others found that where they had the right to work they could only make a little with great effort: and thus it happened that the first and those who bought of them grew rich and the others remained poor. And those that grew rich did just what the lords had done before them; they sold permission to work to the poor who had no charters, and this proved so profitable that they were able themselves to obey the old proclamation against working and yet to live in great comfort. Like the lords from whom they had bought, they were lazy and happy.

But the people were constantly begging to be allowed to work, and the more they begged the less attention was paid to them. And when they did get a chance to work they were not allowed to receive, no matter where they worked or how much they made, any more than the people who had charters to work in the very poorest places in the kingdom. And that was little enough, as every body knew.

Withal the people increased and multiplied, and to help them out of their trouble they invented great machines, which did marvelous work; but neither the people nor the machines could work without permission of a charter owner, and the more the people worked and the more marvelous their machines the more the charter owners charged them for the right to work, until even the machines fell into the hands of a few, and the people could not make new ones, because charters to work had become so valuable that except in the very poorest places only the few were able to buy the right to work, and the poor were trying to hire themselves out. And so it appeared that, happen what might to make work easier and more fruitful, the charter owners got all the benefit.

In these days a prophet arose who told the people that the charter owners had no right to forbid them to work nor any right to make them pay for working. But the charter owners railed at the prophet as a devil (the devil having put it into their heads to do so), saying, "Have we not bought and paid for these charters?"

And then arose a priest who, seeing how the people were oppressed and robbed by the charters, denounced the charters and demanded that they be abolished; but the devil ordered the priest to be put down, and he was put down.

And yet every one marveled that there were so many poor and that the poor increased. But the priests taught that it was not marvelous, for God willed it, whereat the devil again rubbed his hands together and gently switched his tail, now this way, now that, saying to himself, "It won't be long now until the devil is to pay!"

And he was right.

Pretty soon everything was in readiness, and from advising King, and lord and charter owner the devil turned to advising the poor.

"See how the rich revel in the wealth you have created!" he said to them. "Why do you not burn and murder and pillage? Is there no manhood in you? Are you slaves?"

But at first the people protested that they were opposed to murder and pillage, and asked why they should not abolish the charters, as the prophet and priest advised, which would need neither murder nor pillage.

"Away with your prophet and your priest!" shouted the devil. "They are in league with the rich. Make no halfway measures! Let there be no compromise! Lay waste! Lay waste! See, I will set you an example," and with that the devil touched the tip of his tail to the palace of a charter owner and instantly it was ablaze; and then the devil's scheme, so patiently planned, culminated. Like rats from their holes rushed a million debased and desperate men. Half famished and all in rags, aiming at nothing and caring for nothing, spurred on by revenge, hitting right and left, burning, killing, plundering, they laid waste the land.

The devil was indeed to pay!

LEWIS FREELAND.

PANIC IN WALL STREET.

The Stock Exchange Greatly Excited Over a Sudden Fall in Stocks—A Prominent Broker Drops Dead on the Floor.

NEW YORK, Nov. 11.—A flood of alarming cables from London and Paris, predicting disaster in the markets there this week, caused a panicky feeling in the Stock Exchange.

The declines since Saturday afternoon were the largest ever seen over night, and the losses of fractional amounts were exceptions, drops of from 1 to 3½ per cent., the latter in New England, covering nearly the whole active list.

The trading reached enormous figures, but as the bottom seemed to have dropped entirely out of the market there came a more quiet feeling toward the close of the hour, and some stocks actually recovered a portion of the early loss, C. C. C. & St. L., which had dropped 4½ per cent. to 55, rising to 58. The market, however, remained in an extremely feverish and unsettled condition, and at 11 o'clock, while it was less active, it was weak at or near the lowest prices for most of the stocks on the list.

At noon James Struthers, a leading broker, was attacked by apoplexy and fell on the floor of the exchange. A stretcher was brought in but in a few minutes he was dead and business was suspended until 12:30 p. m. The body lay on the floor surrounded by the brokers for some time. Not a word was spoken but the brokers with uncovered heads waited for the officials to act. They had an unwelcome task to perform. On the last and only other occasion when death entered the exchange business was at once suspended the rest of the day, but on account of the situation yesterday the officials could not close the exchange. At 12:30 business was resumed. Then the decline was renewed with increasing rapidity, and the lowest prices of the day followed. Money was in urgent demand in the loan crowd and ¼ per cent. premium in addition to legal interest was bid.

FOR IRELAND.

Enthusiastic Reception of Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien at New York—A Large Fund Subscribed.

NEW YORK, Nov. 11.—Rarely has the Metropolitan Opera House held such an audience as it did last night when the Irish societies of the city of New York gave a public reception to Messrs. O'Connor, O'Brien, Dillon, Sullivan, Harrington and Gill. There were about 4,000 people in the house, 3,200 seated and the remainder on the platform and standing. An Irish flag was hung on either side of the first balcony and the background of the stage was formed by two American flags with a golden harp pointed on a square of green in the center. The Sixth regiment band was early in attendance and played Irish airs during the evening.

Governor Hill presided, and many prominent men were on the stage. Governor Hill introduced Mr. Dillon who was received with great applause and addressed the audience, in which he stated that the object of the visit to this country was to appeal to the people of America to assist the Irish people to attain the right to make their own laws and administer the same.

Governor Hill next introduced Mr. O'Brien, who met with a reception as cordial as any that had been accorded during the evening. He said that he was gratified and astonished at the welcome that had been given him and his compatriots. "We come here," he continued, "not for a begging fund, but for a fighting fund. [Cheers.] We want to fight this system that has made the famine and we want to crush it."

The secretary of the Parliamentary fund then announced that the total amount subscribed was: Receipts from the door, $4,000; subscriptions in the hall, $33,000. Mr. Eugene Kelly was appointed treasurer of the fund.

Governor Hill said he would like to contribute when the delegates visited Albany, but he, however, would subscribe $100 on the spot. He then introduced Mr. Thomas Power O'Connor, M. P., who spoke briefly. This ended the proceedings.

THE NEBRASKA ELECTION.

The Alliance Men Claim That Their Candidate Has Been Elected Governor.

LINCOLN, Neb., Nov. 11.—The Republican State Central Committee has about concluded that the face of the returns will show that Richards, the Republican candidate for Governor, is defeated by a small plurality, and that Boyd, the Democratic candidate, is elected by less than one-third the votes polled at the last election. The committee claim, however, the election of the entire Republican ticket beside. The Independent State Central Committee does not concede any thing. They had the most complete organization in the late campaign, and claim that they were able to calculate within a few thousands the vote they should have received. They claim that the face of the returns will show the election of Powers as Governor, or that there has been fraud at the polls, and are already taking steps to contest the election, if Boyd, the Democratic candidate, should appear to be ahead. The contest will be tried by the Legislature in joint session, with the Speaker presiding, and as the Legislature is overwhelmingly independent it is safe to say that Powers will have the benefit of the doubt, if doubt exists. It is almost certain, therefore, no inauguration of Governor will take place until after the Legislature has canvassed the returns and ascertained who has been duly elected.

McKEEVER'S REPORT.

Military Colleges and Desertions the Subjects Treated.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Acting Adjutant-General McKeever in his annual report to the Secretary of War devotes much space to the subject of military colleges. He says that the reports of officers performing the duties of professors of military science and tactics at the universities and colleges, give gratifying evidence of the increasing interest manifested by the college authorities in such a course of studies and exercises. The average number of students over 15 years of age attending those institutions during the past scholastic year was 11,649, of whom 811 attended artillery drills and 5,040 infantry drills. He declares, however, that the best results will not be obtained until each university or college favored with an army detail makes military drills and instruction compulsory upon all male students of proper age physically able, and in addition provides adequate facilities for indoor drills during the winter months.

Comment is made upon the fact that European officers' quarters are heated at Government expense, and it is recommended that a reasonable allowance for fuel be allowed our own officers.

General McKeever says he is convinced that the real primary cause of desertion is the almost certain immunity of the offender from arrest. The present reward of $30 for the arrest of a deserter has proved totally inadequate, as is abundantly proved by the very small percentage of arrests, compared to the number of desertions. He therefore recommends that the present reward be increased to $100, which he says is a sum that in many cases, after the reduction of the expenses incident to arrest, holding, and delivery will only fairly compensate the civil officer or citizen making the arrest. It is also urged that Congress make provision for increasing the pay of non-commissioned officers. He says the pay now attached to the several grades of this class of officers is not only without incentive to the men best fitted for the position, but the very acceptance of that position works pecuniary loss, as compared with the pay received by the men in the ranks who are employed on such pay.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

What Has Been Done to Relieve Distressed Bankers—Further Measures Under Consideration.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Secretary Windom said yesterday that his latest information from Wall street was that the situation was improving, with indications that the worst was over. He declined to say whether the Treasury Department would or would not do any thing for the relief of the money market, but admitted that he was giving the matter serious consideration. The department, he added, stood ready to redeem 4½ per cent. bonds to the extent of its resources, but was not ready to make any overtures to the holders of 4 per cent. bonds.

The Secretary said further that the recent heavy disbursements had reduced the available surplus to $9,000,000, and it was a question in his mind whether this small working balance could be still further reduced with safety to the business of the department. It was true that the National banks held $22,000,000 of public funds, but he did not care to disturb these deposits at present.

In explanation of the small surplus the Secretary said during the period from July 9 last (the date of the circular inviting the sale of bonds) to October 31, there were disbursed from the Treasury $100,000,000 through the purchase of bonds and interest payments and $50,000,000 on account of pension payments, which, together with the issue of nearly $13,000,000 in new notes for the purchase of silver, made the total amount of money put into circulation $163,000,000. "These dispursements," said he, "were $70,000,000 in excess of the total receipts during the same time and I venture the assertion that there never were before in times of peace such heavy payments in the same space of time."

SENSATIONAL SUICIDE.

On Being Accused of Embezzlement a Prominent Kansas City Business Man Kills Himself.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 12.—Driven to desperation by an accusation of crime, and overwhelmed by business perplexities, Shelby Jones, the well known merchant and member of the Hall & Willis Hardware Co., took his own life last night at 10:30 o'clock at his residence, 410 Aldine place.

It was only half an hour before that he was charged by Mr. Hobbs, a stockholder in the firm of Hall & Willis, with a shortage of almost $75,000 in the management of his firm's affairs.

Selby Jones ended his life with a revolver. He sent the fatal bullet crashing through his right temple.

Mr. T. F. Willis, president of the company, was seen at an early hour this morning. Mr. Willis was loth to talk. He was afraid of making some statement that would cast a suspicion of criminality upon the dead and a slur of infamy upon his family. He admitted having opinions on the matter, but refused to state what such opinions were and upon what facts they were based. The refusal was a virtual admission that Jones, in Mr. Willets' belief, was a defaulter.

"We have reason to believe," Mr. Willis said, "that Mr. Jones was short in his accounts to the company $100,000. I do not know to a moral certainty of any shortage."

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Report of Secretary Rusk—Increase Export Trade in Cattle—Suggestions to Bring Agriculture to the Front.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—The Secretary of Agriculture has presented his annual report to the President. He expresses a distinctly hopeful view of agricultural affairs, indicating the obvious benefits to farmers of certain legislation which he specifies. By comparing prices at Chicago for October 16, 1890, and of 1889, he shows a marked increase in the value of agricultural products, especially of cereals. He asserts that without ignoring the effects of natural causes in enhancing values, it is evident that the economic legislation of the last session of Congress has directly benefited the farmer, the improved value of cereals as he believes, being largely due to the silver legislation, which, moreover, has lessened the influence of Russia and India, America's wheat competitors in British markets.

The increased export trade in cattle and animal products, another cause of congratulation, Mr. Rusk traces to the energetic and effective measures adopted for the eradication of pleuro-pneumonia, and to the growing appreciation at home and abroad of the department's ability to suppress or effectually control contagious animal diseases. In the line of further precaution, the department is now prepared to carry out inspection of export cattle before shipment, provided for by the act of August 30. Similar energy has been directed to the pork interests, the department having already undertaken the inspection called for by the same act. The Secretary strongly recommends an inspection still more comprehensive of all animals slaughtered for Inter-State or foreign trade. The present immunity of Northern cattle from Texas fever he believes to be due to a general compliance with the regulations of the department issued last spring.

The outlook for a home sugar industry is considered favorable. The Secretary predicts that in the near future half of the sugar will be thus supplied from the sugar beet. In the provisions of the tariff bill he finds what he regards as some glaring inconsistencies in that it gives entire control of sugar manufacturing and bounty payments to a subordinate officer of the Treasury Department in spite of the fact that heretofore the Department of Agriculture has been charged with the general supervision of the sugar industry, both in its culture and manufacturing phases.

The production of raw silk as an indigenous industry is referred to in not very encouraging terms, though its importance is emphasized by reference to the imports of raw silk, which have largely increased during the year and are valued for the year at upward of $24,000,000, but the necessity for favorable legislation, as well as for improvements in machinery, is insisted upon. He also believes that the recent changes in the tariff on linens will serve to encourage manufacturers to provide a market for home grown flax.

The possibility of serving the corn growers throughout the country by extending the market for Indian corn in foreign countries, has engaged the Secretary's attention with the result that he has appointed a special agent abroad, having special qualifications for this duty, to investigate and report upon the possibilities of promoting the consumption of Indian corn in European countries.

The frequent occurrence of important international agricultural gatherings is mentioned and the fact is pointed out that at these the United States, the greatest agricultural country in the world, is most frequently conspicuous by its absence.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Call of the President For Prayer, Praise and Charity.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—The President has issued a proclamation designating Thursday, November 27, as a day of thanksgiving. It is as follows:

A PROCLAMATION.

By the grace and favor of Almighty God, the people of this Nation have been led to the closing days of the passing year, which has been full of the blessings of peace and the comforts of plenty. Bountiful compensation has come to us for the work of our minds and of our hands in every department of human industry.

Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States of America, do hereby appoint Thursday, the 27th day of the present month of November, to be observed as a day of prayer and thanksgiving, and I do invite the people upon that day to cease from their labors, to meet in their accustomed houses of worship, and to join in rendering gratitude and praise to our beneficent Creator for the rich blessings He has granted us as a Nation, and invoking the continuance of His protection and grace for the future. I commend to my fellow citizens the privilege of remembering the poor, the homeless and the sorrowful. Let us endeavor to merit the promised recompense of charity and the gracious acceptance of our praise.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed. Done in the City of Washington this eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and fifteenth.

By the President. BENJAMIN HARRISON.
JAMES G. BLAINE, Secretary of State.

At the Muzzle of a Gun.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Nov. 9.—Stanisloff Virchofsky, a young Pole, stabbed his father, Josef Virchofsky, in the abdomen during a quarrel Monday night at Perth Amboy, inflicting a wound from the effects of which the wounded man died. The murderer fled, but was arrested later near Woodbridge. He resisted, but was finally taken into custody at the muzzle of a gun and lodged in jail here. He says his father murdered his mother in Poland.