

of the people. It was his well-earned portion of economical savings in transportation inaugurated by his superior genius, energy and courage, the much larger share of which inured to the people. Consider this: By improvements in construction and management the freight rates of the New York Central railroad have declined within a period of thirty years from an average of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents per ton per mile to an average of less than three-fourths of one cent per mile. It has been estimated that if the freight rates of thirty years ago were now current the producers and consumers of the United States would be obliged to pay one thousand millions more per annum for the transportation of their goods and wares than they now pay.

"In his youth Edison discovered a method by which two telegraph messages could be sent in opposite directions over the same wire at the same time. The value of his method was equal to the cost of one-half of all the telegraph wires thereafter to be used in the United States, since he made one wire as effective as two would otherwise be. Hence the value of his device must be measured by hundreds of thousands, if not millions.

"Surely, the men, or group of men, who can by their ability bring in these enormous gains are fairly entitled to a good portion of what they thus secure to the general good. They are cheap at any price, and society needs more of them.

"Bessemmer, Vanderbilt and Edison may stand as representatives for a long line of men who, like them, have brought in and sold to society, on terms most advantageous to both, the materialized product of their genius or their enterprise. Notice this: That it was all a matter of free exchange of perfect liberty. There was no compulsion. While these men successfully toiled and reached large rewards by producing things of incomparable value which the markets would buy, others like them struggled vainly to reach the same result. They also brought forward, after years of thought and labor, devices and inventions, many of which the market would not buy. This also was a liberty which society, with due regard to its own interest, had the free right to exercise."

To show that the poor are not growing poorer, Mr. Gage quoted from Carroll D. Wright, chief of the Federal bureau of labor statistics, and an acknowledged authority among labor organizations, to prove that the number of persons engaged in the lower walks of life, such as laborers, is decreasing, while those pursuing higher vocations, such as the skilled trades and professions, are increasing, in proportion to the total population. Of wages paid now as compared with a generation ago, he gives these figures:

"Looking at this side of the problem, we find that in 1850 the average annual earnings of each employe engaged in manufacturing and mechanical pursuits, including men, women and children, in round numbers were \$247; in 1860, \$289; in 1870, \$302; in 1880, \$347, and in 1890, \$445. Here is a steady, positive increase in the average annual earnings of the employes in our great industrial pursuits."

He cites statistics to show that in Great Britain the average incomes of working people have increased 200 per cent since 1843, while the purchasing power of the money they earn has been vastly increased.

The address as a whole was thoughtful and able, and appeals impressively to the fair and conservative mind. The quotations above given show that it will not do to condemn indiscriminately the acquisition of great wealth as being in violation of

either the rights or interests of society.

THE COLORADO INDIAN KILLING.

It is a most lamentable occurrence that is reported from Colorado today, that of shooting down a number of Indians for killing game contrary to the laws of the state. An attempt was made to arrest the offending aborigines, and they resisted and fired upon the game warden's posse, who returned the fire with fatal effect; and now there is some fear of a general uprising, which, however, is not likely to occur, for the Indians realize their numerical weakness in a contest with the dominant race.

If the violators of the game law had been white men, and had resisted arrest and had fired upon the game wardens, there would have been justification for returning the fire, though whether the sanguinary execution committed would have been proper is a question that depends upon circumstances for its solution. There are times when a recourse to such extremes, even under cover of law, is murderous and unlawful, as in the case of the recent firing of a sheriff's posse on striking miners in Pennsylvania. But while the fatal firing reported from Colorado as being done upon the Indians might have been justified in case the resistance had been offered by white men who knew the law, this justification does not appear to have existed for the killing of the Ute hunters.

So far as the cold letter of the law is concerned, it may be granted that the game warden had authority on his side. But he did not have right, when he endeavored to treat the Indians as lawless white men. Those Indians believed they had a right to hunt game for food as they were doing; they were untutored in the arbitrary rules of law that govern a more highly civilized race; they were yet as children in learning the ways of the white man. And while they must be taught to obey the laws of the state, there is neither sense in nor justification for enforcing that instruction with powder and ball. The game warden who has attempted to enforce the law against the Indians at the expense of human life when that sacrifice could have been avoided, has misjudged his duty to the state and to humanity.

There is another point in this connection. Many of those Indians believe they have the right under the treaty with the government to hunt in that section of country so long as they do not interfere with the rights of settlers. That is the understanding they had when they went on to the reservation. Col. Henry Page of this city, for years Indian agent in southern Colorado, and who was personally familiar with the negotiations of the treaty, has stated frequently that this was the idea conveyed to those Indians. This being the case, the Colorado game warden had no right to proceed to arrest the Indians, and still less legal authority to shoot them down when they resisted. The Constitution and treaties of the United States are superior to state laws. When the Indians were off their reservation the government agent should have been applied to, to return them; and as a judicious officer the Colorado warden would have pursued that course in preference to what has been done.

In either way of looking at the matter, whether the Indians have or have not a treaty right to hunt in western Colorado, there does not appear to be justification for the killing of Indians that has taken place. Perhaps some

further news may come that will place the officers in a better light. But now it looks as though a little caution and sense, added to a proper deference to the authority and influence of the government Indian agent, would have reached the desired end, either in taking into custody the offending red-men or in preventing their killing game, and would have avoided this trouble. There is neither civilized prudence nor decent humanity in pursuing an official policy that results in the destruction of human life for the taking of a few deer by Indians for food.

THEIR CALLING IN DANGER.

A peculiar and striking feature characterizes the present campaign in this city. Ordinarily Democrats and Republicans oppose each other vigorously, attack each other's past record, present platform and future policy, and berate each other soundly. But this time it is not the hostility of partisans for each other, but for persons who are not partisans at all, that signalizes the canvass. The politicians of the respective parties are far more hostile to the non-partisans than they are to each other.

Judging by their utterances the politicians would far rather see their pronounced opponents in national politics elected to power in this city than to see the control of the municipality vested in a body of business men who, as office holders, would repudiate all allegiance to all political parties. At first thought it seems singular that a politician should hate his traditional foe less than he hates a man who, though not his ally, bears him no ill will; but a second thought will lead to an explanation of this seeming inconsistency.

If the people of this city elect the non-partisan ticket, it means that the occupation of the heeler is gone. It means that the ward politician is incontinently and effectually squelched. His fellow citizens have no earthly use for him any more. Henceforth he must live by other means than political corruption and chicanery. If business men are to take control of the city, the politicians for revenue will have to go. Now, rather than see their occupation permanently abolished, the politicians of the stripe referred to would much prefer to see their opponents on national lines elected. Should the latter event occur, it would mean that the heeler is still to be a factor, and that there will come another opportunity for the politicians of the losing party to get in their work. At the next election they may win.

One good business administration of the government of this city would so please and relieve the taxpayers, and would produce such a vivid contrast to the record made by partisanship, that the voters would be very apt to say: "It's a good thing, give us some more." If the fetters that bind the voters to their party idols can be so far loosened that the suffragists will once try the experiment of a business administration of municipal affairs, free from partisan pressure, it is not likely that the voters, thus emancipated, and thus enlightened by experience, will ever again don those fetters willingly, or submit their limbs to them. Hence, the triumph this time of the Citizens' Reform ticket means the permanent rescue of the city government from the hands of the politicians. It means the permanent establishment of honesty, competency and common sense as controlling forces in the affairs of Utah's capital from this time forth. Hence also the fact that the non-partisan movement has awakened and crystallized a sentiment