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SPIRIT OF COMPULSION.

The Popular Science Monthly contains an article which in view of the colonial conflicts between capital and labor is timely and worthy of grave consideration. The art cle observes that under the guise of socialism and humanitarianism, the spirit of compulsion is in the air.

The well-meaning everywhere are longing to see whether they are not, or cannot command, a majority in order that they might begin to wield that compulsive power which it is one of the strange delusions of the modern world that majorities have a right to exercise in everything. Yet if one were to propose to put any one of these well meaning persons under the absolute cutrol of another well-meaning person, who should prescribe for him his comings and goings, decide for him what causes he should support, how much money he should give in charity and for what particular objects, how much wealth he should accumulate and at what point the fruits of his industry should pass over to the state, we greatly fear that, well meaning person number one would make strong objections. True, he wants, with the aid of those who agree with him in opinion, to this leading to a large trade.

settle these points for others; but he has never seriously considered what it would be like to part with his own liberty.

Ordmary human beings require something more than an assurance of another person's good intentions before they are willing to make a surrenter to him of any large measure of their freedom of action; and we imagine that many of those who to-day advocate an indefinite increase in the power of the state do so under a fond impression that then particular views and schemes, humanitarian or other, will always prevail. They, with the help of others like-minded, want to govern the world for its good. Well, whit tyrrany ever professed less! Good intentions are excellent things to have, but when they make alliance with the policeman's truncheon they become committed to many devious lines of policy, and quickly assume all the odious characteristics of tyranny.

Australian dried fruits have been put on the English market, the first consignment of 800 boxes realizing 98s, or about 21 cents per pound, which is higher than the price fixed for the new crop from California. Growers are very hopeful of