

property or any part thereof, or any other property for said tax charged in said roll, and at the hearing of this action said injunction be made perpetual.

That said plaintiffs above named, and all others who shall join them in prosecution of this, action may have, not only the relief above mentioned, but generally such relief and judgment as they are equitably entitled to, and costs of this action.

SUTHERLAND & JUDD,
Plaintiff's Attorneys.

OUR CHICAGO LETTER.

Major McKinley himself, the famous tariff reformer, is sojourning in Chicago at present. He is on his way to Michigan to make speeches in the interest of his party. He says that his prospects of re-election in his own Ohio district are gloomy. The district has been "gerrymandered" since last election, making it now one with a democratic majority of 2500.

The Major speaks in glowing terms of his bill. He says wool has already gone up, and an increased demand for labor is perceptible. The new tin industries will employ 15,000 men directly in manufacture, while thousands more will be employed in mining, smelting and transporting it.

He says that if merchants are making up goods they are doing so on those on which they have paid no increased tariff. He hopes they will work down goods on the free list. He says positively that "the reductions in duty far exceed the advances in duty." He says further that his bill gives us freer trade than any tariffs in the whole history of our land. Until 1824 every article imported was dutiable. In 1824 only 6 per cent of our imported goods were free, in 1833 only 15 per cent, in 1842 only 27 per cent, in 1846 only 12 per cent, in 1857 only 18 per cent. From 1873 to 1883 only 30 per cent of imported goods were free, in 1888 only 39 per cent, and this bill of 1890 makes 50 per cent free, while the Mills bill only made 47 per cent of all imported goods free.

It appears from the Vienna *Neue Freie Presse* of September 16 that the McKinley bill has not received much favor in Austria. It says that 10,000 persons are already unemployed because of the bill, which prohibits by its high tariff on pearl buttons their importation into this country. There are 30,000 machines employed in the pearl button manufacture in Austro-Hungary, and already the greater part have ceased running. Half of the buttons produced in Vienna were sold in this country heretofore. There is no other market for them, consequently 15,000 Austrians in Vienna alone will be thrown idle.

The Chicago *Tribune* says the Austrians need not be alarmed. The button factories cannot be established here for some time yet; that the Viennese can work on, the American consumer will pay the increased price. It says when we are ready we will bring over the button makers and then they will bless McKinley.

The *Tribune* says Austria is not remarkable for commercial friendliness to the United States. For every

seven dollars' worth of goods sent us, it has taken only one dollar's worth of our products, the other six being paid in pure, shining gold. "If Austria will not take American goods in exchange for all it sends here it may stop sending anything—and the sooner the better."

The *Evening Journal* of this city has an editorial depicting in roseate colors the beneficent effects of the McKinley bill. Since it became law business has revived, there is activity in commerce and manufacture, an easy money market and advanced prices for farm produce. In mercantile centres brisk sales and prompt collections are the rule. In manufacturing districts thrift and prosperity are apparent, while there are no strikes and no men unemployed. Trade failures are few and insignificant.

New industries employing millions of capital and giving work to thousands are being established. If there are higher prices for necessities it is owing to other causes than the tariff.

Further agitation on the tariff will only cause mischief. Let business and industry adjust themselves to the new system. Stability and prosperity must attend trade and industry in every direction.

The "calamity" shrieker, the "scare" stump orator, and the "discontent" wailer are all silenced. Their croakings are vain in the face of prosperity, good times and abundance of employment.

The education question has at last blossomed into a full-blown political issue in Illinois. The German Lutherans are in the gap. They are forcing the fighting. The Roman Catholics are not saying much, but I am of the opinion that they are sawing wood. As this education and religious business was a matter of much legislation and of State documents in Utah, it will hardly be out of place in Utonians to watch the contest here. The Lutherans submit a pledge to candidates for the legislature. Here it is:

"I, the undersigned, if elected to the Thirty-seventh legislature of the State of Illinois, do hereby pledge myself to make all lawful efforts toward repealing or so revising the compulsory school law approved May 24, 1889, and now in effect as that said law will not interfere directly or indirectly with parental authority over the child in determining the means and extent of its education, will not prescribe a certain school or class of schools where it shall be educated, will not restrict religious liberty in any form, nor leave parochial or private schools subject to State supervision or control."

If the candidate signs this he has the support of the Lutherans and Catholics. Up to date 17 democrats and 3 republicans have signed it. A number of others have pledged themselves to modify the law. There seems to be nothing very unreasonable in the above pledge. There is nothing said against the public school. There is no demand made for school funds, nor is there any protest against paying school taxes. There is nothing exorbitant in a parent claiming control of the education and religion of his child. If the State prescribes the school, it can also name the religion one is to adopt, and why not name the secret

society, the trade, the profession or political party the child is to follow. This is Socialism of the most orthodox kind.

The law which causes all this excitement is a very simple one and reads honestly. However Lutherans see that in the hands of unscrupulous politicians it could be made a positive tyranny. They have studied closely the Mormon question, and noted the capital made out of a mythical polygamy during the last two years. Even now when polygamy is a thing of the past in this country, the Lutherans see the very papers which abuse them, still abusing Mormons, and still contending that polygamy is not abandoned. As matters stand now both Lutherans and school advocates are wrong.

A. S. Draper, Superintendent of Public Instruction of New York, lectured to the Illinois State Schoolmasters' Club at Peoria a day or two ago. His subject was: "The Authority of the State in the Education of her Children." He traced the progress of education from the days when it was a matter of individual concern to our day of general public schools and compulsory attendance. He says that an education is the rightful inheritance of every American, and that the child must come and take it; that the school must be convenient; that it must provide an education for all children; that it must teach the duties of social relationship and of American citizenship; that it must train the mind to act for itself; that the education must be conducted in the common language of the country to justify the existence of public schools at public expense. He says:

"Of course if any parent prefers to educate his child at home or in a private school no one can object, if this is not a mere pretext and a whim, and if the education so provided is at least equivalent to what the public requires. But the public has the right to know that it is equivalent and to exact the information which will justify a public acceptance of its work. There is no other way of insuring general results."

What does he mean by a "pre-text" or "whim"? Is it a whim to be a Lutheran or a Mormon? He is right in the main. There is not much unreason in an educational test for citizenship in our country. But to preserve the greatness of it, the citizen must be moral, conscientious and temperate as well as educated. If such a citizen can be produced without religion then Mr. Draper is right.

Again he says:

"There is not a constitutional government in Europe that has not by most stringent laws, by a most elaborate course of procedure, by innumerable public officers and severe penalties, at great cost, undertaken to exact attendance upon the schools. And their efforts are attended with marked and uniform success. My friend, Dr. Levi Seeley, whom your Lake Forest University has sequestered away from us, told me not long ago that, when recently in the city of Berlin, a prominent German officer assured him that in that great city of a million and a quarter people there were not five children absent from the public schools who ought to be there. In England and France as well as Germany children from 5 or 6 to 13 or 14 years old in the cities and the rural districts alike are compelled to attend school during every day the public schools are in session."

Here we have England, France and Germany pictured as model universities on a national scale. It