

naturally work for their own perpetuation in office, and for the party in power.

The Farmers' Alliance has also demanded a "National Independent Convention" in 1892. One plank of the proposed platform of that Convention will be the favoring of an Australian ballot system. That is, it will be an attempt to compel every State to adopt this system whether it is disposed to do so or not.

The Alliance men in the Kansas House of Representatives passed a law a few days ago absolutely repudiating all loans in that State. The Kansas Senate, which is Republican, passed a resolution condemnatory of the House. It reads as follows:

"Whereas, By the passage of the House bill commonly called the Elder Tax bill and others of a like character, the House of Representatives of this State has caused great apprehension and distrust among the holders of Kansas securities, and is, as we believe, doing the people of this State great and irreparable injury by causing the withdrawal of all foreign capital from our State, by rendering it impossible for the debtor class of our people to renew their mortgages or even pay the interest accruing thereon, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Senate that no wild or visionary measure, calculated in its nature or by its provisions to injuriously affect the people of this State, or the credit of the same, can or shall pass this body."

In addition to all this the Alliance demands the free and unlimited coinage of silver. It demands the abolition of National banks, the election of President and Vice-President of the United States as well as that of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

It is not difficult to imagine the radical nature of the revolution these demands, if obtained, would accomplish. Government control of railroads and telegraphs involves something positively dreadful to conservative Americans. It is true railroads do not deserve a great deal of consideration at the hands of farmers, but the tremendous change contemplated should be appropriately considered.

The operation of the national banks, in the way of loans and discounts, aggregated, last October, to something equal to \$2,000,000,000. It is estimated that there were \$4,000,000,000 worth of crops raised in the country last year, and that the national banks facilitated the marketing and exchange of this vast aggregate, and the farmers have no scheme to supply the place of the National banks.

Compare these demands on the part of the farmers with the development going on in railroad organizations and in trust combines Chauncey Depew, President of the New York Central, gets a salary of \$75,000 a year. The

presidents of trusts get on an average, \$50,000 a year. James G. Blaine gets only \$8,000 as Secretary of State. The question is, will the ballot settle these issues. Not by any means.

Pinkerton, the Chicago detective said the other day, that in Chicago alone he could raise 20,000 men to take up arms and go into the coal regions in Pennsylvania, and shoot down strikers. In fact he has a regiment of men there at present, protecting the Connellsville non-union coke workers. These Pinkerton men are armed with revolvers and rifles. They are paid three dollars a day and board. They will shoot at the command of a man who armed them in direct violation of all law, both State and National. Pinkerton laughs at city and State officials, because he has the Goulds and Vanderbilts at his back.

The revolutionary demands of the Farmers' Alliance will, if pushed to their legitimate result, cause a conflict. If it can carry organized labor with it in the struggle it may succeed, but if railroad employees should antagonize the farmers, then the last condition of the farmer will be worse than the first.

DEFYING PUBLIC OPINION.

THE "Liberal" City Council does not increase in dignity as it gains in experience. The scene described in the minutes of Tuesday evening's meeting is not very creditable to some of the participants. But what can be expected of a body nearly one half of which is bogus?

It is evident that the majority of the occupants of seats in the Council intend to transfer the Old Fort block to the speculators who have been figuring for it for some time. What the inducements are does not appear on the surface. Only two members took any active part in opposing the scheme. They are sufficiently energetic in their opposition if not greatly burdened with wisdom and discretion. They are to be commended for their evident honesty and their undeniable nerve.

City Attorney Merritt has added one more leaf to his official laurel wreath. He took a position last night which will commend him to people of all parties. He contended for the rights of the Council as a legislative body, and for the rights of the public as citizens owning property proposed to be deeded away from them without their consent. We believe he is legally right, we are sure he was morally courageous. He performed his duty, although he knew his position was distasteful to the body that appointed him.

Notwithstanding the legal advice of their own attorney, the majority of the "Liberal" Council seem determined to do two things in defiance of public opinion. One is the handing over of a public square to a private company; the other is the granting of a liquor license for use in a variety show building. Mr. Merritt has advised them against both, but the committee report in each case is favorable to the applicants, and they are merely laid over for a week because they could not be passed upon in view of the objection of two members.

This is "Liberalism" full-fledged, beaked and clawed. "Servants of the people?" Not much. That did very well for the stump, to go with "Free water," "Salt Lake work for Salt Lake workmen," and other deceptions wherewith to catch votes. These strutting officials will let the people know that they consider themselves "bosses" now. They do not expect to be ever elected again. They know that their political doom is sealed. Their incapacity, extravagance, and general failure are the talk of their own party, and they will do just as they please and defy public sentiment.

There is now nearly a week before the proposition to turn over the Old Fort Square to a railroad company—on paper, for depot grounds, and that to give a liquor license to persons in the Franklin Avenue showhouse can be passed upon. Time enough for reflection. Time enough for proper protests. If there is any wisdom left in the promoters and abettors of these schemes in the City Council, they will think deeply before committing themselves finally to projects that are chiefly in the interest of individuals, and would not be endorsed, but be indignantly repudiated, by a vast majority of the general public.

ARE THE INDIANS DECREASING?

It is generally supposed that the Indians are rapidly decreasing in numbers. It is represented that the red men are going down before the sun of civilization. They are being crowded back before the advance of the "superior race," and like the buffalo, it is thought, they will soon disappear and be known only in history.

The census returns give some little color to these ideas. But it is claimed by those who know, that the Indian census is always incorrectly taken. Accuracy is not aimed at. To do the work in the easiest way seems to be the chief object in view of most of the enumerators. If that is true, it is not difficult to see how the scattered remnants of the land could