

**The Ithaca Independent**

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SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1908.

Our city sewerage system has always been most disagreeable to the smell—both in its mechanical construction and its financial management. Now comes the new septic tank. It is reported that the people in its vicinity are preparing to put double siding on their houses to keep out the awful stench.

We sincerely regret that a bright attorney like Frank Leary should make such a fatal mistake as to get into a dispute with an alderman concerning the handling of a little money which it was thought was to go toward paying the "salary" of the men who serve the city without (?) compensation. We assure you those aldermen will never forget Frank for it.

The board of supervisors could spare plenty of time to play cards in their rooms, discuss a little printing, and squander the people's money paying "Billy" Noble to count the number of ems, where a printer usually measures the space after the first hundred ems; but they could not spare time to examine the bad roads when invited to do so by the editor of this paper.

Mayor Newman nominated Senator Cassidy two years ago. He also introduced the resolution in the Republican County Convention instructing for Cassidy's renomination. He was rather shy about inviting Governor Hughes to address an anti-Cassidy, anti-race-track gambling meeting here till he feared the Governor would veto his pet Charter scheme, then he became one of the principal speakers at the meeting.

Neither a gold standard nor free silver, a protective tariff nor a tariff for revenue only, a Democratic nor Republican administration, can avert the inevitableness of overproduction—or under consumption, rather—so long as the wages of the masses can buy only a fraction of what their labor has produced. Constantly recurring panics of ever increasing severity must continue to strike us so long as the present economic system prevails. But to change the system would be revolution. Pray to be resigned and trust in God and his divinely appointed agent, the Baers and other "interests."

**Chastising the Editor of the Independent For Honesty.**

The chastising of the editor of The Independent by the Ithaca City "grafters", was not quite up to the standard. About fourteen years ago we endeavored to purify the politics of our ward; the wrath of king Ahasuerus, of the rotten "Ring" of the first ward was only appeased when he conspired with a man by the name of Jacob Peters to deprive us of employment, in his effort to bring us into submission. Many of our citizens know how disgraceful this man Peters' last days in Ithaca were; he fled in the night, being responsible for a heinous offense. This is the class that the first ward rotten politicians associate with to carry out their game of "Freeze Out." The latest is the Prudential Insurance Co. of America, whose deeds smell to heaven. Mr. "Grafter," do you see the editor is right as the job?

**Our Regret At the Loss of Good Editor.**

It is regretted by all concerned that we have lost from our editorial staff one of our best men, Mr. William N. Noble, his time being so taken up preparing the way for an appointive office for himself through the Charter Revision Commission that he cannot see his way clear to write editorials on municipal criminality. Perhaps Mr. Noble will get the appointment of City Attorney at \$1,500 per year under that permanent salary clause which he forced into the new charter. Mr. Noble did noble work for the Good Roads "Ring", so he will undoubtedly receive the third degree in our city affairs. The Beach-Peck Supervisors' Association will never forget his kindness. "Billy" says there is plenty of work in the country among the farmers. Bless your heart, "Billy", why don't you try your own prescription? If it cures you, others of us may use it and help pay for that good bad road you were once so interested in.

**"John and I" Are the People.**

The people of this Senatorial district are well aware that "John and I" control the natural rights of the voters and only concede it when cornered like a rat in a trap. It would be shameful enough to send such a message from the "Boss" of Tammany Hall, but sending such a message to a State Senator, supposed to be representing an enlightened constituency, is worse than disgraceful. Senator Cassidy has our sincere sympathy. "John and I" have put him in a more ridiculous light than any Senator in New York state, by leading the people to believe he did not know how to represent the voters of his district.

It is our earnest hope that Mr. Cassidy will withdraw as a candidate for reelection; it will indeed be very pleasing to the voters of Tompkins County at least. Every voter of this city and county should stand by Gov. Hughes in his battle for a clean government. Cut politics out, stand by the man of the hour, exterminate the political vermin from public life—the Cassidy's, the Grady's, the McCarrons, the McClellans, the Jaromes and their ilk.

**Chancellor Day and Heaven.**

CHANCELLOR DAY says that he would rather be here than in heaven. Evidently the Chancellor has cured himself of craving the unattainable. Why, bless his heart, he is in heaven now, enjoying all the comforts he could possess in any place; and so are all the other clergy. But what right have they to preach to others to be content with living in hell? Would it not be well for those who preach the gospel, to live by the gospel? During the campaign of 1896, among the pictures which appeared in the New York World were those of many ministers with uplifted hands praying God that the people might be enlightened to vote for mammon and save the honor of the nation. Of course, the late Senator Hanna well knew that God would not pay any attention to them; so he went to the presidents of the insurance companies and prayed to them for several hundred thousand dollars to buy three states, "or Mr. Bryan will be elected," said he. Just stop and think how much more effective the Senator's prayers were than those of the Wall street clergymen. The influence of the clergy is so much on the wane that they will soon be looked upon as weather prophets.

"The freest government would not long be acceptable if the tendency of the laws was to create a rapid accumulation of property in few hands and to render the great mass of the population dependent and penniless. In the nature of things those who have no property and see their neighbors possess much more than they think them to need cannot be favorable to laws made for the protection of property. When this class becomes numerous it grows clamorous. It looks upon property as its prey and plunder and is naturally ready at all times for violence and revolution."

—Daniel Webster.

Quoting the above in an address before the students of Harvard college, some time ago, Wayne McVeagh, Republican U. S. Attorney-General in the Garfield administration, added: "Now it is at least quite possible that in the not distant future America may transfer Mr. Webster's warning in history, for our electorate is already beginning to be divided, and must, in

obedience to the laws of social evolution, continue more and more to be divided by that sharp cleavage which separates those who are contented with their lot from those who are discontented. \* \* \* That alignment will steadily develop increasing sharpness of division, until the party of the discontented, being the majority, has obtained the control of the government, to which under our system they are entitled. \* \* \* The one part will be, under whatever name, the party of capital, and the other party will be, under whatever name, the party of labor."

**The Good Work of The Independent.**

How the good work of the Ithaca Independent is appreciated outside of this city is proven by the hundreds of letters received by the editor, complimenting him on the war made on human nature fakirs. We quote from the Insurance Press of New York, of March 11, 1908, which is as follows:

**HUMAN NATURE FAKIRS.**

Directing attention to the extended article on "Human Nature Fakirs" in The Insurance Press of July 31 last, the Sentinel of California, Pa., has announced: "Inasmuch as many of the Sentinel readers are victims, and more are apt to be, at the solicitation of those interested, we will soon begin the publication of the article in question in full, and trust it will prove interesting reading to those concerned."

The intention of the Sentinel is in line with the good work accomplished by The Independent of Ithaca, N. Y., and the Evening Express of Dubois, Pa., two newspapers that published the article in full, and the Free Press of Waverly, N. Y., the Scrantonian of Scranton, Pa., and the Examiner of Catskill, N. Y., that have copied freely many of the articles that have appeared in the Insurance Press relative to the operations of the five-year dividend concern.

The Insurance Press expresses its appreciation of the co-operation of these newspapers in warning the public against the National Protective Legion, the Keystone Guard, the People's Mutual Life Insurance Association and League, the New York Safety Reserve Fund and similar organizations that are putting forth promises that cannot be fulfilled.

**MORE OF THE DELIGHT OF THE LEGION.**

That delightful little combination of fiction and humor, the Light of the Legion, published in the interests of the N. P. L., comes to hand again and is as welcome as ever. It is not illustrated, like Puck or Fliegende Blaetter, but we like it better. One little gem from the editorial columns must suffice this week. If any thing could be more naively and uproariously funny than this, we would like to see it:

"Experience has exploded the theory of getting something for nothing. The Legion knew it and others will soon find it out."

Now that is probably the nearest to a correct statement of the workings of the N. P. L. that has been put out lately, but wouldn't it jar you? "Others will soon find it out"—oh, dear, oh, dear! A man would laugh at that if he didn't get a cent beyond the pen-knife for what he had put in. "Others will"—but it's too funny to say over again. And the Legion knew it all along and never said a word about it.—Waverly Free Press.

Hard are the ways of the transgressor. The people who put their earnings into the N. P. L. are now reaping the whirlwind, they did not heed the warning in time. The Prudential Insurance Co. of America has also left many a sick heart. They work chiefly among the working class, who neither understand law, nor insurance. They give scarcely anything for the premium which a poor workman is forced into paying. They rob the agent by making him replace every policy holder who drops out, during the first five years; and they, the agents, sometimes resort to stealing from the policy holders by not putting all money collected on premiums receipt books. We can secure affidavits from poor working women who paid money to agents without a receipt and was forced to pay the second time or the insurance would lapse. She informed us that many a day her family was forced to go on mighty small rations in order to give Nyden two dollars a week to make a millionaire of him. But the thunder of heaven

was roared against Child Insurance. You Americans, who allow those wolves to operate in your midst, read these figures; they speak for themselves: A child two years old next birthday for six a week has eight dollars insurance under 3 months; under 6 months \$10; under 9 months \$12; under one year \$15; one year \$17; two years \$20; three years \$24; four years \$29, etc.

Taking into consideration the mortality of the children, the interest on the money, and the fact that very rarely is the policy continued in force more than seven or eight years at the most, this plan of insurance is a disgrace to a civilized country, as the United States is supposed to be. Some slight changes have been made in the last two years in this plan, but it still remains a malignant cancer on the unthinking working class. We will have a series of articles on this question that will be of interest to the working people.

With apologies to the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, we take the liberty to republish from its columns a letter written by one of the citizens of Rochester. In passing it may be well to state that the DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE is one of the strongest republican papers in the State. Still the policy of that great paper does not stand in the way of publishing letters from its readers, regardless of their political affiliations. The DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE is foremost of the great newspaper educators of the country. Long may she live and her star burn bright to educate mankind and teach the true light. This letter is too good to remain dormant, so look it over and think a little for yourself.

**Bryan vs. Johnson.**

To the Editor of the Democrat and Chronicle:

Sir: Your editorial entitled "Cannot Gag Bryan," which appeared in the issue of April 4th, was evidently belated; otherwise the writer thereof missed the new item issued from New York April 1st containing Mr. Bryan's telegram as follows: "Lincoln, Neb., April 1.—Harry Walker, 280 Broadway: Telegram just received. I am very much embarrassed by your action. Please do nothing regarding myself without submitting matters to me. Would not consider a rival banquet. Constant publicity very unfortunate. W. J. Bryan."

You have shown yourself fairer in editorials and news items than many so-called Democrat papers which pose as criterion of Democracy, and I do not think you intended to be unfair in this instance. Mr. Bryan has shown himself to be too broad-minded to be a party to any petty factional rivalry or spite-work. The attempt to snub Mr. Bryan in the first place by not issuing an invitation when it was known he was to be in the state on that date, or even if a thousand miles away, simply shows the narrowness of mind displayed by those in charge. Such boys' play will react to Mr. Bryan's favor, and those professed leaders and party organs who devote most of their time to denouncing Mr. Bryan and creating discord, rather than harmony, may have to 'eat their words' and regret their unfair tactics after the national convention at Denver.

The rival candidates for the Republican nomination received invitations and have met at the same social functions; why then should the Eastern Democrats show such lack of hospitality as to refuse to extend due courtesy to their leading candidate simply because they are prejudiced against everything that savors of "Bryanism"?

The news reports tell us that the Swedish-American citizens will support Johnson to a man and thus carry electoral votes that Bryan cannot touch. As my own nativity includes me among those who are expected to be so clannish, permit me to record one exception at least, and I trust that all my countrymen will consider the respective merits of the candidates and the issues involved, and not nationality. With due respect to the popularity and ability of my countryman Mr. Johnson, I sincerely believe that Mr. Bryan is better qualified for the presidency and the stronger of the two with the people. And, even though but a private citizen, Mr. Bryan's ability as a statesman is equal to that of any in the present generation.

BEN ANTHONY.

Rochester, April 8, 1908.

GEORGE H. GOEBEL, Socialist, will speak in this city, Thursday evening, May 7. In case no hall is available there will be street corner speaking.

Workingmen patronize those who advertise in The Independent. Don't patronize a merchant on account of creed or nationality, but on account of his clean American manhood.

**Equality Before the Law.**

Ithaca, N. Y., April 21, 1908.

EDITOR ITHACA INDEPENDENT:— Governor Hughes at Chaumont, used the following language: "Nothing so quickly undermines society as failure to enforce its laws; no one is secure in his life, in his liberty or in his daily wage, save as this is a government of law, whose strong arm compels obedience to its mandates, the expression of the people's will."

Recently the grand jury of Tompkins county, under the guidance of the district attorney, had certain law-breakers before it. In that jury sat one man who was a business partner of one of the men who was charged with a misdemeanor. One other, Arthur B. Weller, a clerk in a banking institution of which the following trustees, Henry A. St. John, D. B. Stewart, Robert H. Treman, Mynderse Van Cleef and Roger B. Williams, were all charged the same offense. Other men on that jury were friends of others charged with violating the law. District Attorney Kent used his brilliant abilities to indict Edward Burch, James Riley, Vincino Tailum, Alonzo Cole, Samuel Roberts, Ed. Bishop, Willis Dowson and Thomas Halligan, all poor men, with no standing in the church, no aristocratic connections to ward off the law's just demands. Equally before the law stood twenty-one prominent men of Ithaca—violators of Section 473 of the Penal Code as well as Section 327 of the General City Laws. Shame for Ithaca's good name, prevents me from making more of those names public. They were sheltered by men sworn to do their duty in the people's name. Did they do it? Not this is on a par with other evasions of the law of just demands. The Ithaca street railway Co. deliberately broke the state law defining the rate of fare for all street railways in the state of New York. Walter Lloyd Smith, a justice sitting on the bench of the Supreme Court of this state, ordered a decision which placed his name with Jeffreys, the infamous English judge, whose name has passed down through history as one unworthy to decide a case between horse-traders.

One is exonerated from a misdemeanor when committed through advice of counsel. As I am informed, District Attorney Kent put up that plea before the grand jury in behalf of the defendant, Roger B. Williams, in that he turned \$23,000 worth of bonds over to himself through advice of counsel. Perhaps if he killed a man he would not be found guilty so long as he did it through advice of counsel. The protective police should present Mr. Williams with another loving cup. Judge Smith should not congratulate himself; the stigma still remains. Though the Court of Appeals affirmed the decision, they added no honor to a profession which was adorned by the names of Daniel Webster, William L. Marrey, Silas Wright, Daniel S. Dickenson, Joshua A. Spencer, Stephen B. Cushing, John M. Parker, and last, but not least, Francis M. Finch; those names will shed a lustre on our jurisprudence long after Walter Lloyd Smith, the corporation justice, is forgotten. And our bar did not come out of the performance with a great deal of glory; they lent themselves to a crusade against a lawyer whose only offense was standing with the common people against a corporation. His only reward was an endeavor to disparage him, to which disgrace no honest lawyer hesitates to choose between that and death.

Now, Mr. Editor, press on with your good work: your paper is growing in popularity. One of the brightest young men of this city said, The Independent is right, I wish you would tell the editor I will take his paper, and later subscribed for it. Another man, a veteran of the civil war, said, I fought to save my country, and I think it my duty to support a paper which stands for the common people. Already they see the hand-writing on the wall; let those who are weighed in the balance and found wanting, look out; they are known. The Medes and Persians are at their gates; vengeance is mine, saith the Lord; I will repay. I would like to call to the mind of the District Attorney that beautiful Latin maxim of his profession, "Fiat justitia, ruat coelum"—"Let justice be done, though the heavens fall." He probably never saw it; he certainly never practiced it.

**A LIFE LONG REPUBLICAN.**

**Despoiling Dewiat Park.**

The vandals have again attacked Rome and robbed it of some of its finest treasures, the beautiful trees which gave their grateful shade to the little ones in the summer time in Dewitt Park.

This was done to make way for some poetically arranged flower beds—a woman's plan, pure and simple.

If those flower beds don't get trampled down the first night the band plays there we are mistaken.

Was there any "graft" in it? Well, we opine. Those trees make good wood for somebody.

Job printing at The Independent office.