

## THE EXAMINER.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1886.

It requires more courage to be an honest, independent voter, than to be the tool of political slaves.

EVERY vote cast by the laborer or producer for either of the two old parties is a link in the chain of his bondage.

ANY system of finance that assists in placing Labor and industry at the mercy of Capital, as ours does, should be voted out of existence by the people it subjugates.

EXTORTION thrives, abuses continue. Capital luxuriates and monopoly increases, in the calm haze of silence. Therefore, workingmen, producers, as you value your rights, agitate, agitate.

So long as the people can be held in allegiance to either of the two old parties, both of them the servants of monopoly, their master is safe, and he can afford to contribute largely to keep either in power.

OUR President is now recuperating in the forests of the Adirondacks, after the exhaustive labors of vetoing the pension bills, and letting the Morrison surplus bill alone. He is only accompanied by his wife and mother-in-law, at least there is not a word said about the little boy. Yet we wonder if Grover in his solitude will once chant the plaintive ditty—"Oh where is my boy to-night." Perhaps he might, were he not afraid some one might overhear him and reply "He's boycotted."

ORGANIZED Capital has always dictated terms to Labor; but when Labor organizes and combines to fix its own wages, no language is stormy enough to suitably denounce such high-handed presumption. When members of a coal ring combine to limit production, enabling them to extort any price they see fit to demand from a suffering public, there is no outcry against it; it is merely "a business arrangement"; but let the miners unite to stop the production of coal, in order to raise the price of their poorly paid labor, and Capital loudly protests against this "invasion of its rights by such lawless action, so destructive to business prosperity and social order."

WHEN a Railroad company asks for a charter, legislatures grant it on the ground that the public interest will be promoted by the building of the road. The rights of the individual to his own property is nullified, his dwelling may be torn down to give the right of way to the road, and when it is completed, the company will refuse to leave a car load of coal or any other commodity in his village, unless it is paid a third more than it can get by carrying it one hundred miles further to a city. This company that was to have been the servant of the people is now its tyrant. And there is no remedy short of State or Governmental control, for then the incentive to gain and oppression will be gone.

HAZZARD'S Bank circular of London, in 1863, speaking of our civil war said, "Chattel slavery is likely to be destroyed. This, I and my European friends are in favor of, for slavery is but the owning of labor, and carries with it to care for the laborer; while the European plan, led by England, is capital's control of Labor by controlling wages. This can be done by controlling the money. It will not do to let the green-back circulate as money any great length of time for we cannot control that, but we can control the bonds and through them the bank issues." And not very long after this, our Government, in obedience to its British masters, commenced burning up the greenbacks and transforming their embers into bonds for the shyllocks to control. And few of the people were able to discern the trick and estimate the extent of its rascality.

A LABOR exchange commences a very energetic article by proclaiming that "God never intended that the honest, intelligent workingmen of America should be the slaves of any masters whether corporations or politicians. It was never designed that they should wear a political party collar. They are free, intelligent, thinking men, and should think and act for themselves." We agree with our contemporary in the first particular. We know that God never intended the worker should be a slave to the drone, or wear a party collar, but the politician and monopolist intended it, and they run this special part of the planet. We disagree in the second and last particular. They are not "free, intelligent working men," or their thoughts would not permit their intelligence to allow them to suffer in poverty while the undeserving idlers roll in affluence. The fruit is always the best measure of the quality of the tree.

We reprint this week an article "About Plate Matter" from one of our Labor exchanges of Providence, R. I., in which the ignorance and short-sightedness of a printer who condemns the use of "plate" is commented upon. We are sorry to say

that this fellow has a great many companions in ignorance among workingmen, and this pig-headedness is to a great extent responsible for the lack of sympathy that organizations find in many undertakings that are really commendable. The people denounce the use of "plate matter" because offices using it do not employ so many printers, forgetting the fact that there are hundreds, and perhaps thousands of papers running now, and employing printers, that could not run at all without the "plate" or ready-print matter. The Labor movement has always been, and we fear always will be handicapped by men who have no adequate conception of its objects, seeing no further than the end to which the promptings of their own selfishness lead them. If Union men of all kinds would cease striving to make more work, and vote for the adoption of a system that would insure more equitable remuneration for the work already done, they would display more evidence of wisdom.

It is reported that all members of the Journeymen Barbers union of New York, have been ordered to resign from the Knights of Labor. If the barbers came into the order for the purpose of advancing their business, and that alone, it is a good thing, for the order that they withdraw. There is too much of the spirit of narrow selfishness manifested, we fear, by too many of the new recruits of late. They are attracted and impelled by the hope of receiving some immediate and direct assistance, instead of becoming members for the purpose of assisting in carrying out the fundamental principles of the organization and awaiting the results. If the leaders of Labor organizations would display a little more charity in their relations with one another, and much less belligerency, there would be far more hopes of their advancement. We suppose now that the next order we shall hear will be one from the K. of L. leaders commanding their men to resign the practice of calling on these union barbers. It is a method of diplomacy that betokens barbarism all through. Yet it is useless to attach blame anywhere. They are only carrying out the spirit of the education given them by the politicians all through their lives,—that of acting on the principle of hate to an opposing party, rather than from a knowledge of right and justice in their own.

## FULL OF ANXIETY AT PRESENT.

THE Prohibitionists on one side and the Labor Reformers on the other, are now a source of much anxiety to the men who shape the course of events in the two old parties. We had one striking illustration of this in the recent action of some Republican leaders in Boston who, assembling under the name of an "anti-saloon conference," tried hard to show their Prohibition brethren that there was no necessity for a third party, that the grand old Republican party would do all that was essential to be done in that line. But it wouldn't do. The Prohibitionists have been deceived too often to place any more reliance in Republican promises. And they said so, for in a few days after when the Prohibition State committee convened this resolution was given to the breeze: "That the recent anti-saloon Republican conference in Boston was a movement intended to mislead the Prohibitionists of the State, and that the only effect thereof will be to remind all who are in favor of extinguishing the saloons that so important a work requires the co-operation of a political party in full sympathy with the effort."

The Democratic managers are to resort to the old trick that has so often so well in the past to prevent disintegration of their organization. It is merely to instruct their party journals to charge the leaders of the industrial political movement with being purchased by the Republican managers to start the same in order to draw voters from the Democratic ranks.

How well the old trick will work this time remains to be seen. It certainly cannot be less effective than formerly with the unorganized workers, and those who never read an independent Labor paper. The Democratic jayhawks of the press can catch such as these every time. That's their business always in the political season. And their hooks are so adroitly baited that their little hope for the poor gudgeon who may be lying within sighting distance.

## CARDINAL TASCHEREAU AND THE K. OF L.

THE circular letter of Cardinal Taschereau, Archbishop of Quebec, to the bishops under his jurisdiction, has been the cause of much comment and uneasiness the past week in Catholic and K. of L. circles. It has not yet transpired what practical effect the mandate has had in the diocese directly concerned, and Catholics this side of the line are wondering when the subject will be taken up for settlement here. As the Church claims to be One in spirit and doctrine the world over, it is only natural to think that this very important affair cannot remain long unsettled, whatever may be the consequences. The difference in the governments of the two countries can admit of no plea whereby what is considered wrong in one can be justifiable in the other, and certainly the Platform of Principles of the order remains the same in both. And Cardinal Taschereau recognizes this, for the concluding part of his letter plainly reads, "I cannot see that there can any longer be any doubt as to the rule to be followed by the Catho-

lics of the whole world, over whom the jurisdiction of that sacred congregation extends."

On the other hand, Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore, the head of the Church in the United States, is quoted as favorably disposed to the order from the representation made by one of his bishops who has given the matter a critical examination; and enters into a very discriminating exposition of the oath-bound society which can and cannot be recognized by the Church. The point is between affirming to agree to subscribe to principles laid down for consideration, which principles are just and laudable in themselves, and taking a blind oath to obey mandates undefined, which involves the surrender of personal freedom and may lead to wrong.

We trust the wisdom of the Church will find some way out of the dilemma; but our wisdom can discern only the alternative of either forcing Cardinal Taschereau to step back a pace, or Cardinal Gibbons to step forward; or perhaps more consistent of all, annull the edict which gave rise to the difficulty.

## ONE OF THE WAYS.

EDWARD KELLOGG, a banker of New York, and author of "A New Monetary System," says, in his book, that two and one half per cent of our population own one half of all the wealth of this country. Now if two and a half per cent of the people should double their wealth, it would be all absorbed by them, and the rest would be paupers.

The question naturally arises, by what means did these few obtain possession of half of the wealth of the nation? Did they earn it by the sweat of their own brows and by toiling early and late? No, indeed. Few of them ever performed a day's work of real labor. Did they get it by right of conquest through battle and force of arms? No, it was not the spoils of victory on carnage covered fields. Then by what necromancy have these few obtained so much of the world's wealth? This author, Mr. Kellogg, who wrote before our civil war, and before monopoly had made such giant strides, attributed this inequitable distribution to an unjust and unscrupulous monetary system; and clearly demonstrated how its effect is to swallow all the earnings of toil. Had he lived later he would have possibly added to this cause, the monstrous monopolies granted by the Government. Since he wrote, wealth has been gathered into the hands of the few far more rapidly than ever before; and now that small fraction of the people own two thirds or more of it.

Can any one, who has observed this manipulation of our Government by the money power fail to be astonished at the blindness and apathy of the people in submitting to the chains being so adroitly wound around their necks. First, the money created by the Government was purposely depreciated till a gold dollar could buy almost three of it;—then it was converted at par into untaxable bonds, the interest of which like a blood-sucking leech, must interminably deplete the pockets of the people. There was no necessity for these bonds. The money exchanged for them drew no interest, and rested upon the credit of the nation as did the bonds. We had no more money than was needed; but it must be diminished to increase the value of the bonds, and all other "promises to pay" thereby increasing all indebtedness three fold. Then the violation of the contract with the people when the bonds were issued, making them payable in coin, and then forcing their payment in gold by demonetizing silver;—all these measures making millionaires and paupers as they were intended to do. To think of these things kindles one's indignation, but not more than to see the victims of those diabolical measures go to the polls year after year and vote for the same men that inaugurated them or now uphold them.

And it is accomplished under the blind fatality of sticking to "party," instead of voters utilizing their God-given power of reason and disinterestedness that would enable them to detect the ambushed traps in their pathway, and shun them.

## ORIGIN OF REFORMS.

All reforms or the demand for them, originate with the "lower classes." Who ever heard of a government or ruling class voluntarily giving reforms of any kind to the people? No. Those who need reforms are the men that demand them, and all reforms are persistently withheld until it is no longer safe to deny them.

Throughout the world there is now a general cry for reforms of all kinds. The demand comes from popular enlightenment. The great bulk of the people are dissatisfied. They have discovered that they live under law and degrading conditions, work too many hours, receive insufficient pay, and have no real enjoyment of life. They groan under the despotism of "upper classes." The mines and factories are bastilles, where men and women work merely to avoid starvation.

Why should they suffer as they do? Is there not plenty of food and clothing in the country for all? What is the cause of their miserable condition? Just this, that the "upper" classes, who create nothing, grab all that the "lower" classes create, through class divisions, and the frauds of rent, interest and profit.

Therefore the "lower" classes must take notice, that as long as they put up with these class divisions they will have to bear hard work and poverty, be snubbed and clubbed, imprisoned or shot, according to the rebellious spirit displayed. If they go on demanding reforms, they must make up their minds whether a complete industrial reformation, which will give them active control over their work, wages, and entire destinies, is not better than the little dribbles they are now trying to secure.

J. F. BRAY.

## STATE POLITICS.

## FIRST ON THE LIST.

Thomas Stephenson, a Hartford machinist, has announced himself as Independent Labor candidate for State Senator. Mr. Stephenson is an Englishman by birth, and labored among the Chartist leaders of his time. He is one of the most original, and entertaining of speakers. He has already published an address in poetic style, which sells for three cents a copy, the proceeds to be devoted to the expenses of his campaign. Mr. Stephenson would undoubtedly like to meet his competitors, whoever they may be, in public discussion on the issues of the canvass. But he will be denied life privilege, as old party candidates now-a-days are not so much after a discussion of principles as they are the acquisition of power or pelf.

Mr. Stephenson is an honored member of the K. of L., and senior delegate of his assembly to the district convention. We trust he may roll up a vote worthy of the cause for which he buckles on the armor of justice and independence; and if the wage workers and other honest producers of the district were sagacious enough to regard their own best interests in advance of those of the wily politician, Tom Stephenson would not only capture the pole in the race but would hold it to the finish.

How encouraging a friend is destined to be handicapped from the start. Next week the Hartford Times will have him down as being entered on behalf of the Republican managers for the "boodle," and to defeat the entry of the Democracy. And we fear that the life-slinging facilities of the Times, supplemented by its efficient corps of verbal scavengers, will be an overmatch for Tom's enthusiasm, eloquence and honesty.

## IT SHOULD BE WHAT ITS NAME IMPLIES.

WE are sorry to see that our esteemed Labor contemporary of New Britain, The Independent, is the only one in the State that doesn't seem to have got into the channel of the rising tide of Independent Political action. Surely its name doesn't indicate its policy. Nevertheless we give it credit for the most sincere honesty in its course. But we believe Bro. Kellogg reasons from an untenable basis, when assuming that the past is a criterion for the future,—that workmen will not vote an independent ticket now to a greater extent than they did in the past. If they do not, then it is an admission that the whole educationary work in the State be dropped. It is a convincing proof that we are appealing to men without heart and brain. If this is true, we should know it, that the useless task may be abandoned at once.

But we do not believe in the Calvinistic doctrine of total depravity. If we did, we should give up our calling. We acknowledge all we have ever said in reference to the stupidity of the average worker, and almost hopeless task of ever getting him to open his eyes. But the fact is that the remedy of the Reformer was not sufficient by itself. It wanted the militant application of Dr. Jay Gould, and the peppered bandage of Dr. Judge Barrett. Both have been now applied, and the political eyelids are well apart, at least sufficiently so to warrant a trial of the patient "going it alone."

But whatever the program is, we hope that the Labor battalion in the State will move together. We respectfully suggest the wisdom of Independent action on the State ticket at least, for the purpose of agitation and education, leaving the more local offices to the discretion of each locality to act upon as best judgment may dictate. On this middle ground all should be able to agree.

## ANOTHER BLOW OF THE FOG-HORN.

As we undertook to show last week, the political fog-horn of the Democratic manipulators has already commenced to blow against the Independent move of the workmen in the State, even before the movement is launched at all. We term it fog-horn blowing for the reason that that instrument of music has but one note, and that the most discordant. So the blowing of the Democratic fog-horn is all in one key, and that the key which they trust will unlock the suspicions of the wage-serf rather than his intellect.

The conference of the Independents of the Second Congressional district at New Haven last Sunday, brought out the first blow of the fog-horn from the New Haven Union, (Judas Iscariot dem.) and now the Hartford Times (Shylock dem.) sounds the second. It is "N. D. Sperry" just the same, only with an additional squeak of something about "know-nothingism."

Well, he must be a poor know-nothing indeed that can be influenced to retain his neck in the partisan yoke by any such foggy blowing as this. The very fact of the Democratic place-hunters being so fearful of their dupes being drawn away from them, is a tacit admission of the fact that the Democratic managers have been doing nothing for them worthy of their further support or confidence. If they had been, "N. D. Sperry" or any other man would have as little influence upon them, as the fog-horn blowing will now have upon their onward march outside the deep worn ruts of the old flyblown factions.

Nevertheless, the editor of the Times, whom at one time Mr. Troup denominated "Uriah Heep Burr," and the editor of the Union, who at one time Mr. Burr denominated as "Blatherskite Troup," will not leave unemployed any of the tricks known to the crafty and unscrupulous politician to render this independent effort of the workmen as abortive as they would wish to have it.

## SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CONVENTION.

The conference of representatives from various Labor organizations in the second congressional district held in New Haven last Sunday evening, was an important one. Mr. H. H. Lane was elected permanent secretary. The question of independent politics was discussed. It was decided to call a congressional convention for the district at Trades Council hall, New Haven, August 28, at 2 o'clock p. m. A communication from D. A. L. K. of L., urging independent political action throughout the State was referred to a committee, with instructions to report at the convention of the district held in New Haven, September 12. The conference adjourned. Nearly every Labor organization in the two counties were represented.

## J. B. KELLY GOES FOR J. F. BRAY.

## SWINGING A CUDGEL IN DEFENSE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH V. S. THE K. OF L.

MR. EDITOR—In a recent issue you published a letter signed "J. F. Bray, Pontiac, Mich." on the "Catholic Church and the K. of L.," in which he refers to the war in Canada between the Church and that organization.

He says: "The Catholic Church in Canada has declared war against the Knights of Labor openly, on the ground that they are a secret society and therefore beyond the Church and may be led into wrong doing. The war has commenced in Canada because the people are more servile and ignorant than in the states and more under Church control." Perhaps, Mr. Bray means the common school education the people get in the United States makes them wiser than the officials of the Catholic Church who have spent a lifetime in study; or perhaps he means that Catholics are as a rule an ignorant body of people. This wise man goes on to state that the Catholic Church is a "secret society," with its gradations of officials, which the people have nothing to do but obey. "Does the Catholic Church ask anybody to embrace the faith, without at first teaching them its doctrines? If Mr. Bray can show us where the Church is a secret society, in the sense meant, we would like to have him. His next paragraph goes on to say, "If secrecy stands in the way (of Catholics joining the order) it ought to be abolished." We certainly agree with him there. "The K. of L. has given to the world their principles and objects, and there is nothing within the order that is in conflict with the outside." Nevertheless, I have been asked to join the K. of L., and the person who asked me to join said that he could not tell me any of the rules. How different from the Church which tries to teach the applicant all its rules and doctrines.

"It" (the Catholic Church) "claims despotic authority over all its members, and will not tolerate independent thought or action on any subject." Yes, with the same "despotic authority" that the shepherd shows when he drives the sheep into the fold at night, to keep them safe from the attack of the wolves. Pope Leo XIII. did not put the decree on the K. of L. until he had thoroughly examined its rules; and not then until after he had given it much thoughtful consideration.

"Ecclesiastical domination is out of place in a republic like ours." Perhaps we had better not have any religion, and join the standard of Bob Ingersoll, and have done with it. If the K. of L. is trying to undermine religion it is time for honest people to know it. "The spirit of Protestantism is everywhere protesting against this or that wrong, this or that outrage, this or that evil. Black slavery went down under its assaults and white slavery is on its last legs." This statement is as foolish as the one that says that there were no Democrats of any account in the Union army. Every one knows that Catholics as well as Protestants were in it fighting against slavery. Then again, look at the case between Catholic Ireland and Protestant England. The people in Ireland are for the most part almost as badly off as slaves, and the Protestant Church, as a religion, is making no effort to abate the evil.

"Surely Catholics have the same right to better their social position as any other man. If the K. of L. leads to this, why should the Church denounce it, and virtually deny the right of men to elevate themselves from poverty and misery to ease and comfort." A Catholic has the same right "as any other man" to elevate himself. But it is elevating to a man's nature or social position to be put in jail for boycotting as some of the trades union men have lately been? A man can join the Free Masons and possibly elevate his social position, and the Catholic Church denounces that organization and if any similar evils exist in the K. of L. they must be denounced just the same.

"Every man should insist on his industrial rights Church or no Church." Tear down the churches as was done by the Know-nothing party not many years ago, because it was not in with them on their idea of social advancement. If Mr. Bray thinks to build up the K. of L. on the ruins of the Catholic Church, because it cannot see things in the same light as he does, I am afraid he will be sorely disappointed. Because there are some Catholics (?) who will join secret societies, Mr. Bray must not think that the Church is on his last legs. Personally I have no enmity against the K. of L., and before the decree of the Pope, was trying to make up my mind to join the organization; but after Mr. Bray's exposure of the inner workings of the order when he says "Church or no Church" I will undoubtedly refrain. If the K. of L. wish Catholics to join as Mr. Bray from getting before the public. It will damage their cause more than any other two reasons combined. Is it not the three R speech of one man to which Mr. Blaine lays his defeat in the late Presidential campaign? Others will find things just the same if they make the same kind of speeches and writings.

Yours Truly,

J. B. KELLY.

Oak Dale, Aug. '86.

THE WORKING WORLD.

During July 327 local assemblies of the Knights of Labor were organized.

The Belgian government has issued a loan of \$8,000,000 to provide work for unemployed.

A resolution was passed at the late convention of the Carpenters' Brotherhood disapproving of membership with the assemblies of Carpenters of the K. of L.

A number of girls discharged from a Boston cigarette factory, presumably for joining the Knights of Labor, have started a co-operative factory. They deserve success.

A strong Assembly of farmers, forty in number, was organized at Mink P. O., Chickamauga county, Or. There are now five assemblies in Oregon composed entirely of farmers.

The K. of L. at Troy, N. Y., have recently purchased the big army building, sold by the State at auction, for \$13,000, and turned it into an assembly room, with the headquarters of a new paper, the Clarion, located therein.

## THE DEMON TASK MASTER.

## Why this universal wailing, Over all this land prevailing,

And dark despair? See the sun of hope is setting!

Man his brother is forgetting, And a curse is slowly falling

On this land of promise rare; And the faces are appalling,

That were once so bright and fair— Want and misery everywhere!

Mark the toiler, sowing, reaping, And the golden sheaves upheaving,

While a hidden monster, sweeping for his own insatiate maw,

Gathers fast and faster—faster Through privations and disaster

Smite the weary, sweating toiler Till the pangs of hunger gnaw;

Never does the fierce despoiler His rapacious grasp withdraw;

Greedy so cruel knows no law.

Hear the workshop's footsteps clatter, Hear the workmen's footsteps patter;

When they join or quickly scatter, when to each a task is shown;

Each a burden carries, double— Load of toil and load of trouble;

For an iron master watches From a secret door unknown;

From each mouth he quickly snatches Every word and meaning tone—

He is master here alone.

How the pistons heave and tumble, How the wheels do drum and rattle!

How obedient—not a grumble, when those brawny arms control;

Strange, that while such puny muscle Rules so surely all this bustle,

A more potent power, uncanny, Rules still surer brain and soul;

Strange, indeed, the brawny many Let a baleful power control.

Wealth of brawn and brain and soul, In the gloomy mine descending,

Where the flickering lights are blinding; Note how close is death impending—foul

his breath upon the air; Careless is the warning spoken,

Scarce the delvers heed the token. For a monster, darker, grimmer,

Makes them madly, rashly dare, And through lamplight's glare and glimmer,

Holds them fiercely, surely there, With the bravery of despair.

Go to yonder lonely garret, If your heart is strong to bear it,

Mark the black bent shadow where it darkens the black wall scarcely more;

There a famished woman sits, Works with patience unrelenting—

With her weary, ceaseless stitching, Keeps the wolf just out the door,

While a demon still enriching Self with stealing from her store,

Robs her pittance lower and lower. Is this the land where hands of labor

Clasp the hands of toiling neighbor And the plowshare, not the saber, is the

scepter held supreme? Is it here where honest toilers

Need not fear the strong despoilers, Since all men are free and equal?

Ah! if things are what they seem, This is but the bitter sequel.

Waking of a century's dream— A turning back of progress' stream.

Shall this demon reign eternal? O'er this blessed land fraternal?

Shall enchantment so infernal hold us ever 'neath its spell?

No! By all the powers of heaven From this land he shall be driven,

Usury be hurled, unshriven, To the lowest depths of hell;

Then a mighty shout be given— Hear the hosts their voices swell,

"Labor conquers—all is well."

## AN ACT TO LEGALIZE THE INCORPORATION OF NATIONAL TRADES UNIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the term "National Trade Union," in the meaning of this act, shall signify any association of working people having two or more branches in the States or Territories of the United States for the purpose of aiding its members to become more skillful and efficient workers, the promotion of their general intelligence, the elevation of their character, the regulation of their wages and their hours and conditions of labor, the protection of their individual rights in the prosecution of their trade or business, the raising of funds for the relief of sick, disabled, or unemployed members, or the families of deceased members, or for such other object or objects for which working people may lawfully combine, having in view their mutual protection or benefit.

SEC. 2. That National Trade Unions shall upon filing their articles of incorporation in the office of the recorder of the District of Columbia, become a corporation under the technical name by which said National Trade Union desires to be known to the trade; and shall have the right to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, to grant and receive, in its corporate or technical name, property, real, personal and mixed, and to use said property, and the proceeds and income thereof, for the objects of said corporation as in its charter defined. Provided, That each union may hold only so much real estate as may be required for the immediate purposes of its incorporation.

SEC. 3. That an incorporated National Trade Union shall have power to make and establish such constitution, rules, and by-laws as it may deem proper to carry out its lawful objects, and the pleasure to amend, add to, or repeal at pleasure.

SEC. 4. That an incorporated National Trade Union shall have power to define the duties and powers of all its officers, and prescribe their mode of election and term of office, to establish branches and sub-unions in any Territory of the United States.

SEC. 5. That the headquarters of an incorporated National Trade Union shall be located in the District of Columbia.

Approved June 29, 1886.

## POLITICAL PLANNINGS.

The Wisconsin Knights are planning to put a friend of labor in the governor's chair next fall in Governor Rusk, of call out the militia force.

In Texas the Grangers and Knights of Labor will hold a joint convention to agree upon a common platform of principles on which to unite their forces in the coming campaign.

We suggest that a conference should at once be held to look the ground over and take such steps as will guarantee in the next Congress a man from the Seventh Massachusetts district who will be found on the side of the people as against the monopolies.—Laborer.

## WOMAN'S COLUMN.

## EDITED BY JUSTITIA.

Some Connecticut and Massachusetts journals are berating poor little "Rhody" for disfranchising one of her citizens for no fault, save that of losing some of his shillings in conjunction with an honest misdeed, that of having been born in another country. We think Rhody deserves a castigation for her injustice, as she did not willfully or intentionally lose his money; and quite possibly if his wishes had been consulted, he would have been born in this happy land of equal rights. But Connecticut and Massachusetts had better stop making up mouths at Rhode Island, and picking notes out of her eyes, till they pull some out of their own; for they, too, disfranchise thousands of their citizens for no offence except that of being women, who, had they only known before they were born, that women in these states were ranked with idlers and criminals, every soul of them would be born of the other sex,—that is, if their wishes would be respected.

"O, pshaw!" Do I hear some one say? "I am tired of this Woman's Column." Justitia is a crank and she has nothing but suffrage and the ballot. Well, who has asked you to read it? I haven't, and you have no right to grumble, for you get twice the worth of your money in the other columns of the paper, without the risk of being a crank, if I am, I'm in mighty good company. Galileo was a crank when he asserted that the earth revolved, when even a child could see it stood still. Columbus was a crank to think that he could get to the East Indies by sailing westward, and all Europe laughed at him. Fulton was a crank when he tried to run boats by steam-power. Morse the inventor of the electric telegraph was a crank, and for five years the wise men of Congress, ridiculed and mocked him for his folly. He was trying in vain to get a small appropriation from them, to put up a line from Washington to Baltimore to prove practically that he could send messages on wire electricity. Henry George is a crank of the present generation, we shall not live to see him the philosopher of the next as he will be. Wendell Phillips, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, and all the old abolitionists were cranks, and were stoned and mobbed by the good, respectable people of that day of the church, as well as some outside of it. The signers of the Declaration of Independence were considered cranks by the royalists and Tories, who denounced the principle of the right of the people to self-government, just as we are denounced who would carry that principle into practice. In fact, since the advent of civilization it has been cranks that have started the wheels of progress, both in the moral and material world.

## "AN IMMENSE MISTAKE."

The Litchfield Enquirer, referring to the Connecticut Prohibitionists, says, "Their reform takes strong ground against the repeal of Sunday laws and against divorce, as well as in favor of Prohibition. They made an immense mistake, however. As now arranged, the present suffrage is not in favor of any of the measures they propose.\*\*\* What they need is to urge woman suffrage as a requisite to political reform. With that, which is much to be accomplished, what is utterly impossible with the moral law of our citizens disfranchised."

The Enquirer is undoubtedly right with regard to the purifying effect that Woman Suffrage would have upon the body politic, for that reflects the character of those who compose it. That women are far more moral, temperate, thrifty, and law-abiding, than men is a well known fact, proved by observation and by statistics. But there is a difference of opinion among temperance women, as to the best method of promoting it. Though I have no doubt of the beneficial effect of woman suffrage upon public morality and the public welfare; it is not such a sure thing, which I base my claims for it, as on the principle of eternal