

monitors. Each country would then be under the necessity of constructing similar air ships and the battleground would be transferred to the upper deep.

There may not be much foundation for the story of Peixoto's intended air ship, but some time the idea will surely be realized. A Swedish aeronaut has already announced his intention of crossing the Atlantic in a balloon. He must think he knows how to steer an air ship. If he does, others will soon be constructed, and the air will be navigated as the oceans. When this time comes, the new conveyances will speedily be adopted for purposes of war. But may we not hope that then, if not before, warfare will be rendered impossible? When an army can be annihilated in an instant, there should be no desire for a struggle. It has often been remarked that the perfection of the implements of destruction would finally lead to the cessation of war. With the adaptation of the balloon for such purposes, the development would seem to have reached that perfection. In the interest of peace, then, the sooner the air ships be built the better.

TREASONABLE DESIGNS.

At noon on Monday next, January 22, 1894, is the time set for what is designated as the Ancient Order of Loyal Americans to institute its alleged "battle with monopoly." The society is an industrial organization which its leaders assume to believe will become the most powerful of the many kindred associations that have flourished in the United States. Its promoters are chiefly officials of extensive organizations such as the Patrons of Industry, Farmers' Alliance, and societies of that class, but the new order is intended to be broader still, and include farmers, laborers, mechanics and business men.

The society was instituted by representatives from thirty-seven of the states, at secret meetings held in Chicago on December 27 and 28 last. It now has division commanders in forty-two of the states, Delaware and South Carolina being the exceptions. The commencement of the "battle with monopoly" means that at that time the division commanders will institute a general work of proselytism and will organize the recruits into brigades, regiments, etc. The grand commander of the order is D. A. Reynolds, of Lansing, Michigan, whose "grand orders No. 1" begins as follows:

You are each and all hereby ordained, instructed and commanded to call about you such trustworthy assistants as you may select, obligate them in the language of the official oath, instruct them in the duties of the order and command them to report to you for duty on Monday, Jan. 22, 1894. You are further commanded to take the field at 12 o'clock, noon, on Monday, Jan. 22, 1894, and proceed to organize your respective commands by the enlistment of loyal Americans.

The command then goes on to direct in detail certain reports to be made. The new organization is military in its character and political in its purpose. There are three degrees in the order—workmen, knights militant and national council. While it is claimed that the latter two are purely fraternal in their secret movements, yet they

dominate in official prerogative the first-named class, wherein the political work is claimed to be done. The officers include J. J. England, treasurer of the Patrons of Industry of Michigan, as grand quartermaster; Rev. Myron Reed, of Denver, as grand chaplain; W. C. Bateman, a Maine Farmers' Alliance leader, as grand sentinel, and other prominent labor agitators to whom have been given high-sounding titles. The basic principles of the order are stated to be these:

The equal legal and political rights of all loyal Americans.

The prosecution as traitors of all armed forces not recognized by the Constitution.

The establishment of postal savings banks.

The absolute non-interference of any foreign power in American industries or American finance.

Governmental ownership or control of all national monopolies.

The reclaiming of all unearned land grants, the same to be held as homesteads for actual settlers.

Governmental issue of all money in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country on a cash basis.

The referendum of all legislation of vital importance.

The exclusion of European criminal and pauper labor, and the making of bribery a capital crime, to be dealt with as treason against the national government.

According to the statement of its presiding officer, the mission of the order is to unite all industrial orders in one progressive and aggressive brotherhood, the furnishing of a means through which the people may express to Congress their wishes on all questions of great national importance, and for the protection of the inherent rights of Americans from the encroachments of monopoly. It is proposed to urge legislation in the interests of the masses through the initiative and to submit all questions of national importance to the order and by the order to the people through the referendum in the following manner: All great national questions are referred through the order from national to state, state to county, county to local, and finally by the local organizations to the people, who vote on the question by writing their names and the word "yes" or "no" upon a ballot. These ballots are certified to by the local commanding officer and sent back through the proper channels to be laid before Congress. This is what is called the referendum and it is what makes the order political. It also makes apparent the object in locating the national headquarters at Washington.

As is usually the case with organizations which are inimical to the government of the country where they are instituted, the Ancient Order of Loyal Americans has a catchy title to enlist patriotic sentiment in its behalf. Its slogan of anti-monopoly is a taking cry in these days of conflicting business and laboring interests. But an examination into its stated purposes shows that they are unpatriotic to an extreme degree in being subversive of the national Constitution, and that the anti-monopoly feature is but the sheep's clothing for the ravenous wolf that would create the most gigantic monopoly the world has even seen, by binding within its grasp not only the in-

dustrial but the political powers of the nation.

The proposition to submit to the society's referendum all legislation of vital importance is sufficient to stamp the order as traitorous in the minds of every loyal citizen. It would relegate the legislative department of the country to a tribunal not provided by and antagonistic to the genius of the national Constitution, and would set up as above and superior to the government of the Constitution the government of a secret society established on principles opposed to those which brought forth the Republic. Such a society cannot be tolerated with safety to the Union.

In the questions that should be brought before the national legislature for consideration is that of the necessity for emphasizing national existence and institutions. The idea that the right of secession came before the duty of union was effectually disposed of in the last great war. The idea that new methods of government can be introduced here through secret societies should be as thoroughly removed by appropriate legislation, and that, too, before there is any necessity for a resort to arms. If there are people in the United States, native or foreign born, who are not content with the form of government prescribed by the Constitution, they should be given to understand that while they are at liberty to go elsewhere to carry other ideas into effect, this country is not the place for their attempts. The design exhibited by the Ancient Order of Loyal Americans is subversive of the Constitution and therefore traitorous in its nature, and its promoters should receive the treatment which dabblers in that kind of business deserve.

THE STRIKE BUSINESS.

S. J. Cooper, Esq., who is owner and operator of seven large coal mines near Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, in a letter to a friend in this city, says that the recent miners' strike there cost the country not less than thirty million pounds sterling. Much of this was due to destruction of property, trees being cut down and fences being carried away for fuel. Mr. Cooper states that the distress in some cases was terrible.

The coal strike extended over a period of twelve weeks, kept 250,000 men out of employment, and reduced tens of thousands of families to destitution. The striking miners lost in wages alone £5,000,000; the miners' union fund of £300,000 was exhausted in the fight, and £1,000,000, gathered from public charity, went the same way. The loss to industries that had to be closed down because of the scarcity of coal amounted to £5,000,000. The cost of the strike to the mine owners is computed at £3,700,000, while manufacturers and trade dependent upon coal mining suffered to the extent of more than £15,000,000. This brings the total damage of the strike while it lasted up to twelve and a half million dollars a month, or about \$150,000,000 in all. Of course the striking miners got the worst of it all along the line, for even in the arbitration which was instituted by the government, the schedule of wages was reduced according to the