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MONTREAL, November 8, 1890.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Yet another terrible railway accident has to be recorded, the result of the employment of youth and inexperience in responsible situations. An express train was run into two coal laden trains standing in a switch, near Syracuse, N.Y., the other day, through the recklessness of a boy, four men being killed and several others seriously injured. Why the lives of railway passengers should be imperilled simply to gratify the avarice of large corporations is hard to understand, and why the public submit to be thus placed in continued jeopardy is a still greater mystery. Of course the railway company will say it was a regrettable mistake, and might have been committed by the best of men, but the fact is evident, from the published account of the accident, that the boy must have had a variety of duties to perform, some of which should have had the sole attention of a person of maturer years, and that his diversity of duty was too much for him. The railway company should be held responsible for these four men being done to death and the injury and mutilation of others. It is in the end a system of false economy to so double up the duties of a workman that, for the whole of his working time he is on the tenter hooks of anxiety. This is more especially wrong where the situation is one requiring cautiousness, care and attention in the highest degree, as in the railway service, and the time has arrived when our legislature should prohibit the employment of persons under twenty-one years of age as switchmen or in similar responsible positions.

The Quebec Legislature was opened on Tuesday last with the usual ceremonies. The Hon. Mr. Marchand was re-elected Speaker. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor read the speech from the throne. The speech contained the expected announcement that the Government would ask the House to authorize the issue of new debentures to the amount of six million dollars, the proceeds of which will be used in paying off old obligations, and in repaying the advances made in connection with the Jesuits' Estates matter, and for the construction and carrying on of necessary public works. The payment of the interest on these debentures is proposed to be met by raising the price of licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors and by levying a special duty on the working of mines in the Province. Congratulations are looked for from the success of the agricultural merit law and the acceptance by the Protestant Committee of Public Instruction of the grant to the minority in connection with the settlement of the Jesuits' Estates. The building of a bridge across the St. Lawrence at Quebec is also hinted at, and assistance indirectly promised. The question of increased salaries to the District Magistrates is also touched upon, and a promise

made to have the matter brought before the House. About the most important public measure promised is that relating to the inspection of factories and the protection of workmen.

The names of Aldermen Conroy, Griffin, Malone and Shorey have been mentioned for the position of Acting Mayor for the next three months. With such an intellectual and respectable quartette to choose from THE ECHO would suggest that the four names be placed in a hat and the first one drawn to take the position. There is nothing to choose between them; they stand on the same pedestal of aldermanic eminence; the result does not affect the public in any material degree, and the plan we propose would do away with jealousy and bickering among themselves and their supporters in the Council. Perhaps it would be better, however, to make the position a permanent one and hand it over to Jimmy McShane. Possibly this might satisfy his ambition.

The names of Dr. Guerin, Mr. J. M. Fortier, cigar manufacturer, Joseph Duhamel, Q.C., and the Hon. James McShane are mentioned as possible candidates for the mayoralty. Requisitions are also in circulation in favor of the present occupant of the civic throne, and it is likely that if Mayor Grenier consents to run again some of the others may drop out.

The New York World says: If the workingman or any other man finds it difficult under Mr. Jay Gould's plan to get along under the new tariff with one suit of clothes where he formerly had two, he will have to resort to two patches where he formerly got along with one.

THE ECHO is mailed to subscribers at a distance every Friday evening, and delivered in the city early on Saturday. Parties not receiving their paper regularly should communicate with the office.

Mr. Wm. Clendinning, the member for St. Lawrence Ward in the Quebec Legislature, was present at the Opposition caucus and, in the course of a speech, promised to give that party his support.

This is how an American exchange puts it: "Protection to home industry—Protection for the boss and home industry for the workman."

THE UNITED STATES ELECTIONS.

The triumphant sweep of the Democratic party in the United States elections appears to be an indication that the American people have resolved that the policy of protection has gone far enough, and that the McKinley bill is an overdose of it. Although a large number of the most influential papers in the States were against the further increase of protection it was not supposed that the American people as a body were opposed to it, but the result of the elections show this to have been a mistaken view, and that the masses are utterly opposed to the imposition of a war tariff in a time of peace. What must have had a great deal to do with this change in the opinions of the American workingmen was the eager anxiety shown by the trusts and combines to take immediate advantage of the increased duties on imports. No sooner did the bill come into law than several of these trusts gave notice of a rise in price of the home-made article and a decreased output, with a consequent shutting down of a portion of the industries controlled by them. This of course meant a large number of men being thrown out of work, a keener competition in that field of labor, and a probable lowering of wages from such extra competition. From the rush of the syndicates to control the market in

particular industries, the intelligent among the working classes foresaw what the result would be, and have given expression to their views in no uncertain way. The principle of increased duties has been emphatically condemned, and it need not occasion any surprise if, after all, the McKinley bill may have only a short existence.

Another element which helped, no doubt, in the triumph of the Democracy was the manifest unfairness and discrimination of the new tariff. For instance, on commodities naturally coming under consumption among the poorer classes the duties were increased forty to sixty percent, while the "purple and fine linen" of the millionaire was, in many instances, left untouched or only moderately increased. A prominent business man of New York city publishes the following table of prices on familiar commodities arranged so as to be readily understood by those who are not acquainted with technical terms:

Article	Old rate per cent.	New rate per cent.
Cotton corduroy	35	75
Fine cassimere	48 1/2	60
Sealskin saques	30	20
Silk plush to imitate seal do.	50	110
Woolen used by the working-man	80	110
Fine broadcloth used by the rich man	50	60
Cotton velvet	40	80
Silk velvet	50	50
Cotton laces and handkerchiefs	40	60
Silk laces and handkerchiefs	50	60
Silk striped cotton sleeve linings	35	100
Silk sleeve linings	50	50
Cheap black alpaca	60	100
Black silk	50	50

The above needs no comment, it tells its own eloquent story of injustice and oppression, and it is no wonder the American people have set their faces against a continuance of the iniquitous system of class legislation shown in the McKinley bill. The author of the bill has himself been defeated and several other of the more prominent of its supporters. Freed from Congressional cares they may now have leisure to study the taxation problem more fully at home, and we have no doubt that the lesson they have just learned will be productive of good.

BIRCHALL.

Before another issue of THE ECHO appears Reginald Birchall will have paid the penalty of the crime of which he was found guilty or the sentence will be commuted to imprisonment for life. From the very moment that the body of the dead man was found in the swamp and the apprehension of the prisoner the newspapers of the English-speaking countries of the world have given great prominence to the case, and comments on the prisoner's position—not always judicious or fair to him—have been freely made. His antecedents have been traced from youth upwards, and discreditable stories about his college life, having a tendency to prejudice the public mind against him, were widely published. His apologists or sympathizers have not failed to take advantage of this, and in the petitions now before the Minister of Justice considerable stress has been laid upon this feature in the case. Still, taking all this into consideration, we cannot see that there is any real foundation for extending to him the prerogative of mercy. The murder was coolly calculated, judiciously planned in every particular and, saving one little accident, the identity of the victim would have been entirely lost and the murderer gone undiscovered. The devotion shown by the prisoner's wife has been the subject of a great deal of gush from numerous correspondents, but divested of all maudlin sentiment we have not seen any substantial rea-

son advanced why the death sentence in his case should not be carried out. Mrs. Birchall has the sympathy of every right-minded person in her great trouble, while her conduct during a very trying period of her life's history is the cause of much admiration. She has shown the courage and devotion of a wife in their truest sense, and through the prominence of these qualities in her nature many were induced to sign the petitions in her husband's behalf who otherwise would have refrained from doing so. The opinion is almost unanimous that the verdict was a just one according to the evidence, and that the prisoner well merits the fate that awaits him.

Since the above was in type intelligence has reached the city that the Privy Council have rejected the petition for commutation of the death sentence on Birchall and he will accordingly be hanged on Friday next. Although much sincere pity will be felt for his unfortunate wife, all right-thinking people unite in saying that the Council have taken the proper course in refusing the prayer of the petition. Any other course would have been a travesty on justice and a pandering to depraved sentimentalism.

THE NIGHT SCHOOLS.

From the eagerness displayed by the working classes to take advantage of the re-opening of the night schools it is quite evident that they are disposed to take advantage of every means of educating themselves when placed within easy reach. And it is to their credit that, after undergoing the toil of a ten hours' day in a workshop, they feel disposed to submit to mental drill for another hour or two. From the success which attended their institution last winter it was conclusively proved that the night schools were a necessity, and that the money spent by the Government and by the Corporation was justifiable. If the best results for the amount expended were not attained, it was because of the actions of certain boodlers, who when public money is to be spent are always sure to show up. This class of people, "on the make" at all times, should be looked after with greater vigilance, and we hope the lessons of last year will not be thrown away. What the Government should do now, in order to supplement and carry out the good work to full fruition, is to introduce and carry through the Legislature a Free Public Libraries Act for cities and towns having a sufficient population. If these were established near to densely populated places the boon would be greatly taken advantage of. Several of our millionaires have by generous gifts given a great impetus to higher education, but these are available only to the middle classes. Why should the laborer and artisan be forgotten? The establishment of a free public library for the working classes would be a proud monument to the memory of any man.

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY, No. 7623, Rooms Weber Hall, St. James street. Next meeting Sunday, Nov. 2nd, at 2.30. Ed. TARTÉ, Recording Secretary.

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GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

Our Great Clearing Sale in our MANTLE DEPARTMENT is causing no little excitement throughout the trade, but as it is our own and our customers' interest we are studying and mean to continue to do so, we cannot help it if our competitors feel sore.

Our Mantle business has nearly doubled this year, therefore we can afford to give the reductions as advertised so as to keep up the excitement. The list of reduction is so large that it is impossible to give the whole of it, but just to give you an idea herewith give a few quotations.

LADIES' JACKETS, all well made and perfect fitting, original prices \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00 and \$5.50, your choice for only \$2.00.

LADIES' JACKETS, \$7.00, for \$4.
 LADIES' JACKETS, \$8.00, for \$5.
 LADIES' JACKETS, \$10.00, for \$5.
 and so on.

LADIES' DOLMANS, at from \$6 to \$12.00, your choice for only \$4.50.

LADIES' PLUSH DOLMANS, \$14 for \$7.50.
 LADIES' PLUSH DOLMANS, \$23 for \$9.00.
 These are Plums and are selling fast.

LONG FANCY CLOTH PA MANTLES, \$40.00 and \$50.00, for \$15.00.

A line of CHILDREN'S REEB JACKET'S, to clear at \$2.50, worth \$4.50.
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ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

European.

Mr. Gladstone has declined to stand as a candidate for the rectorship of the University of Aberdeen.

The Pope is about to create a commission of cardinals to engage in discussion of the social question.

The authorities in Paris, France, propose taking severe measures respecting the general disregard of the law compelling the vaccination of children.

A leading feature of the returns from the municipal elections is the fact that not a single dissident Liberal success is recorded.

During a circus performance at St. Petersburg, which was attended by the Czar and the members of his family, one of the trained horses suddenly became vicious and made an attack on M. Ginielli, the manager of the circus.

A wedding feast in the Italian colony in Glasgow was broken up by a murder on Tuesday night. While the feast was progressing an Italian named Lorenzo Maro Antonio made his appearance in the room.

The Parnell-O'Shea divorce suit stands the third for a hearing in the special jury list for the Michaelmas sittings. Therefore, it will probably come on for trial about the third week in November.

American.

Bud McCoy, the leader of the notorious McCoy-Hatfield gang, was killed near Tennesee Camp, Logan county, Va., on Friday evening by a man named Dempsey.

On a small cot bed in the village of Whitehall, Lehigh county, Pa., lies Mrs. Adam Wucher, slowly pining away for want of nourishment.

Free-thinkers from all parts of Canada and the United States are attending the annual congress of the American Secular Union at Portsmouth, Ohio.

Thomas Churchill, 83 years of age, was murdered by burglars on Friday night at his home in the little hamlet known as "The Hemlocks," two miles south of Schuylerville.

stantly. The men went to the office of Dr. W. B. Webster and had their wounds dressed. They were Michael Henahan, of Schuylerville, and Patrick Hughes, of Montans, who has been visiting in Schuylerville.

Canadian.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen have left a gold watch at Hamilton for the engineer, and a gold locket for the fireman of the train on which they rode, and which was derailed in the Rocky Mountains.

A fatal accident occurred on the Canadian Pacific railway near Owen Sound early on Wednesday morning through the colliding of an engine with an express train.

Mrs. Birchall, accompanied by one of her husband's legal advisers, had an interview with the Minister of Justice at Ottawa on Wednesday, relative to the commutation of the death sentence of her husband.

About two weeks ago an unknown man was found dead in a chair at the Wilcox House, St. Thomas, and from the published description of deceased it was thought he was John Croft, of Hamilton, who had left that city two months ago.

Musical Item.

Last week Gilhooly went to Onion creek, near Austin, to shoot quail. He got dinner at the ranch of Mabeth Simmons, a granger living in that vicinity.

"Isn't this rather early to be killing pigs?" "Of course it's too early to be killing pigs. Who is killing pigs such warm weather as this?"

"The Boston Highwayman in Action. "Pause!" sternly commanded the footpad, pointing a loaded revolver at the head of the belated pedestrian.

"What do you want?" gasped the astonished victim. "The immediate transfer and surrender of whatever auriferous or argentiferous disks coined for purposes of exchange or printed notes exchangeable for such disks of which you may, by any fortuitous concatenation of circumstances be the possessor, together with such other articles of intrinsic value or capable of being hypotheated for the necessary means of subsistence as may have found a temporary lodgment in your garments.

"Is it something to eat you want?" "That is the summum bonum of my ambition—the ne plus ultra of my hopes."

It was a can of baked beans. Brown has just had telephonic connection established between his office and house, and is very much pleased with it.

"I tell you, Smith, this telephone business is a wonderful thing. I want you to dine with me this evening, and I will notify Mrs. Brown to expect you."

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS

To cure erysipelas: Make a solution of equal portions of camphor and ether. Rub the affected parts with this. The cure is almost immediate.

CHOCOLATE CARAMELS.—One half pound of grated chocolate, two-ten cups of sugar, one half cup of milk and water, a lump of butter, one teaspoonful of almond.

ANGEL CAKE.—Whites of 11 eggs beaten to a stiff froth, 94 oz. of sugar, 64 oz. of flour, 1 teaspoonful extract of vanilla. Don't butter the tins. Bake forty minutes.

If you wish to clarify sugar and water that you are about to boil, it is well to stir in the white of an egg while cold; if put in after it boils the egg is apt to get hardened before it can be any good.

To restore colors to carpets, and take out grease spots: Rub the places with white writing chalk, leave it on for a few moments, then brush as usual; the carpet will reappear as bright as ever.

GENUINE AMERICAN DOUGHNUTS.—2 lbs. lard to fry in, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, 1 cup milk, 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, a pinch of salt, a pinch of cinnamon, 2 teaspoonfuls melted lard, and enough flour to roll them.

LEMON OR ORANGE CAKE.—One and one half cups of sugar, one half cup of butter, three eggs, two thirds cup of milk, one teaspoonful of soda, add the strained juice and grated peel of one orange or lemon. Bake in jelly tins—three cakes.

PLAIN DARK CAKE.—One and one half cups of sugar, two spoonfuls of treacle, one cup of butter, one half cup of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda, two eggs, two and one half cups of flour, a little of all kinds of spices, currants and raisins.

COOKIES.—One cup of sugar, one half cup of sour milk, one half teaspoonful of soda, just flour enough to roll, baking quickly. Add any flavoring you wish. No eggs are required. These are very nice if grated or prepared cocoanut is added.

A writer claiming to know something about poultry feeding recommends night feeding in winter to such fowls as are fattening for market. After two or three visits with a lantern for this purpose they will look eagerly for the nine or ten o'clock lunch.

DELICIOUS PUDDING.—One quart of boiled milk, mixed with a quarter of a pound of mashed potatoes and the same quantity of flour, with one or two ounces of butter and two ounces of sugar. When it is cold, add three eggs well beaten; bake half an hour, and eat with wine sauce.

EGGLESS CAKE.—One half cup of butter, one and one half cups of sugar, one cup of sour milk, three level cups of sifted flour, one teaspoonful of soda, one half teaspoonful of cinnamom and grated nutmeg, and one cup of chopped and well floured raisins. Beat the butter and sugar very light, and in stirring in the flour beat very thoroughly.

CHOCOLATE PUDDING.—One quart of milk, four table-spoonfuls of corn starch, two and one half table-spoonfuls of grated sugar. Dissolve the corn starch in a little of the milk; dissolve the chocolate in a little boiling water; heat the remainder of the milk to boiling and stir in the corn starch and sugar, and before it thickens add the chocolate. When served, use cream and sugar, or any sauce preferred.

LEMON JELLY.—One half box gelatine, one scant cup cold water, one pint boiling water, one cup sugar, one half cup lemon juice (large) one square inch stick cinnamon. Soak the gelatine in the cold water till soft. Shave the lemon rind thin, using none of the white. Steep it with the cinnamon in the pint of boiling water ten minutes, then add the soaked gelatine, sugar and lemon juice, and when dissolved strain.

TO WHITEN FLANNELS.—A solution of one and a half pounds of white soap and two-thirds of an ounce of spirits of ammonia, dissolved in twelve gallons of soft water, will impart a beautiful and lasting whiteness to any flannels dipped in it, no matter how yellow they may have been previous to immersion. After being well stirred around for a short time, the articles should be taken out and well washed in clear, cold water.

TOMATO SOUP.—Chop fine half a turnip, one carrot, two small onions, one stalk of celery and three sprigs of parsley; mix with one can of tomatoes and one quart of water, seasoning with one teaspoonful each of salt and sugar and a little pepper. Boil gently for one hour. As the water boils away add more, so that the quantity may not be diminished. Mix two heaping table-spoonfuls of flour thoroughly with one of butter, and thin the mixture with some of the soup. Then mix the thickening with the soup and boil for five minutes. Strain the soup and serve.

BREAD OR BISCUIT (self-raising flour)—Take in the proportion of one quart of milk or cold water to three pounds of flour; mix as little as possible—just enough to wet through and form a slack dough. Immediately bake in a deep pan, about half full, in an oven well heated, to be ready when you commence mixing. If a shallow pan be used, cover it, but not so as to press on the dough and injure its rising, thus protecting the bread from being burned or crust-bound, which would deter its full expansion. Use no salt. Weigh the flour and measure the water to secure accuracy, which is very important.

CUPS AND SAUCERS.—The latest shape for coffee cups is square—the latest decoration wild flowers, apparently growing up from the base of the cup, all around it. Tea cups, for five o'clock tea, vie with after-dinner coffees in beauty, and come in the costliest porcelains. Fortunately for people who cannot afford such luxury, the artistic revival is manifest in the cheapest wares, and even earthen jugs and bowls are no longer ugly. Very pretty sets may be had quite cheaply, but the wisest choice for every day use by people of small means is plain white French china, which, when broken, may easily be replaced. With this may be used any bits of colored glass or china which one may possess. A majolica dish or jug, bread plate or salad bowl, gives color at small expense, while the gay Russian bowls in red and gold answer admirably for crackers or fruit.

OVERCOATS! OVERCOATS! Fall and Winter Suits and Overcoats for Men Young Men Boys and Children.

SCHOOL SUITS for the Boys. SCHOOL OVERCOATS for the Boys. SCHOOL PANTS for the Boys. at THE EMPIRE CLOTHIERS —2201— St. Catherine St. West Montreal.

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Our Bright New Stock is ready for your inspection. Gentlemen requiring a Seasonable Suit or Overcoat manufactured from the best home and imported goods purchase direct from THE EMPIRE, 2261 St. Catherine St. (West.) Geo. S. Rooney, Manager. Montreal Fire Alarm Free—have one.

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ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Reflections on Current Events by the Boarders.

"The McKinley bill is going to be an object lesson in political economy to the American workmen," said Brown. "If the theory 'that the more you tax yourself the richer you get' is correct, then special banking facilities will have to be provided to receive the enormous sums saved by Uncle Sam's 'hired man' through the mysterious workings of that bill of McKinleys."

"To judge by what has already been done since that bill has passed," said Garlic, "it ain't banks that'll be required, but poorhouses. Take the carpet industry, for instance; the Trust met the other day and advanced prices from 15 to 75 cents per yard, according to quality, so that the American who wants a carpet on his floor will have to pay pretty dear for it."

"Well, that's all right," said Sinnett, "that will build up the American carpet trade and give lots of work to the carpet weaver, and that's what he wants."

"That's where you're out," said Garlic, "the carpet weaver don't want more work—he wants more money, and that's precisely what he won't get under the new arrangement. The Trust knew that by increasing the price the demand would be diminished and they therefore resolved to close two-fifths of all the carpet factories during the coming winter; this practically leaves the producer and the consumer at the mercy of the Trust."

"I don't at all agree with that," replied Sinnett, "it's a business transaction and don't interfere in any way with either the man who weaves the carpets or him who buys it. The Trust has not in any way interfered with the wages of their employees or yet has it presumed to compel anybody to buy its carpets, it has simply made the most of the opportunity offered by the high tariff, and if it hadn't done so the men who compose it would be a lot of chumps."

"But can't you understand," said Garlic, "that this closing of two fifths of all the mills will throw forty out of every hundred carpet weavers out of work; that those forty, in order to live, must secure work at their trade, and that to do this they must compete with the other sixty; now this competition among the weavers will not only prevent them getting an advance of wages, and thereby benefitting by the passing of this bill, but it will actually reduce wages, because among the forty there will be many who can't afford to be idle, and who will offer their services for less than what the sixty are getting. On the other hand, a man wanting to buy a carpet will have to pay the price demanded by the Trust or go without, for the tariff on imported carpets is so high as to be actually prohibitory. So that the Carpet Trust, by the aid of the McKinley bill, is enabled to rob its employees by reducing their wages and to rob the consumer by demanding an exorbitant price for their goods."

"It seems to me," said Sharkey, "that unless the wages of the American laborer are increased in proportion to the increase of duty through this bill, that it will not be long before Uncle Sam will be suffering from overproduction; the people of the United States are the home market of the American manufacturer, they are his consumers, this jump in the tariff has decreased the purchasing power of their dollars in the same ratio as it has increased the amount of duty, and it must follow that unless the number of the consumer's dollars are increased by increasing his wages, the American manufacturer will lose his home market from the inability of the American people to buy that which they produce. Now, as wages have not and are not likely to increase the country at large will be impoverished to benefit the members of the various Trusts who control American industries; this policy will create a few more millionaires and millions more of tramps; it can't be otherwise."

"The strangest thing in connection with a protective tariff," said Gaskill, "is that the workingman imagines that by protecting the products of labor he protects himself; he never stops long enough to think that the products of labor do not as a rule belong to the laborer, but belong to the capitalist, and that it is he and not the laborer who is protected."

"And yet he could easily convince himself," said Brown, "that the ruling powers are not in sympathy with him, if he would only do a little bit of thinking. Whenever he looks for a job he finds labor treated as a commodity; he finds that the employer, all other things being equal, always strives to secure the cheapest labor, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred tells him straight that he regards his labor as a commodity, yet when it comes to framing a tariff he never finds this commodity in the list of articles on which a duty is demanded. Labor is a commodity, and the laborer should insist, that inasmuch as a high import duty is levied on everything coming from abroad, he should also be protected

This is not a question of dollars and cents, though it would mean more dollars in the worker's pocket, it is not a question of policy, it is a question of principle, of right, of justice. If it is right that for every dollar's worth of goods the Canadian consumer shall pay the Government a blackmail of 85 cents, it must also be right to compel everyone landing on our shores to pay to the Government 35 cents of every dollar that he may earn while he is in the country; one is as much right as the other. The only difference is that the duty on goods protects capital, while the duty on immigrants would protect the laborer."

"There is only one fault that I find in that McKinley bill," said Gaskill, "and that is that it don't place the duties half high enough. This protective policy has been held up by capital as the philosopher's stone so persistently and so long, that until some nation takes an overdose of it and bleeds itself white, the average workingman will worship it like the Israelites the golden calf. The States just now have about as much of it as they can conveniently stagger under and the next Presidential election will show what the people think of it."

BILL BLADES.

ORIGIN OF LUCIFER MATCHES

It is due to a happy thought which flashed through the brain of Mr. Isaac Holden, who so terms the idea in his evidence before the patent committee of Parliament. Mr. Holden had to rise at four o'clock in the morning to pursue his studies in chemistry, and experienced the gravest inconvenience from his tedious efforts to obtain a light from flint and steel. He was giving lectures at this time to a very large audience. He goes on to say:

"Of course I knew, as other chemists did, the explosive material that was necessary in order to produce instantaneous light; but it was very difficult to obtain a light on wood by that explosive material, and the idea occurred to me to put under the explosive mixture sulphur. I did that, and published it in my next lecture, and showed it. There was a young man in the room whose father was a chemist in London, and he immediately wrote to his father about it, and shortly afterward lucifer matches were issued to the world."

VIVACIOUS GIRLS.

There are two kinds of vivacious girls, and you shall choose between them. She of mock vivacity laughs at everything, no matter how trivial, and says, "Oh, how funny you are!" at every remark she hears. She can swim, and ride, and play lawn tennis—all of which accomplishments, in the face of her tightly-laced waist, fill one with a real admiration for her prowess, in spite of her odious manners. She is always trying to say something witty; is addicted to the punning habit; talks of learning to box; is so glad "girls now-a-days have some spirit"—as much as to

say, "You see before you a complete specimen of the admirable creature I describe;" and is generally loud, slangy and egotistical. The genuinely vivacious girl is as sweet as a rose, and as restful.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF MONOPOLIES.

In every locality where there is a street railroad, a gas company, a water works company or other institution of the kind whose charter is expiring, or where it is proposed to organize services of this kind, our friends should be on the alert to advocate the retention of the service in the hands of the town or city instead of allowing monopolists to possess themselves, often at an absurdly low figure, of the means of levying high taxes on industry. The people can run their street car lines, telephones, gas works and water works cheaper and better than any monopoly. And what is equally important, they can secure to all employes good treatment, fair wages and short hours. The workingman who, by his vote or influence, assists in handing over these and similar franchises to soulless, grasping corporations, whose only consideration is the tribute they can levy from the public, either knowingly or ignorantly helps to enslave his own class. It is much easier to bring public opinion effectively to bear on the question in a municipality than in the larger arena of State or national politics. The cry is continually becoming louder for Government ownership of railroad and telegraph lines, and before long the demand of the people—that the great lines of transportation and communication shall no longer be controlled by greedy and unscrupulous monopolists—will be too strong to be resisted. But in the meantime we ought not to lose any opportunity of carrying out the same sound principle with regard to local enterprises. The introduction of a general system of municipal ownership of all monopolies requiring a public charter for their operation, in addition to the immediate advantages secured, would familiarize the public with the idea, and pave the way for national ownership of the great lines of travel and communication.—Journal of the Knights of Labor.

WILD BOYS.

It is a curious fact that in all large cities there are groups of impudent little monkeys, lads of tender years, who almost seem predestined to grow up to bad ends.

They are born with tempers that neither kindness nor a sick tames. They scoff and jibe at their parents, and, to speak the plain truth, are a nuisance to everybody.

By the time that they have grown up to schooling age their vicious propensities show more strongly. If another bad boy is to be found, bad boy number one hunts him up, becomes his chosen friend, and both play truant.

Then the wild lad takes to still worse courses, consorts with thieves, and after a time stands in the dock, and finally disappears in a reformatory.

Sometimes he changes his manners and mind, and after five years in an industrial school elects to go to sea. Here, perhaps, the discipline and the ocean winds combine to change his aspirations, and at last the man leads a steady, sober, useful life.

The great majority of these unhappy wild boys, however, only go from bad to worse, and the small scamp who began by jeering at rebukes, and habitually went wrong in a juvenile way, ends by turning out a confirmed criminal and jail-bird.

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