

lieve the honest voters in the rank and file of the democratic party want it. It is wanted by the politicians, and especially those who are anxiously waiting at the pie counter; and the ordinary mortal, whether he be Populist or democrat, is not particularly interested in the gratification of their insatiable appetite for office. Let them wait.

IS THE LABORER ENTITLED TO THE PRODUCT OF HIS LABOR.

At the Hyperion upon the anniversary of Washington's birthday the Rev. W. W. McLane, D. D., in the course of his address said "that patriotism would lead to the enactment and preservation of such laws as would make possible to every man the possession of the product of his own labor." At this point, amid the applause was a sharp hissing from the right of the speaker who turned sharply upon the nest of serpents and said: "If any millionaire or his friends wants to hiss that sentiment let him hiss. The wealth of the world will not always flow into the coffers of the few, but will be more justly distributed among the many who produce it."—The People, March 4.

This circumstance occurred in the city of New Haven, Conn. We ask the reader to reflect upon the meaning of it. Is every man entitled to the product of his own labor, or is he not? If not, who is entitled to the product of your labor? Is there any significance in the fact that a declaration like that of Mr. McLane should be hissed in a public meeting in the city of New Haven? This is but one of the straws which show the drift of public sentiment in these latter days. Will its warning be heeded or will it not?

In spite of the bad weather and the off year as well as the certainty of Mr. Grow's election, he received within 26,000 of the republican vote of Pennsylvania in 1892, while his opponent received 150,000 less than the democratic vote of 1892.—Capital, March 3.

It will be seen from the above that the boasted republican majority in Pennsylvania was not the result of republican gains but of democratic losses. Pennsylvania democrats are afflicted with "that tired feeling," and, as a consequence, in spite of a republican loss of 26,000, Mr. Grow goes in by an apparent majority greater than the republican majority of two years ago. What is there in this for republicans to jubilate over?

GEO. L. DOUGLASS and Ed Greer are rivals for congressman at large and the next republican convention will be expected to decide between sledge-hammers and dynamite as preferable agencies of republican success.

"The Dogs and the Fleas—By One of the Dogs."

This is the title of a little book published by Douglas McCallum, of Chicago, in which the social questions of the day are presented in a new and somewhat novel light. We cannot better convey a proper idea of the work than by reproducing a part of one of the chapters.

The dogs are made to represent the industrial masses, and the fleas the parasites who feed upon the fruits of their industry. The chapter from which we quote is very suggestive of the cause and cure of vice, and contains a lesson that may be more seriously considered with profit.

The chapter first describes those dogs

that have been driven by starvation and the fruitless struggle for comfortable existence into the lowest depths of depravity. When the missionaries have approached them with tracts and besought them to reform and become honest and respectable dogs they have retorted that the fear of God does not satisfy hunger, and have refused to be reformed.

Then there is another class of dogs a little more fortunate that have managed in some way to feed fairly well. These are philosophical dogs, and they have a theory that virtue and good conduct depend altogether upon "plenty of good victuals." Having secured a dog that had met the misfortune of having a hole shot in his ribs, thereby exposing his stomach, they resolved to experiment with him to illustrate the truth of their theory, and we will quote from the book the result of their experiment:

"And it was so that they stretched over the aperture a transparent membrane, on which they marked a graduated scale whose zero was located at half fullness of the stomach; and they called the instrument a conductometer.

"Into this stomach they injected, by means of a funnel, a specially prepared, nutritious food, and by means of the scale they observed the relationship of the dog's behavior to the food in his stomach. Now, it was observed that when the quantity of his food was at the zero line, he was just an ordinary dog, with just ordinary moral ideas; but for every degree above zero he improved, and for every degree below he deteriorated.

"When they injected two or three above-zero degrees of food into him, his eyes brightened, and his moral perceptions grew more acute. At this point they asked him: 'What is thine opinion of the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal?"'

"And he replied: 'It is an excellent one; no dog ought to steal.'

"Then they filled him up one or two more degrees and asked him the same question. 'It is shocking to steal,' he said, 'and the dog that does not know the difference between *meum* and *teum* ought to be made to do it with a club.

"Then they filled him full up. And a glow of most beautiful intelligence came into his eyes; a most reposeful calm came over his frame; a heavenly peace over-spread his countenance, and he displayed a decided propensity to piety, and an irresistible tendency to hold forth like a fat-salaried barker, on the virtue of contentment with one's earthly lot, trust in God and the beauties of law and order.



FULL.

"What now is thine opinion of the commandment?" they asked.

"Oh, the unutterable wickedness of theft and crime," he replied, "it is abominable; it is damnable; no law can be too stringent and severe against it;

and anyone guilty of breaking the law ought to be hanged, drawn and quartered, and fed to the beasts of the field and the buzzards and vultures of the air as a prey and a warning to others. Oh! the very contemplation of crime makes me shudder; do, oh do, change the subject; and a strong spasm of pain thrilled his frame from nose to tail.

"But when they allowed his supply of stomach furniture to run low, the glow of most beautiful intelligence went out of his eye, the most reposeful calm came off his frame, the heavenly peace went off his countenance, and the propensity to hold forth like a fat-salaried barker, on contentment and trust in God, left him.

"And when his supply registered one degree below zero, they asked him, 'What now is thine opinion of the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal?"'

"And he replied absent-mindedly: 'Steal, steal? Well, it is not right—to be caught at it.'

"But as it fell lower and lower, the dimness of his moral vision increased, until at the lowest—the starvation point—his eyes glared and bulged with a ferocious insanity, and when asked then, 'Is it wrong to steal? What is the difference between *meum* and *teum*?' he viciously cursed and snarled and snapped at his questioner, and replied that he did not comprehend their idiotic jargon, he wanted something to eat.



EMPTY.

"All which, these philosophers said, demonstrated that vice crime and sin (so-called) are merely symptoms of want and poverty, and vacuity of the alimentary canal; and they boldly asserted that a good sound gospel of comfort and plenty, earnestly preached would do more in five minutes to cleanse the earth of sin and fill it with righteousness, than all the barkings of all the salaried barkers, and all the sin suppressing machinery of clubs and ropes in the world would do in 5,000 years.

"And when these words came to the ears of the salaried barkers and the sin suppressors they were greatly scandalized, said they never heard such blasphemous and ungodly talk. It was actually bringing into contempt the sacred machinery of vice squelching, which had been incorporated by the state, hallowed by the church, and had grown through long years, and by the expenditure of great wealth and invention, to the proportions of a national institution, and a great vested interest. It was actually insinuating, most wickedly, that there was a short, simple and direct way of attaining an object, which was a gross insult to the memory of the heaven-appointed Clubstocks, Elder Berrys, Blatherskites, and other sanctified ones whose genius has invented the present elaborately involved, convoluted, con-

glomerated and roundabout way of getting at it. But, above all, it was a direct blow at the livelihood of thousands of good and moral dogs who were given employment, at good feed, who would, if this new-fangled and highly irreligious gospel of victuals were adopted, be thrown completely—yes, completely, brethren—out of work."

In Mississippi.

They are called "Populists" in Mississippi, and they are making a wonderful change in that benighted old state. In the legislature, which has just adjourned, Hon. Frank Burkitt, the prominent Alliance man, seems to have been a leader, for the New Orleans Picayune (democrat) quotes the leading democrat of that body as saying:

"Frank Burkitt has more following in this legislature than any five men here. He has twenty odd Populites at his back on all questions, and as many more members who claim to be democrats, almost invariably vote with him. Whatever he says is law with his Populite following. There is no real leader on the democratic side. There are some forty or fifty of us who think we are leaders, but the trouble is we are without a following. We have too many field officers on dress parade without any rank and file; in fact, I might say, an army of major generals. This is Burkitt's legislature. All those who favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver do not vote with Burkitt, but all those who vote with him favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver. If you doubt this read the roll call on the free silver resolution and on the opposition to the caucus to elect penitentiary commissioners. The fact is, the party is badly demoralized."

Then the Picayune saw Mr. Burkitt, and quoted him as saying:

"The financial question will be made the leading issue in Mississippi, as it is in the nation. Of course, our democratic friends will declare themselves in favor of free silver, but the silver question will fall far short of covering the field of financial reform which we shall open to the people. Then, too, they will talk tariff, tariff, and flaunt the Wilson bill as it passed the house before their patient and long suffering constituents, but the storm of public indignation has been lulled by tariff 'makeshifts' about as long as it is possible. The people are not to be fooled with 'free trade powder in a protected capsule.' They demand substantial financial reforms, and are determined to have it or know the reason why it is not accorded.

"Certainly our party will nominate a state ticket next year, unless the democracy of this state should do that which has been unheard of in these late years, namely: Formulate a platform 'which says what it means and means what it says,' embodying a policy promotive of the best interests of the people, and place men upon it whose past records command the entire confidence of the farmers and workingmen, as well as the business men. No Wall street satellite, national bank advocate or machine politician, can have the field to himself for any office in this state, from school trustee to governor. Senator George, by his course in congress since the calling of the extra session, has made friends among our people, but we scarcely expect, on account of his age, that he would aspire to a re-election, and if he should he would most likely be antagonized by his own party. We will maintain, as best we can, our party integrity and vote for a man who believes producing west and south should no longer be dominated by the plutocratic east."