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A SPLENDID INDUSTRY.

The prediction of Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture, that the time is approaching when the United States will produce all the sugar needed for home consumption, is strictly within the bounds of probability. This consummation, so devoutly to be wished, depends, of course, upon the extension and continuation of the beet sugar industry. So far, it has been wonderfully successful. The beet growers have obtained good returns for their labor, the factories have turned out a splendid marketable product, investors have received satisfactory dividends, and both farmers and mechanics have profited by the enterprise.

Utah has set an excellent example in the beet-sugar industry. It was begun under immense difficulties. While it was not an untimed experiment, as good sugar from beets had been manufactured in other places, it was in that nature so far as Utah was concerned, and the difficulty of obtaining capital for it was thereby enhanced. We need not go over the history of the struggles and triumphs of the past, they are pretty well known to the people of the West. But the present and future of the industry are fraught with high encouragement and are among the indications that the prophecy of the Secretary of Agriculture will surely be fulfilled. The example set by Utah is being followed in Idaho. Indeed, Utah skill and Utah capital are largely in evidence in our neighboring State. The celebration of the first annual sugar day at Idaho Falls on Tuesday, as reported in the "Evening News" of that date, makes a shining mark in the annals of Idaho, and owes much of its brightness to the Utah promoters of the enterprise at that place. The purity of the product there, pronounced one hundred per cent fine, must be encouraging to all who are interested in the sugar question in this country.

The laying of the corner stone of the Fremont Sugar company's factory at Sugar city in that county, on Tuesday afternoon, was a further step in the progress of the industry in Idaho, and another proof of the faith of Utah investors and of their desire for the advancement of Idaho. The two States are mutually interested in many ways, and should march together on the highway to wealth and prosperity.

It is unfortunate that the endeavors of the Governor and Legislature of Idaho to encourage the investment of capital in the sugar industry, should have been blocked by the refusal of the State Auditor to issue a warrant, for the payment of the first bounty due the Idaho Sugar company under the law. If there had been an injunction of a court, or any impediment interposed in a legal manner, it might be viewed in a different light. But the Auditor is simply a ministerial officer, and his arbitrary action appears previous and presumptuous. However, it will no doubt be favorably settled, but meanwhile it will not encourage the industry nor invite investment. Notwithstanding this temporary set-back, the prospects in Idaho are splendid for the great success of sugar manufacture, and it will be a great boon to the thrifty and persevering people, who are turning the wilderness there into a garden and founding and building fine cities and towns.

The Cuban treaty is opposed by some politicians and other objectors on the ground that it will prove to be inimical to home sugar interests. But some of the very foremost holders of sugar stock view the matter in a different light. They believe that a sufficient profit can be derived from investments in the sugar-beet industry. If the proposed reduction in the duty on Cuban raw sugar should prevail. And the fact that the great eastern sugar combinations, who control the refineries, are largely interested in the beet-sugar companies of the West, puts the question in a favorable light and gives assurance of the stability of these organizations and of the triumph of their business. Home sugar need not fear injury from the projected reciprocity with Cuba.

The whole country should be deeply interested in the home industry which will eventually make this country independent of foreign producers of sugar. We do not believe that any political party in the United States is averse to home manufactures. While people may differ on the tariff question, the rates of duty that should be imposed, and the purpose for which they should be levied, all believe in a tariff of some kind and extent, and all want to see the country prosper through the employment of its own operators and the wealth that comes from its own

products. Therefore the cheering words of Secretary Wilson on the sugar prospects of the country, cannot fail to give pleasure to all patriots, and must prove encouraging to the promoters of the sweet industry that is now moving forward with such rapid leaps and bounds, and is flourishing splendidly in this mountain region, once only an arid and worthless waste.

HERBERT SPENCER.

The death of Herbert Spencer removes from the world of thought one of the most conspicuous men of the age. In the scope of his thinking and the influence he exerted upon the educated portion of mankind, he may be called the Aristotle of the nineteenth century. His mind penetrated nearly every field of scientific research and returned with the riches thereof, which he so freely gave to the world. He wrote of music, of style, legislation, astronomy, laws of organic form, educational, moral and other topics, and finally he completed his literary career by a re-statement of his views and conclusions regarding the stupendous subjects with which philosophy is concerned.

It is worthy of notice at this time, that the propositions made by the school of thinkers to which Darwin, Huxley and Spencer belonged, and which, a quarter of a century ago, were accepted by the educated world as the highest truth, no longer are regarded in that light. A few months ago, Lord Kelvin stated publicly that science positively affirms creative power and "makes every one feel a miracle in himself." It was not, he added, in dead matter that men lived, moved, and had their being, but in a creative and directive power, which science compelled them to accept as an article of belief. Modern biologists, he further stated, were coming once more to a firm acceptance of something, and that was a vital principle; they might be agnostics in science, but they only knew the Creator in His works and were absolutely forced by science to admit and to believe with absolute confidence in a directing power. Lord Kelvin argued against the Cleromian theory of a fortuitous concourse of atoms, and said: "A million of millions of millions of years would not give them (the scientists) a beautiful world like ours." He concluded his statement as follows: "Forty years ago I asked Liebig, walking somewhere in the country, if he believed that the grass and flowers which we saw around us grew by mere chemical force. He answered: 'No! not more than I could believe that a book on botany describing them could grow by mere chemical forces.' Every action of a human free will is a miracle of physical, chemical, and mathematical science."

This is a powerful testimony of one of the foremost men in the scientific world as to the inefficiency of the Darwin-Spencerian philosophy, when the phenomena of the world are to be explained. As pointed out by a writer in a theological review some time ago, "It has not given us the key with which the mysteries of existence can be unlocked. It has thrown no light upon the question of ultimate origin, whether of matter, of life, of mind, of conscience, of sin. It has left unsolved the fundamental metaphysical questions differently decided by atheism, pantheism, deism and theism. In its philosophical form it postulates an unknown continuity, but apart from theistic evolution, cannot reconcile this continuity with the progress it describes. In the midst of its strength—the biological field—it renounces, in its most recent form, all attempt to explain the origin of species, that is, to assign a vera causa for their appearance." For a true knowledge of these things the world, scientific or unscientific, depends entirely on the "light of the ages," that comes to us from the divine origin of all truth and light and life.

A PLAN FOR ARBITRATION.

A prize of \$200 offered about a year ago by the American Humane Education society, for the best suggestion as to how to prevent strikes, has been awarded to Mr. Amos Judson Bailey, of Meriden, New Hampshire. A synopsis of this plan appears in Public Opinion.

Mr. Bailey proposes the establishment of two systems of courts; one by the states, the judges to be elected by popular vote. This comprises three courts, the industrial court, the industrial court of appeals, and the industrial supreme court. The other system also consists of three courts, the judges to be appointed by the President, with the approval of the senate. These courts are to have jurisdiction in any labor disputes which cannot be brought before a civil court. Full liberty shall be given in the presenting of evidence, and no evidence which may have a bearing on the case in hand shall be ruled out on technical grounds. In rendering a decision, the court shall first strive to suggest adjustments of differences that the decision of the court shall be satisfactory to both, or all parties concerned, and may be voluntarily accepted by them. But in case of failure in such arbitration the decision of the court shall be according to the facts and shall be final, subject only to appeal from lower to higher courts. And such appeal may be from a lower court of one series to a higher court of the other series, or of the same series.

An important principle is embodied in this plan. It recognizes the right of the public to bring suit for the arbitration of labor disputes. It also recognizes the right of employers, and employees, to bring suits by their appointed agents. That would seem to do away with all wrangling about "recognition" of unions. The government, too, may take action on its own account, or the court may take the initiative and institute a hearing. Either one then, of five interested parties—the public, the government, the employer, the employee, or the court—may demand the peaceful settlement of a labor dispute.

Another feature of the plan is the measures proposed against strikes. In case of a strike the government may, at its discretion, take possession of the labor part of the business or industry

involved. It shall, by public notice, inform the strikers that the case and all matters involved in the strike are in charge of the court. And when such notice is given to the strikers and the employees, all further negotiations shall be through the court and any disturbance on the part of the strikers, or other persons because of the strike, shall be treated as contempt of court. In order to protect the owners and the public against needless loss by the cessation of labor, the court may employ laborers to take the places made temporarily vacant by the strike, on such terms as shall be satisfactory to the employers and also to the court. If the case is decided against the strikers, the court shall also decide as to the reinstatement of the strikers.

This is a plan of arbitration which ought to be tested. Anything to avoid the senseless quarrels between laborers and employers, by which the public generally is made to suffer the most disagreeable consequences. Public opinion is rapidly flowing toward compulsory arbitration and the prohibition of strikes, and it will get there, notwithstanding intervening obstacles.

QUITE A DIFFERENCE.

Labouchere, in the London Truth, expresses surprise that "home producers of girls" have not long ago applied to Chamberlain and begged him to include in his protective scheme a prohibition against the importation to Great Britain of American girls. The latter, he says, compete with the home markets under most unfair conditions. "Their parents by means of trusts and such like pernicious associations are able to give their daughters vast sums of money, and in this way they are able to compete unfairly for the best home customers in the matrimonial market." The writer questions the financial benefits to the nation of that class of importation. He says:

"Already there is a vast amount of vulgar ostentation in what is called the smart London set, owing to the import of colonial millionaires, which raises the standard of fashionable existence and lowers and degrades the tone of that society into which so many aspire to enter to the deplorable level of competing with plutocrats of Newport and New York. This can only increase if we are to have American golden girls, who have become puerilities, also making London the field of their barbaric lawlessness."

Too bad! But the proposed addition to the protective system need not cause any uneasiness. It will never be made. It is curious, though, to compare notes on the question of protection. Here we are talking about the necessity of restricting the immigration of paupers and criminals from Europe. There they commence to think it necessary to restrict the importation of the sweetest product existing on earth—the American girl, and her millions. Quite a difference!

General Wood is under fire both in Jolo and Washington.

The gate receipts at Zion City continue to fall off at a rapid rate.

It isn't healthy for any one in Germany to say that the Kaiser is not healthy.

"Boston's value is \$1,320,457,323," says the Transcript. We had always thought it was beyond price.

One reason why poultry of all kinds is high is the fact that there are no birds in last year's nests.

If many more afflictions come upon Dowie he will be very apt to think that he is Job II instead of Job III.

Mr. Carnegie proposes to give Princeton university a lake. He can well afford to, for he has oceans of money.

Demoli believes in Mitchell's advice to "strike, strike, strike." After his interview with the Governor he struck right out.

The treaty with Panama has been put in a box and is now on its way to Washington. And the treaty has put Colombia in a box.

Captain Richmond P. Hobson wants two and a half billions for the building up of a great navy. There's nothing small about the captain.

"Ear grafting is not difficult," says the surgeon who grafted one on to a western miner. Certainly not; no "grafting" of any kind is.

The picture being painted of General Wood by those who are testifying before the Senate sub-committee is a monochrome in heavy black.

The Anti-Imperialist league has just held its fifth annual meeting. These meetings are a vent for certain pent-up feelings and do no one any harm.

Mr. Bryan has been a visitor to the chamber of deputies and studied Gallic parliamentary ways. Does he believe that they do these things better in France?

The idea of placing a county under martial law because the sheriff and his deputies exceed their powers and make themselves obnoxious, is something new under the sun.

A Texas court has sentenced a negro to a thousand years' imprisonment for assault. The sentence is clearly unconstitutional, being cruel and unusual punishment.

The latest Iowa idea seems to be to require a physician's certificate of bodily and mental soundness before a marriage license shall be issued to parties desiring to get married.

And now the United States consul at Alexandria has been assaulted by the Turkish police, and the consulate closed in consequence. While this is outrageous and will make all Americans indignant, it will be a source of consolation to know that the Sultan will promptly express his profound sorrow and regret at the occurrence. In this particular line he has no equal.

The leader of the convicts who escaped from the Folsom prison last summer, has just been convicted of murder in the second degree for the killing of a guard. He is already a life prisoner, and now the judge has imposed a sentence of one hundred years' imprisonment on him. The judge did not say whether the new sentence was to run concurrently with the old one or to begin at the expiration of the first. It is an important matter to the prisoner.

A writer in Harper's Weekly describes a case of a patient in one of the Vienna hospitals who digests all her food and is steadily gaining weight, despite the fact that her stomach had been removed in an operation for cancer. If this is true, it would seem to be proved that that organ plays but a small part in the complex act of digestion, its principal use being that of a reservoir. It should not be necessary for millionaires with bad stomachs to offer fortunes for an article which they may do without.

Cuba is to have a lottery, although President Palma is said to be very much opposed to that plan of raising money. The Cubans think they need the money to pay for the late war of liberation. The argument in favor of the scheme is that the people will gamble, and that it is better to have the lottery under government control, for the protection of the gamblers from sharper. The promoters of the Cuban lottery no doubt also expect to attract a great many American dollars by this scheme, though lottery business cannot be legally done in this country.

SPEAKING OF DOWIE.

St. Louis World.
Dowie is certainly an unique character for these early years of the twentieth century. In the Middle Ages he would probably have been thought a great man. More than one self-styled prophet in the history of the East has risen to positions of fame and lasting influence by the use of much the same sort of claims that Dowie makes for the religious side of his enterprises.

Worcester Spy.
It is fair to suppose that most of the people that are in Zion City are as interested in the success of the plan as Dowie himself. Under the present condition of the financial world, it will not be easy for him to rescue the property and restore Zion City to prosperity. If he succeeds, he will be a greater financier than one has ever given him credit for. This blow, of course, has taken away his prestige and much of the confidence of his people.

Boston Transcript.
Doubtless his New York venture had for its object rather his own financial salvation than the spiritual redemption of the modern Babylon. Perhaps he saw the crash impending and trusted to the grotesque methods that had served him in the unbuilding of his fortune and authority to acquire in a new field the means to keep the tottering fabric. When the failure of his scheme became evident, his wife and son took a trip abroad from the port of Boston instead of New York, and it is surmised that much treasure, or concentrated "convertible property," as Mr. Wemmick would have called it, when with them. From what the man has disclosed of his character, do not think he is uncharitable to assume that he has cast a strong anchor, or two, to windward.

New York Evening Sun.
A question which the creditors are asking themselves is, whether the object of it was not to raise a large sum of money to avert a visit from the sheriff. English III. It is reported that Dowie had \$300,000 on the venture. The loss of such a sum when money was tight in Zion might bring about a crisis, but it does not follow that the assets will not be sufficient to meet his liabilities. Dowie's followers have hailed him as a great financier. He is now out to the test. If he weathers the storm and retains the confidence and the savings of his principal while he holds them together as a happy family, those who are about to meet will have to recognize in John Alexander Dowie a pioneer of religion and finance who has had no predecessor and is without a peer.

Chicago Record-Herald.
People will be slow to believe that the costly burden of a complicated process was necessary to a management of extraordinary ability, and they will wonder if there was not considerable exaggeration in the showing that was made before the court and some of any move against an unpopular man. All doubts on these points will be cleared up one way or the other by the developments.

Louisville Courier-Journal.
The spectacle of Elijah in a court of bankruptcy ought to be enlightening to the men who have accepted his claims as the successor of that prophet. The first Elijah was himself often in financial straits, though this was due entirely to his zeal for righteousness. But his methods were very different from those of our modern Elijah. He hid by the brook Cherith and drank of his waters, while the ravens fed him. When the brook dried up he went to a widow of Zarephath, and was sustained by a handful of meal and a cruse of oil miraculously maintained. The ravens that Dowie have been men of substance who, believing his pretensions, have turned over to him millions of money. As the brook Cherith dried up, so this new Elijah had to move, but he called for more deposits on pain of excommunication. Those who had trusted him were evidently short on faith and long on caution, for instead of making new deposits they hastened to draw out those which they had already made, until they were headed off by the requirement of thirty days' notice. Elijah has never found no way miraculously to renew the handful of meal and the cruse of oil.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"The Christmas number of 'What to Eat' is full of pertinent holiday matter, Christmas stories, Christmas suggestions, Christmas dinners, holiday desserts etc. The management announces that this magazine will continue to be an advocate for pure food, rational living and good health. Competent physicians will give practical advice on dietetic health hints. Others will contribute articles on dietetics from time to time—Pierce Pub. Co., Chicago.

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