

The Advocate

VOL. VI, NO. 17.
\$1.00 A YEAR.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, APRIL 25, 1894.

OFFICIAL STATE PAPER.

FROM WASHINGTON

A VOICE APPEALS TO LOYALTY AND PATRIOTISM.

Will Kansas Lend a Helping Hand "To Save the Nation's Soul Alive?"

Washington Correspondence.

It is no longer a question as to whether or not Mr. Coxe's Commonwealthers will come to Washington. They are coming; and the question now is what sort of reception will they have. The police force is being increased, and the militia "street riot drill" goes on, and the police officials persist in their determination to treat the commonwealthers as vagrants. There will be a mass meeting of citizens Saturday evening to make preparations for a friendly reception, for despite the hostile tone of the two principal daily papers, and notwithstanding the fact that the police officers have roused the fears of citizens lest the "mob following the army" may commit depredations, there is much favorable sentiment, and very general insistence that the commonwealthers have a right to come and should be protected in that right.

These are solemn times. There is a tense expectancy, no one knows of what. It may be tragedy and woe unspeakable, or it may be a safe transit through the darkest hour which precedes the dawn of a far brighter day than the world has ever known. I incline strongly to the latter view. So many people are intellectually and spiritually prepared for that radical change of conditions which would lend a hand to the helpless.

Within the past twelve months the country has had two of the greatest object lessons ever offered for the education of a nation. Grover Cleveland's malicious and baleful lesson came first and led up to J. S. Coxe's beneficent and humane spectacular lesson. Cleveland vs. Coxe. Plutocracy vs. the people. The old vs. the new. Paternalism vs. fraternalism. Bayonets vs. ballots. Millionaireism vs. pauperism—these are the forces arrayed in mortal combat. The contest is coming to close quarters. It is absolutely impossible for the present abnormal, unholy conditions to continue. It is becoming clearer every day that nothing adequate can be done to bring relief without an enlargement and recasting of old ideas of the functions of government. It must be conceded that governments are made for men and not men for governments. Old beliefs and superstitions must give way. They must not longer bar the way of rescue to the perishing. These flibustering, rule-juggling, backward-looking obstruction-

ists up here in the capitol must enlarge their pigmy ideas and change their picaresque methods, and venture into such statesman-like and precedent-making legislation as will put work in the hands and hope in the hearts of the millions of unemployed American sovereigns. (I dote on that word sovereign. I like to bring sharp to the sight of man the absurd distance between the theory and the actuality of American government.) Every foot-sore, ragged, hard-handed, hollow-eyed man who is marching hitherward with Coxe's commonwealth is in theory a sovereign whose ballot the public servant angles for, but whose petition he jeers and scoffs. And under the present system of caucuses, of congressional committees, of rules of the house, of senatorial courtesy, of presidential vetoes, and the devious other ways for procrastinating, and for shifting blame from party to party, from house to senate; there is no remedy, and there need be no hope; for, corporate brigandage has captured all the machinery and clogged, and belted, and oiled it after full legal fashion, so that it will turn out no work save their own.

There is but one remedy and that is for the people to recapture the machinery and remodel it on the "direct legislation" plan. Direct legislation would eliminate partyism, would de-throne hero-worship and deodorize the foul, pestilential pool of politics. I have said it before and I say it again with an hundred fold emphasis: The people can be trusted if you can appeal to them independently of partisan politics, and of glamoring, iridescent hero-worship. Even the worst men want the best things to happen to their fellowmen when their human nature is touched on its God-ward side.

Looked at from this point of my high hope I see in this commonwealth march the largest force which has been set in motion to bring the majority to see the possibility and practicality of direct legislation. Here at the national capitol are soon to be focused the three great factors of prosperity:

First—The work (good roads) needing to be done.

Second—The workers suffering for the work to do.

Third—The constitutional authorities, congress and the president, at hand to issue the money necessary to set the workers at the work.

Now let the voice of the people be heard in demand of the precipitation of these three economic chemicals and the solution will be prosperity.

We have here the bureau of printing and engraving already equipped for issuance, without delay, of some of the same kind of good money which never was discounted even when the nation's

Continued on page 6.

INDIGNATION.

The Great Peace Army Finds Sympathy in Every Quarter.

During the week public attention has been turned from what has been considered the principal division of the Coxe peace army, which was industriously making its way through Pennsylvania and Maryland toward Washington. Other divisions of the army have met with more serious opposition, in consequence of which public sympathy has been aroused to a wonderful degree.

Governor Jackson of Iowa, had ordered several companies of militia to Council Bluffs, ostensibly to protect life and property, but in reality, as afterward developed, to prevent the Kelly contingent, which was at Omaha, from crossing the state. No sooner had the governor taken this step than public sentiment rapidly took the side of the Coxeites, and indignation against the governor and the railroad companies increased alarmingly, while the army under Kelly's command also increased until it numbered over 1,000. On Wednesday the men were driven from the Chautauqua pavillion and compelled to camp out during the severe rain storm. The citizens of Omaha, South Omaha, and Council Bluffs held an indignation meeting censuring the governor for calling out the militia. The soldiers were then withdrawn, and the army again took possession of the buildings.

During the day the camp was visited by thousands of sympathizers. Food, money, clothing, medicine, bedding, pipes and tobacco, needed for the comfort of the army was furnished in abundance. When night fell, Kelly was in possession of upwards of \$1,000 in cash, and had provisions to last a week, with luxuries to last a month.

During the evening meetings were held in the three cities. In Omaha the large hall provided was inadequate and an overflow meeting was held on Jefferson square. Upward of 8,000 people gathered at this latter meeting and were addressed by the leaders of the army. During the afternoon 250 Union Pacific employees, loaded with provisions, marched over to the camp. A meeting was held there attended by 3,000. Resolutions indorsing the army and condemning the railroads were adopted. During all this time Kelly and his lieutenants were vainly trying to get the railroad officials to furnish transportation across the state, but it was stubbornly and insultingly refused. Judge Hubbard, attorney for the Northwestern, expressed himself in no uncertain language and his views of the situation were coincided in by Mr. Baldwin. "If these tramps and bums try to capture one of our trains there will be trouble,"

said Mr. Hubbard, "and should they gain possession of a train through any hook or crook, or by the sympathy of our trainmen, we will ditch the train, if it destroys every car and hurts a lot of men. We will not carry these vagrants for love nor money, or be forced to by their capturing our rolling stock. In the eyes of the law they are a band of beggars, who are organized for an unlawful purpose, and to prey on the people, who are compelled to feed them and move them on to the next station. Why, if we were to carry this crowd over the Iowa railroads we would be compelled to carry 10,000 more idlers just like them. They would swamp our roads, and we could do nothing but a charity business, and this is what we do not intend to do. Our roads were not built for charitable purposes."

On Thursday the army marched to Weston, on the Rock Island road, ten miles east of Council Bluffs.

GREAT DAY IN OMAHA.

OMAHA, Neb., April 20.—General Kelly is all that the good words hitherto said of him conveyed to the reader and more. He displayed the rarest of judgment and fortitude tonight when he declined to put his men on board a train stolen at Council Bluffs by the engineers and firemen of the Union Pacific. It was a Union Pacific engine with Union Pacific cars, on the Rock Island track. Kelly declined it because he had not broken any law and did not intend to start in here.

There was great excitement here all day and it was intensified at night fall by the news that a train had been captured to relieve Kelly. Crowds thronged the streets and an immense open air mass meeting was held. Rumors of the calling out of federal troops, of state troops, of death's in Kelly's camp and of every conceivable nature kept the crowd on a tension hard to understand. But no disorder resulted, and, as if by a miracle, the clash that seemed inevitable was avoided, and Kelly's army slept in camp at Weston, waiting for the break of day to march to Council Bluffs.

Omaha has never seen such a day of excitement. Numerous meetings have been held and committees appointed to confer with railroad officials with the view of averting trouble. Large crowds of men and women paraded the streets all day.

At about 3 o'clock when all hope of securing a train from the officials had vanished, the crowd went aimlessly from Bayless Park, where it had listened to the addresses of the leaders. These leaders had vanished and the men were getting restless in the cold, when from the south came marching three hundred women headed by Mrs. Herman. This gave new life to the men, and when

Continued on page 12