THE KNIGHTS' BOOK.

MATTERS CONCERNING CAPITAL.

The Principles and Aims of the Noble Order of the Knights of Labor.

CHIVALRY AND KNIGHTHOOD OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

THE PASSAGE OF ARMS.

THE BATTLE FOR HONOR AND RENOWN.

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THE KNIGHTS' BOOK.

By W. S. TISDALE,

Late Editor of "THE CHAMPION OF AMERICAN LABOR."

Before proceeding to a perusal of the following pages, we wish the reader to understand that the Editor and Compiler of this work does not speak by authority or suggestion of any officer, or any Order of Labor, whomsoever or whatsoever, as to certain matters herein contained. He alone is responsible for any expression of opinion, or any sentiment, not duly credited to persons or parties authorized to speak for the "Knights of Labor." The objects of the publication are: First, to instruct those who need information touching the qualities, missions, duties and manners of knights. To excite and interest the minds of all knights while reciting the noble characteristics of chivalry and knighthood, in order that our modern "Sir Knight" may be led to emulate the courtly bearing, courtesy, gentleness, courage, and loyalty of the true knights of former ages; to instil into his mind that it is incumbent upon him to be ever loyal to Labor, true to his pledges, faithful to his fraternity, obedient to the commands of his chiefs, eager to champion the cause of his fair co-laborers, and be on the alert and ready to act, at a given signal, for the just rights and privileges of workingmen and women—after having exhausted every effort by means of "arbitration" to secure the end in view.

Second. Our purpose is also to convey to the general public an idea of the spirit and temper of the toiling and suffering sons and daughters of Labor, with the view of presenting them as a warning to the oppressor, so that if he takes heed he may relax his hold upon the throat of the workman, and be satisfied with a thousand-fold more than he can use upon his pampered body at the peril of his immortal soul.
"LABOR OMNIA VINCIT."

THE KNIGHTS’ BOOK.

Matters Concerning Capital and Labor.

ALSO

A SUMMARY OF THE CHIVALRY AND KNIGHTHOOD OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

THE PRIVILEGES, DUTIES AND MANNERS OF KNIGHTS;
TOGETHER WITH THE PRINCIPLES AND AIMS OF THE
"NOBLE ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR."

The already great and rapidly growing modern order of knighthood known as “The Noble Order of the Knights of Labor” is of such magnitude and importance as to justify the publishers of this little volume in this their intention and effort to enlighten many members of the organization on the subject of knighthood; together with the privileges, duties and manners of knights, for it is not reasonable to suppose that very many of the Knights of Labor have access to costly works on chivalry, which only find their way into the libraries of the rich, or that they can avail themselves of the limited privileges afforded them to peruse the stored-up volumes of information on this topic in the expensive form of encyclopedian literature. Therefore we propose to convey, in a concise manner, a general idea of what constitutes true knighthood, to the end that our modern “Sir Knights” may not remain in ignorance of a subject so nearly touching the cognomen they bear, and upon which they should be conversant on occasions when their ignorance of the subject
matter would expose them to shame or ridicule. And again, this little work, if carefully read by those whom it reaches, will inculcate lessons of bravery, chivalric bearing and knightly honor and daring; all of which great qualities were possessed by those noble knights who were moved by their religious impulses to sacrifice every comfort in life as they went forth to meet their valiant foes on the arid plains of Palestine, many of them, in attestation of their sincerity, leaving their bones to bleach beneath the scorching sun of the Holy Land. They left behind all that made life dear to them—their castellated homes, their children, wives or “lady-loves”—to wage war on the Infidel in behalf of Christianity, as they viewed it in their day; or, we may say, to uphold a principle. And herein lies a similarity of impulse which moved the knights of old to do and dare and die, if need be, for principle, and which impulse to-day moves our modern knights to manifest a moral courage, a self-abnegation and personal discomfort, at once admirable and commendable, in behalf of a principle which they know to be right and just.

The Knight of Labor, if he be indeed a true Knight, is brave, generous, truthful and right loyal to his cause, which is the cause of humanity.

As to the qualities of moral and physical courage, there are noble Knights of Labor who have manifested their possession to an eminent degree—equalling, in fact, the courage of the champions of old—for they have not shrunk from the frowning and angry front of capital, nor stood appalled in the presence of men who threatened to bring down upon them the strong arm of the law.

They threw down their gauntlet at the feet of men armed with all the power of corporate strength, enormous wealth, and legislative defense and favoritism behind them, and have held their ground firmly, manfully and with dignity and courage. As the leaders of the knights of history were wise and self-possessed, as they were brave and fearless, so we find in the “Noble Order of the Knights of Labor of America” such knightly men as T. V. Powderly, of Scranton, Pa.; Frederick
Turner, of Philadelphia, Pa.; John W. Hayes, of New Brunswick, N. J.; Wm. H. Bailey, of Shawnee, O.; T. B. Barry, of East Saginaw, Mich.; Martin Irons, of St. Louis, Mo.; Jos. O'Donnell, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Chas. A. Merrill, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Jas. P. Graham, Andrew D. Best, J. B. Cooper, Geo. Lyman, E. B. Hollis, J. L. Delay, M. D. Mahony, Wm. O. McDowell, Jas. F. Downing, John Hughes, and many other leading spirits in the new order of knighthood, displaying an executive ability and a courageous, dignified bearing that have won the esteem of all who are capable of appreciating such admirable qualities. Truly, the best interests of the Labor Organizations are safe under the guidance and in the hands of such wise and fearless men as these.

The grand moral courage, and the inherent power inseparable from it, displayed by these brave knights, when exercised in a good cause—for "thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just"—are what tyrants have most cause to dread. And when we bear in mind the fact that these indomitable leaders represent a host of 900,000 workingmen (about the aggregate of the membership of all the Labor Organizations in sympathy with the Knights), whose rational legend is "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work"—when we bear this in mind, how, we ask, can they possibly suffer defeat, either now or eventually, at the hands of those "whose consciences with injustice are corrupted"?

KNIGHTS OF LABOR PLATFORM.

PREAMBLE AND DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER.

The alarming development and aggressiveness of capitalists and corporations, unless checked, will inevitably lead to the pauperization and hopeless degradation of the toiling masses.

It is imperative, if we desire to enjoy the full blessings of life, that a check be placed upon unjust accumulation, and the power for evil of aggregated wealth.

This much desired object can be accomplished only by the
united efforts of those who obey the divine injunction, “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.”

Therefore we have formed the Order of Knights of Labor for the purpose of organizing and directing the power of the industrial masses, not as a political party, for it is more—in it are crystallized sentiments and measures for the benefit of the whole people; but it should be borne in mind, when exercising the right of suffrage, that most of the objects herein set forth can only be obtained through legislation, and that it is the duty of all to assist in nominating and supporting with their votes only such candidates as will pledge their support to those measures, regardless of party. But no one shall, however, be compelled to vote with the majority; and calling upon all who believe in securing “the greatest good to the greatest number” to join and assist us, we declare to the world that our aims are:

I. To make industrial and moral worth, not wealth, the true standard of individual and National greatness.

II. To secure to the workers the full enjoyment of the wealth they create, sufficient leisure in which to develop their intellectual, moral and social faculties; all of the benefits, recreation and pleasures of association; in a word, to enable them to share in the gains and honors of advancing civilization.

In order to secure these results, we demand at the hands of the State:

III. The establishment of Bureaus of Labor Statistics, that we may arrive at a correct knowledge of the educational, moral and financial condition of the laboring masses.

IV. That the public lands, the heritage of the people, be reserved for actual settlers; not another acre for railroads or speculators, and that all lands now held for speculative purposes be taxed to their full value.

V. The abrogation of all laws that do not bear equally upon capital and Labor, and the removal of unjust technicalities, delays and discriminations in the administration of justice.

VI. The adoption of measures providing for the health and safety of those engaged in mining and manufacturing, building
industries, and for indemnification to those engaged therein for injuries received through lack of necessary safeguards.

VII. The recognition, by incorporation, of Trades Unions, Orders and such other associations as may be organized by the working masses to improve their condition and protect their rights.

VIII. The enactment of laws to compel corporations to pay employés weekly, in lawful money, for the labor of the preceding week, and giving mechanics and laborers a first lien upon the products of their labor to the extent of their full wages.

IX. The abolition of the contract system on National, State and Municipal works.

X. The enactment of laws providing for arbitration between employers and employed, and to enforce the decision of the arbitrators.

XI. The prohibition by law of the employment of children under fifteen years of age in workshops, mines and factories.

XII. To prohibit the hiring out of convict labor.

XIII. That a graduated income tax be levied. And we demand at the hands of Congress:

XIV. The establishment of a National monetary system, in which a circulating medium in necessary quantity shall issue direct to the people, without the intervention of banks; that all the National issue shall be full legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private; and that the Government shall not guarantee or recognize any private bank, or create any banking corporations.

XV. That interest-bearing bonds, bills of credit or notes shall never be issued by the Government, but that, when need arises, the emergencies shall be met by issue of legal tender, non-interest-bearing money.

XVI. That the importation of foreign labor under contract be prohibited.

XVII. That in connection with the post-office, the Government shall organize financial exchanges, safe deposits and facilities for deposit of the savings of the people in small sums.
XVIII. That the Government shall obtain possession by pur­chase, under the right of eminent domain, of all telegraphs, tele­phones and railroads, and that hereafter no charter or license be issued to any corporation for construction or operation of any means of transporting intelligence, passengers or freight.

And while making the foregoing demands upon the State and National Governments, we will endeavor to associate our own labors.

XIX. To establish co-operative institutions such as will tend to supersede the wage system by the introduction of a co-operative industrial system.

XX. To secure for both sexes equal pay for equal work.

XXI. To shorten the hours of labor by a general refusal to work for more than eight hours.

XXII. To persuade employers to agree to arbitrate all differ­ences which may arise between them and their employés, in or­der that the bonds of sympathy between them may be strength­ened and that strikes may be rendered unnecessary.

AN ORGANIZATION FREE FROM POLITICS.

Master Workman Powderly, on being shown the statement made March 9th, that the Knights of Labor of Illinois had formed a political party under the auspices of the Order, declared it untrue. He said: “The Order cannot be turned into a political party. While reform in politics is sought for, it cannot come at the expense of the Order.” In reply to a reporter of the New York World, who asked whether there was not danger that the Organization might become engaged in political movements, and thus lose its power, Mr. Powderly said:

“I have no fear of that. The matters involved in the exist­ence and work of the Knights of Labor are nearer to its mem­bers than matters of partisan politics. We have here, as you see, on this committee, members of the two old parties, a Green­backer and (with a smile) other cranks like myself. We are not politicians here. We have a method of dealing with those who, as some have, entered our ranks to serve political ends; we turn
them out. We have had no part in politics. We do not propose to have any part in politics. It is bread and butter, the rights of the employed, the material and concrete things of every-day life that constitute the elements which do now and always will hold us together, and those are stronger than partisan political ties. That is why I do not fear the intrusion of politics. When people talk, as sometimes they do, about using the Knights of Labor as a political engine, they utter the most arrant nonsense. It is not worth while to discuss the matter with such a man; he is either a liar or an empty-headed fool."

But apart from the Order, as an association having a special mission and specific purposes, its members will, in due time, make themselves felt through the ballot-box; for the Knights and all members of Labor Organizations, by whatever name they go, will learn to know their true friends, and will see to it that they are placed were they will have the power to so construct legislation as to better the condition of themselves, the great majority, who have too long been oppressed by discriminating laws made in the interest of capital, by capitalists, the minority, with the assistance of their satellites, their hired and bribed professional politicians and demagogues. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican leaders will pledge themselves to adopt certain principles vital to the welfare of the working people; hence the necessity of forming a new party is forced upon the latter, which party will probably be formed, and its policy shaped in due course of time, by the heads of the Labor Organizations. But it will be outside of the Labor Orders, which must retain their legitimate status as the imperial guardians of their wards—the people—and to see that the laboring portion of them suffers no injustice from any source whatsoever.

The following platform of principles as outlined by "General Master Workmen" T. V. Powderly and "General Secretary" Frederick Turner, of the Knights of Labor, will convey an idea
of about what the Coming Party's claims to popular favor will be:

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

The impression has gone abroad that the Knights of Labor is a political organization to last through a campaign, or something of that sort. If any one joins the Order under this impression he is mistaken.

As an order we have a higher mission to serve than the forming of a mere political party. Any one reading our Declaration of Principles will see that while we are seeking reforms that must in some instances come through the ballot-box, yet by far the highest motive that concerns us is the education of the masses to that point where they will fully see and know not only their own wrongs and degradation, but see a full and final solution of the Labor problem, and when this is attained, each will see clearly for himself, in his own way, the only path that leads to liberty and equality. When this advanced point is once attained, then will the party that is to carry the desired measures to success be evolved. It will be evolved slowly and imperceptibly almost. But that such will be the final outcome of organization and education, is the silver lining of the cloud that now lowers so threateningly above us. When such a party does come, its name will not be the laboring man's party, or the bondholders' party, but the party of the people, for the people and by the people.

A party refusing to receive special privileges, or grant them.

A party that will not sit idly by and do nothing, or worse than nothing, when thousands and hundreds of thousands of honest men are tramping our streets, wanting work, willing to work, and none to be had at any price—without employment at home and a "Tramp Act" threatening them if they dare to seek it at a distance.

A party that will not permit a set of politicians to so manipulate the finances of the country that 10,478 business men in one year are thrown upon the streets penniless and without a home, at a loss to the country of $234,383,132, involving 693,420
traders, or, in other words, catching one business man out of every sixty-four.

A party that will declare in tones of thunder just what kind of metal or paper shall constitute the money of this country, and thereby prevent a lot of shylocks and sharpers of all descriptions from declaring that one kind of money is worth $2.60 and another almost worthless, yet all the money of the people.

A party that will demand and establish Labor Bureaus.

A party that will declare and enforce a law declaring that not another foot of public lands shall be given to railroads and corporations.

A party that will insist upon exact equality before the laws.

A party that will be humane enough to believe that pure air should and must be found in our mines and factories, if scientific research can devise ways and means for providing it, and that all buildings where men are employed are well supplied with fire escapes and other means of safety.

A party that will abolish the contract system on all work done for the people for the use of the public.

A party that believes, if we are to have a free country, that it can only exist by reason of the intelligence of its citizens, and if intelligence is to be the base of our continued existence, the child must be educated and fitted for the position he is to occupy in the future. This can only be done by prohibiting children from going into our workshops and mills before attaining their fourteenth year.

A party that will not confine a man in prison because he is unfit to associate with his fellow-man, and then tax the community to board and lodge the criminal free, and sell his labor so as to enter into competition with the same labor of the honest, law-abiding citizens.

A party that will make it fashionable to be honest and pay an equal price for equal labor, regardless of color, creed, country or sex.

AN ORGANIZATION FREE FROM POLITICS.

The coming party of the people will, as we have said, take on
its political form and practical condition in due course of time, but the duty now devolves upon all who labor for a living to examine well the records of such candidates as are placed in nomination for local and State offices, in order to ascertain whether such nominees are the friends of Labor and are willing to pledge themselves to act in the interests of workmen. This they should do, not as Knights of Labor, not as members of the "Central Labor Union," or of the "United Order of American Carpenters," nor of any other institution of Organized Labor, as such, but as voters who have determined to stand by all patriotic measures of general interest, but to be ever mindful of their own interests—first, last and always. For, let it be borne in mind that in local contests for place and power, the abstract principles of "Democracy" (so-called) or of "Republicanism" (so-called) have nothing whatever to do with measures affecting local government, or with the enactment of State laws caring for the interests of Labor. A "Democrat," as an individual, may be a capitalist and an aristocrat—indeed, there are many such—who may look upon a workingman as one infinitely his inferior, and treat him like a dog, while another member of that party may be a true friend of the workman and treat him like a friend and brother. And so the Republican office-seeker may be a friend or a foe to Labor; therefore it becomes necessary to reject the "Democratic" aristocrat and support the "Republican" who is the friend of Labor, or reject the Republican foe and support the Democratic friend. National party lines and ties have no significance whatever in the ordering of such matters, and therefore the first question to be asked in relation to a candidate is this all important one: "Is he a friend or is he a foe to the cause of Labor?" Upon this issue the word of command should go forth to either elect him or defeat him, as the case may be, without regard to his political proclivities in matters of National import, apart from Labor questions, for there are able men enough who can attend to National interests and Labor questions also.
The New York *Morning Journal* says: "Never in the history of the world has Labor shown so bold, so well organized, so powerful, a front as now. Von Moltke himself never held his army under such perfect discipline or unanimity of sentiment as does the leading spirit of this mighty phalanx. At the click of the wire every locomotive in the land could be made to stand as powerless as a painted ship upon a painted ocean. One word, and capital might find its millions useless as gold in the Desert of Sahara. The balance of power and reason are with Labor, and it is for capital to realize that nothing short of absolute justice will keep the scales in place."

Yes, it is now in the power of Organized Labor to act the part of Warwick, "the king maker." It can make or unmake the presidential candidate of either of the now existing parties, at the next national election; or, locally, it can decree to elect a friend, or defeat any candidate who may have made himself obnoxious to Labor, by assisting in the enactment of laws detrimental to the interests of workmen, or those equally offensive measures which unduly and unfairly favor capital. They have only to preserve, intact, their numerous organized bodies, so that they can employ the same tactics as those used in strikes to boycott the political offender, and victory will surely perch upon their banners, in any city or town, where the contending political parties are so nearly balanced as to be affected by a few hundred or a few thousand votes cast on one side or the other. But, the individual members, in order to be effective on such occasions, will be obliged to sink their individual opinions, bearing upon the "Democratic" (so called) doctrines of the day, and for the time being ignore the existence of the so-called "Republican" principles of the day, because they must be *true Knights of Labor first, in their own and their fellow workmen's interests, and for their families' sake*. If they hope ever to achieve victories in the field of politics, as they have already triumphed in many a contest with capital, they must avoid the professional politicians, selfish wretches, full of affected affability, and with a
profusion of promises on their lying lips before an election, but who, when once in office, relapse into their normal condition of ill-mannered rudeness and insolence, repudiating at the same time all their pledges made while begging for the votes of their duped "constituents." We say to the working people, Beware of the old party hacks, the deceitful, treacherous, truckling demagogues, who have lured you to the ballot-box but to betray you; and above all things exclude them from your inner councils, your outside meetings, and your lodges. They are mischief makers, disorganizers, betrayers, tricksters—pests.

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Let it not be supposed for a moment that there is anything in the mere title of a "Democrat" that makes a man who calls himself such less of an aristocrat or an autocrat, on account of his posing as a political member of the "Democratic party;" or that a "Republican" is necessarily a believer in republican institutions. There is a vast amount of hypocrisy in political circles. Many of the wealthy Democrats and Republicans of this and other large cities are very high up in their notions concerning the distinction and deference due to the crowned heads and nobility of Europe, and these "Democratic" and "Republican" snobs hanker exceedingly after the betitled men who visit our shores in search of money, with which they are obliged, reluctantly, to take wives—as a *sine qua non*. What with palaces of the grandest kind, filled with the most costly furniture, paintings, statuary and bric-a-brac; what with equipages of great value and liveried coachmen and outriders, together with valuable poodles (better fed than many workingmen and women), our "Democratic" and "Republican" nabobs manage to make themselves superlatively comfortable, and that within rifle-ball reach of the abodes of misery and want. Any pretense of "democratic" sentiment on the part of these right-royally disposed Americans, only excites the contempt of men who read and observe. Then there is the element of political and official heredity that has inured in certain families. These hereditary office-
holders are quite numerous in the army and navy. Norfolk is full of them. The descent of positions in the civil service, running into several generations, is something wonderful. We see this, to some extent, in New York. Very "democratic" and "republican," indeed, is this hereditary office-holding business! The perpetual candidates form another peculiar feature of our system of government. Year after year we see the same everlasting jacks-in-the-box serenely bobbing up and plastering the walls and fences with flaring hand-bills setting forth their numerous claims as "Democrats" or "Republicans," and "Republican Democrats" or "Democratic Republicans"—not to mention the "Tammany Hall" and the "County" species of the "Democratic" breed, and the "Mugwumps" and "Manhattans" of the "Republican" strain. All of which is the veriest bosh, as to the matter of principle, for it all means spoils, "boodle," bribery and corruption. The Knights of Labor and all workmen should no longer allow themselves to be deceived, cajoled and imposed upon by political tricksters under the false pretense of rallying to save the State or the country, in the name of the Democracy or by virtue of a Republican victory. It is not to "save the country" that the politicians "rally," but to secure office and edge in somewhere on contracts and jobs of all kinds. The political cry is: "Save the country." The people would not allow the country to be utterly ruined. The country is safe enough; but what the people most require and look for at the hands of those whom they place in charge of the country is that prosperity and comfort which the workmen expect to realize on each recurring change of administration. But what difference is perceptible under the one or the other party's rule? There is no legislation by either that betters the condition of the industrial classes. The rich are well taken care of, and grow richer, more exacting and oppressive, while the poor are neglected, and grow poorer and more desperate. It is employment that makes the people happy—always provided labor is properly compensated—and now, under a change of government, professedly done in the interest of the peo-
ple, hundreds of thousands are idle, while the shipyards are, as it were, rotting away—our country suffering the burning shame of a sham navy. Our coast "defenses" are only so in name, whereas tens of thousands of labor hands might be employed in the construction of real defenses for the safety of our seaboard cities. Our monetary system is a disgrace. Our silver dollar is not a dollar. Our tariff protects the manufacturer, but there is no tariff that affords direct protection to labor. Our public lands are given away by the millions of acres to corporations, but the people must pay their hard-earned money to those same corporations for those self-same acres which were given to them by "the people's representatives," so-called. It is a tinkering government that tinkers the currency, that tinkers the tariff, that tinkers the navy, that tinkers harbor and river improvements, and tinkers the ship of State generally. There is no broad, grand, progressive statesmanship in the land, but only jobbery, office-seeking and office-giving. There appears to be no remedy for this ever-recurring condition of affairs but to wipe the present party names from the face of the American slate, and substitute therefor that of "The People's Party."

Beecher, Brains, Capital.

Henry Ward Beecher says: "It will be found, ultimately, that 40,000,000 of men, organized, are more powerful than 1,000,000 of larger brain and more capital." Had the reverend theologian and statesman left out the "brain" part of his idea there would have been some sense in it, for he should have known that among forty millions of men there is more brain than among one million. It reads as though Mr. Beecher claims that money and brains are natural adjuncts—that one million of rich men have larger brains, because they are rich, than have forty millions of poor men, because they are poor. As for the commodity of brain in its relationship with poverty, we might mention the names of many a poor old sage of ancient times (one lived in a tub), but will content ourselves with the later sons of brain, such as Shakespeare, Sir Walter Scott, Burns, Goldsmith, Poe,
Webster (always in debt), Henry Clay ("The Mill-boy of the Slashes"), the learned Blacksmith, Lincoln ("The Rail Splitter"), and many others. And, when poor, did Grant have any smaller brain than in later years, when he acquired wealth? How about Jay Gould? Do his millions make his brain larger? Powderly, poor, is a giant of intellect when contrasted with the rich Gould.

Would that capital had a tendency to enlarge the heart, as Mr. Beecher implies it has to magnify the brain, in the course of which evolutionary process Mr. Gould would have had the heart to pay his employés a fair rate of wages. That money brings men into prominence, so that they can make a display or demonstration of their brain-power, no one will deny; but the normal size and quality of the brain are always there, whether its possessor be rich or poor.

Mr. Beecher says he "admires the behavior of Organized Labor. The self-restraint is wonderful." It is not the self-restraining element of Labor that is wonderful, but rather the self-sustaining power, which manifests itself in the line of the chameleon's ability to go "air crammed" week in and week out, on principle, during a strike. That is, indeed, something wonderful, Mr. Beecher.

UNITED—INVINCIBLE.

"All for Each, and Each for All."

The Knights of Labor, actuated by a unanimity of sentiment and of interest, having agreed upon a basis of action, and acting upon the axiom that "An Injury to One is the Concern of All," are prepared to move as one huge body against the common enemy, and therein consists their wonderful strength, and so they achieve their victories. They are so thoroughly organized and splendidly disciplined that when the signal is given to "strike for their altars and their fires"—for the well being of their home circles and their hearthstones—at that instant they drop their instruments of toil and become one united host, resolved to "strike till the last armed foe expires."
So admirably have the Knights demonstrated the strength that lies in aggregated numbers acting by organized bodies, conjointly (as companies form regiments and regiments brigades), and so masterly has been their mode of action (in view of their novitiate), that it would seem to be the part of wisdom and of common interest to all manual workers that all other Labor Organizations should join hands with the Knights, thus forming a body of men so gigantic in its proportions and so effective in its methods, tactics and strength, as to be virtually invincible against any inimical or opposing force, whether that force be made of money, arms or the ballot.

To consummate an end so devoutly to be wished, it would by no means be necessary to disorganize the numerous bodies outside of the Order of Knights, for they might be designated as, for instance, "The Empire Protective Association, K. of L.;" "The Central Labor Union, K. of L.;" "The United Machinists, K. of L.;" "United Order of American Carpenters, K. of L.;" "The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, K. of L.," all retaining their present forms of organization, together with their distinctive features of insurance, relief, etc., but acting in concert with the General Executive Committee of the K. of L. by representation on all general issues, but all showing an identical purpose in righting the wrongs of the several branches of industry, and as moving in perfect concert of action under one broad, comprehensive title. There would be more safety in this method, we believe, because a body may become dangerously ponderous and fall to pieces because of its unwieldy size, as did the Roman Empire. The several district organizations would be a check upon the too great power which the main body might be inclined to exercise.

Arbitration.

One of the cardinal principles of the Order of Knights of Labor, is a settlement of disputes and differences of opinion arising between the workmen and their employers by the sensible and peaceful method of arbitration so often practiced in the
old world, on occasions when wars were imminent, through the personal efforts of diplomatists of acknowledged ability, thus saving in many instances a resort to arms and its concomitant horrors.

And it is wise, in the best meaning of the word, to assign such delicate duties to parties who are so far disinterested in the matters at issue as to be able coolly, calmly and deliberately to decide upon the merits of the case in all their bearings. Surely it would not be prudent for two diametrically opposed organizations of Capital and Labor, while wrangling in hot blood over a mooted and vexed question, to essay the task of reaching a satisfactory adjustment of the trouble in hand. And even though the arbitrators chosen might have a leaning or a prejudice one way or the other, yet if they were men of steady nerves, of good judgment, and were endowed with natural or possessed of acquired knowledge and wisdom, they would be far better calculated to settle disputes between two excited bodies of men, made up of all kinds of prejudices, passions, and temperaments; because they would at once proceed to school their minds to the right condition for a rendition of a just basis of settlement. They would feel it to be their duty to act fairly, and they would go about the work given them to do with their consciences all alive, and their pride aroused to the fact that an honor of no mean order had been conferred upon them, and therefore they must not fail to do right in the premises, and satisfy the judgments of all parties concerned, if it is within the scope of possibility. In cases where public opinion is concerned the duties of such arbitrators become even more critical and difficult, for it is of paramount importance that public sentiment should be satisfied, which sentiment and opinion are to be found almost invariably reflected from the bright columns of the independent press, and very fairly from the pages of the partisan press.

Yet there is danger in "Compulsory Arbitration," for may not a body, appointed by the State, say to the workmen, "You must be content or not with $1.50 a day for twelve hours' work"? The word "compulsory" has a bad sound in the ears of Labor.
Compulsion has been its curse. It is true that all laws must be compulsory and arbitrary, but here is very delicate ground on which to tread in the present trying crisis and deadly battle between Capital and Labor. *Arbitration in its best form is not infallible; and unless the Knights hold themselves together as a power behind outside arbitration greater than that kind of arbitration itself, they will fall into a fatal error.* Remember, Knights, the style of men who form our legislative bodies. But in view of the true spirit of just arbitrament, which may answer all the ends in question, the sorely oppressed sons and daughters of toil need not be under any apprehension that their cause will suffer while in the hands of their present leaders, or that it will fail to keep its hold upon the affections of the majority of mankind, for we may yet hope that the human heart is moved by sympathy, compassion and a proper sense of even-handed justice.

Mr. Powderly says: "Arbitration always when it is possible; strike only as a last resort, but when that point is reached strike hard, strike in earnest, and never surrender except to just concessions. Why, this Board," pointing to the members who were listening to the talk, "has since the 1st day of January last settled, by arbitration, 350 cases which would otherwise have resulted in strikes without the gaining of a single point by the strikers."

"*Arbitrary Arbitration.*"

Compulsory arbitration and other measures introduced in Congress are only so many efforts to suppress the Labor Leagues of the country. The politicians behold in the great upheaval of Labor their own downfall, and feeling their hold upon place, power and pay about to slip through their fingers, they convulsively seize upon legislation as a remedy against the rule of the people, and so endeavor to legislate the Labor element out of sight and out of mind. But they will be foiled and disappointed, for the industrial organizations will hold together with more tenacity because of this attempt to destroy them. The Knights are not to be fooled by such transparent trickery, and will soon learn to understand the importance of having a power
behind such legislative arbitration greater than that kind of arbitration itself. In this connection it is also well known that the originator of any successful measure of compulsory arbitration will have the patronage, or a portion of it, which will grow out of its adoption. The $5,000, $3,000 and $2,000 per annum salaries have a wonderful charm in the eyes of those "members" who are sure to get on the scent of a series of salaries comprised in a "commission" or a "board." Hence, also, a selfish anxiety to "legislate" on the subject.

LABOR MUST MAKE ITS OWN LAWS.

Labor will soon be in a position to make such laws as will suit its own purposes and meet its great and pressing requirements in a most thorough manner.

What the Labor or Industrial Party wants is a truly republican form of government, based upon a genuinely democratic basis. To achieve this result it will be necessary to elevate to power men of well-known ability and well-tried loyalty to the working people, for without a sufficient test and proof of the latter we may as well continue on in the same old beaten path, placing capitalists and their political tools and henchmen where they can do the most good for the smallest number, and the greatest possible injury to the majority, as heretofore. Revolution—peaceful, of course, if possible—must come if Labor is to have fair play, and that (revolution) signifies a complete alteration of the laws and statutes relating to the relative positions of Capital and Labor. A government made up of men of the people—fresh elements of humanity—would no longer allow the workmen, and their wives, sisters and children, to be degraded and debased by the demoralizing influences, surroundings and dreadful needs of an impoverished condition. While the "class" that conceives itself to be the "privileged" and exclusive "gentry" would continue to roll in wealth and luxuriate in a surfeit of the good things of life, the new system of government would afford at least a respectable living for the producers of the enormous fortunes enjoyed by the few. The workers in the national
hive must not allow the drones to devour nine-tenths of the honey. With the absolute power which the solidarity of all the Labor Organizations would give, a marvelous change could be made, and no doubt will be.

That a radical change is desirable no sane man will deny, for it is notorious that the body politic is rottenness itself. Every State and every city in the Union has its corrupt officials, from the highest to the lowest, and money, in the hands of wealthy corruptionists, is the root of the prevailing iniquities, for the professional politicians who fill our offices are purchasable commodities. Dollars have dominated the National Government as they have the States and the cities, so that we seem to have become a nation based upon wealth alone. In fact, the self-styled "better classes," which means the richer people, have controlled legislation for many years, and a most selfish, one-sided and disgraceful mess they have made of it. The "higher classes," a minority, having failed to administer, or caused to be administered, wholesome and just laws in the interests of all the people, it would seem but just and right that the "lower classes"—so called by the "upper classes"—should have an opportunity to try what they can do in the line of governmental policy. They could not well do worse than has been done by the law-makers to their majesties the railroad kings.

"A Printer," author of "Working People's Rights," says: "The masses have been honest dupes in politics. They have sought the good of the country and have been loth to form a separate body of voters. Selfish agitators have supplied Labor with false issues, and acted as vote brokers and trading politicians. But don't misjudge all laboring men by that. When Labor is moved to a sense of injustice it will face capital with leaders of another school. They will come from the ranks. We know what sacrifices poor men are capable of performing for one another. We know their charitable hearts, never appealed to in vain. We know what unexpected qualities of courage, common sense, devotion to trust, they have developed in our shop chairmanships, in committees, and as society officers. When
they enter politics, you may learn that they have the foresight, skill, energy, and intelligence you now deny to them."

**THUS FELL GREECE AND ROME.**

The following extract from the "Manual for the Patriotic Volunteer," etc., published in 1855 by that sterling man of the people, Hugh Forbes, describes pretty closely the present state of affairs:

"And why, among public men, does evil preponderate over good? Why is it that ambition itself does not induce men to perform laudable deeds? The fault lies with the people, because they do not honor truth and frown down intrigue, because each individual concentrates his thoughts upon his private interests, to the exclusion of all public spirit. In short, because man is not faithful to principle.

* * * * * * * *

"It is admirable that Nature herself should, by her immutable laws, punish sordid egotism. The unjust man in private life, although he may at the commencement of his vicious career grasp some objects of his cupidity, will in the end, by his rapacity, thwart his own schemes of becoming opulent. In a similar manner will a community composed of such elements become poor, for the individual citizens will plunder rather than assist each other; consequently, everyone being against everyone, the thoughts of the mercantile and trading classes will be absorbed in cheating—the manufacturers will grind down the artisans, who on their part will not care for the interests of their employers—friendship and generosity will be banished—justice will be perverted—the worst passions will on all sides be developed, and more substance will, in the general scramble, be trampled under foot than will be realized by the contending masses. In such a community the eagerness to acquire private gain will soon supersede every sentiment of patriotism; consequently public morality must disappear, and the nation, grasping at gold, will rush headlong to its ruin. Thus fell Greece—thus fell Rome—and thus must fall every nation which prefers corrup-
tion to purity. * * * After a nation shall have passed ages in the purifying furnace of tribulation, the desire for independence, liberty and progress may supplant the sordid sentiments which reduced it to degradation, and the People may be regenerated.

“To this condition have so many nations been brought, that the world is now on the brink of chaos. Under the incubi of royalty, privilege, superstition, diplomacy, white slavery, pelf and prejudice, the noble qualities of man have been suppressed—therefore, Revolution has become a necessity, and what is more, a duty.”

Expressly False.

The Mail and Express, New York city, says: “In one sense every man in this country is a workingman, but not in the sense of the Trades Unions. For them a workingman is one engaged in some mechanical occupation, who labors with his hands, generally at a trade. The great army of men who work on farms, for instance, they never count as workingmen. The workingmen, as the Trades Unions understand them, are equal to about one in fifty of all the people in this country. That number cannot wag the United States.”

The above is false, to all intents and purposes, as it is well known that the Knights of Labor and some of the Trades Unions have within their organizations very many men and women who do not come within the category of the Mail and Express. There are many clerks, telegraph operators, compositors and professional men who are members because they feel and have felt the hard pressure of capitalist power, and indeed the Knights of Labor and the Trades Unions are in hearty sympathy with all who labor, whether it be with the pen, the pencil, the composing stick, the easel, the axe, the hoe, the shovel, the needle, or with any other implement of industry, and they cordially invite all such to join hands with them as against capitalists who use and abuse those whom we have designated as working people. The small store-keepers, such as grocers, butchers, tea merchants, dry-goods men and their clerks—indeed, all who depend upon the
industrial classes for their living, should not only sympathize with those who are obliged to strike for their rights, but even for selfish reasons. It is clearly their best policy to co-operate with their customers, the workmen and women, in their efforts to obtain better wages. With better pay the working people can more promptly meet their little credits or pay cash for what they buy. And yet, in some instances, we find the small shop-keepers flaring up in the faces of their best customers, the workmen, on occasions when, driven to the last extremity, the latter all must strike in order to live in decency. The store-keepers are working people and should sympathize with the Trades Unions.

The paper quoted above is directed by a well-known monopolist, hence its reprobation of the Labor movement. It may yet find that a million voters, acting as one man, will be able to wag the tail of the dog who erected a monument to the memory of a British spy, and that same monopolist had the effrontery, on a certain occasion, to say that it was “providential” that labor was low when he was building an elevated railroad.

To Prevent the Growth of Communism.

It is clearly in the interests of capital that every workingman in the land should receive for his hard labor an amount per diem sufficiently liberal to render him comfortable, contented and happy; because, if he is so circumstanced in life, and has, besides, a wife and children to establish his stability as an integral part of the nation, he will never think of entering into the wild, desperate and dangerous schemes of the idle, discontented and vicious class of men who constitute the blood-red wing of the Communistic and Nihilistic crowd.

If, again, to a just compensation for labor and the conserving influence of family ties should be added the ownership of tasty and comfortable cottages (secured from the savings of fair wages) built upon suitable plots of ground; in their own right, what influence, do capitalists suppose, could the crazy and cruel Anarchists have upon them—upon happy and contented men, securely anchored to the land they would own, and, therefore,
deeply interested in the stability of the government, and in a prosperous condition of trade, commerce and industry?

**The Blindness of Capital.**

What is it that causes capitalists to overlook this self-evident fact? What, indeed, but a blind, selfish, headlong and heedless rush toward the goal where lie those millions of dollars, in the pursuit of which they seem to be impelled by the thought, as expressed by Jefferson, that they are "booted and spurred by the grace of God to ride rough-shod over the rights of the people," as, "Dei Gratia," many of their tyrannical "majesties" of Europe have done and are now doing.

Can it be looked upon as something wonderful, that oppressed and groaning Labor has at last asserted itself, and manfully revolted against this one-sided condition of affairs, and has determined to claim, and to have, too, at least enough of the actual necessaries of life to keep in comparative comfort? And it has revolted not an hour too soon, and while yet it could do so with the restraining spirit of a peaceful feeling at its heart.

Indeed, it seems to be most "providential" that the ball of Labor Reform has been set in motion now, before the suffering people, goaded to madness and despair by the grinding tyranny of capital, would have precipitated a more sudden and pronounced revolution, the rage of which would only have been appeased in a sea of blood. Even in the present crisis capital cannot be too thankful that cool-headed and conservative leaders are found at the head of the mighty host of men whose thews and sinews are like bands of steel, and whose knightly hearts are patriotic, generous, brave and true—for be it remembered, in this connection, that these men are radically different from that mob of refugees and political pariahs from abroad who haven't the sense to understand the difference between the systems of government from whose detested presence they have fled and our own grand method, and which heterogeneous mob of malcontents is hoping and aiming to make our great and free country an arena of disorder, bloodshed and rapine. And here let capital
note our assertion that, while our own workmen—and by this generic title we mean mechanics, artisans, railroad employés, laborers, and others who work, in the ranks of the people—would, if living in a condition of contentment, superinduced by generous concessions on the part of capital, form an impervious barrier between the “Commune” and property; yet, on the other hand, these same workmen, if made desperate by the promptings of semi-starvation and dire distress in their households, should listen to the importunities and temptations to plunder and kill, held out to them by the more radical advocates of utopian Socialism and Communism—if this lamentable condition should obtain in the field of Labor, then the workmen, feeling justified, might take up arms and achieve their freedom from the bonds of tyranny, as did those who liberated themselves and founded our Republic on the ruins of despotism.

But, setting aside this extreme view of the subject, our people are intelligent enough to proceed to the accomplishment of a revolution more in accordance with the spirit of the age and in keeping with the nature of the “Declaration of Independence,” because they would, first of all, have to become actuated by a determination to assume that “equal station (as a people) to which the laws of nature and of nature’s God entitle them,” and, having that “decent respect tothe opinion of mankind” which the occasion would call for, they would “declare the causes which would impel them” to “dissolve the political bands which connected them with” a distinctive class of people, whose personal and corrupt legislative acts of tyranny and oppression could no longer be tolerated. They would claim that they had failed to secure that “happiness” to which they were entitled. And that venal and unjust legislation, in the interests of a class of people in their midst, an almost infinitesimal minority, but of great power because of their great wealth, had deprived them of the pecuniary means to which they had a just right; that through the instrumentality of an onerous taxation, imposed upon them by means of the enactment of abominable laws (convict labor, etc.), they were enslaved, and their lives
placed in peril and often lost by the acts of those who exercised the rôle of tyrants under the guise of greedy and cruel contractorships and other forms of outrage, wrong and oppression; that, in order to regain the rights of which they had been deprived, they, "the governed," could no longer "consent" to live in a condition brought about by a form of government made "destructive of the ends" of its creation, and its pledges to the people; and that they had resolved to "abolish" the recreant government, and to "institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

Under such auspices would Labor take up arms—intelligently, systematically and effectually—because from among the ranks of Labor have our armies, regular and volunteer, and our civic forces, originated; and most noble duty have they performed in the service of the Union and of the respective States, from whom they deserve better treatment than they have received.

The Real Estate Record and Builders' Guide, speaking of Jay Gould's threat that he would sue certain Knights of Labor, and so endeavor to deprive them of their homes, for that is all a knight can aspire to own, asks the following significant question: "Does he (Gould) remember the mob which was looking for him upon Fifth avenue, after the last presidential election?" That "mob" was not made up of Knights, nor does the Record mean to say that it was, but of disappointed partisans, who were after the leader of the capitalistic gang who attempted to steal the Presidency from one political party for the purpose of handing it over to another. It seems a great pity that the inclinations of a man of Gould's wealth and power should run in the direction of evil rather than good. He might make himself famous as a philanthropist with a small portion of his wealth, only that his nature won't allow him to. He might make himself respected and beloved by mankind, but for his want of heart and soul.

The same sensible and outspoken journal, the Record and Guide, says: "Every conservative interest in the country demanded
that no issue should be presented which would tempt or force the laboring people to cast their ballots for parties or candidates that are committed to programmes adverse to the rights of property. In prolonging this unnecessary strike, and in threatening to deprive the working people of their homes, because of the strike, *Jay Gould* has done more to convert the working classes to Socialistic and Communistic theories than ten thousand crazy agitators like Justus Schwab and Herr Most."

**MIDDLE-MEN.**

One of the daily papers, in speaking of the recent stirring events in the field of Labor, said "there appears to be a better feeling existing between Capital and Labor." Well, this is easily accounted for. It grows out of two facts principally, one of which is that Capital has learned to respect Labor for its manly, brave, dignified and self-respecting conduct, and for its power, its endurance and its tenacity of purpose. These are qualities which are bound to command the respect of the average man, and therefore to bring about "a better feeling." The other fact is that Labor and Capital have come nearer to each other of late, so that they could look into each other's eyes, and hear each other's voices, and fathom each other's motives and feelings. Heretofore there has been a rude, rough and brutal barrier between them, which barrier consisted of men called "Superintendents," "Bosses," "Managers," "Agents," and others appointed by their superiors to conduct those affairs of their respective businesses, which appertained more particularly to the "handling" of the workmen and working women. These upstarts have charge of the labor part of railroads, factories, contract work, etc. They were fairly decent men when in the ranks, among their fellow-workmen, but when they were placed in command, and had "a little brief authority" conferred upon them by their employers, they became like so many "mock dukes," playing "such fantastic tricks before high heaven as made the angels weep." There are no tyrants so mercilessly severe as newly-made little ones. In consequentiality, in vulgar
mannerism and in cruelty they surpass the big ones, for the latter have held power and exercised it so long that the rough edges have, in a measure, become smooth from usage. Moreover, they have held position for such a length of time that the dignities and robes of office have become natural to them, sitting upon them with a somewhat easy grace.

But oh, the little fledgling tyrant! Save us from his fussy, fuming, fustian air of importance! Save the innocent, unprotected, blushing maiden from his impertinent stare, his smirks and smiles, and immodest innuendoes! Of such miserable stuff are seventy-five in every hundred of the middle-men, the intermediaries, made; while the twenty-five per cent. of kind-hearted, good men and true, shine forth like stars of the first magnitude. It is this supervening underling that stands between Labor and Capital, exercising his small and vicious faculties of tyranny and annoyance, until the men and women upon whom he practices them learn to hate the sight of the workshop or factory in which they are obliged to toil for a pittance under such contemptible taskmasters. These are the creatures who receive good round salaries and who, therefore, imagine that they must save (in the interests of their employers) the sum total of their own excessive pay, by goading the workmen to crowd fifteen hours of work into ten, for a minimum rate of wages. And these are the men who brow-beat, abuse, and insult the men, women, boys and girls who are coining money for the heads of the concerns, for the men who roll up their tens of thousands, careless and indifferent as to the wretched condition of their employés. These men should know, and we tell them now, that every act of injustice and oppression and every sting- ing insult inflicted upon the “hands” in their employ by the petty tyrants placed in power over them reflects back upon themselves, so that workmen hate the firms as heartily as they detest the “superintendents” wherever such sad conditions prevail. It is a thick-skulled ignoramus who does not know that, by the exercise of kindness, praise and encouragement, he can get more and better work done, in a given time, than he can by
driving, abuse and insulting language. It should be made the duty of some one member of the firm (one who has a soul) to walk through the factory once a week, with the understanding that he is prepared on such occasions to hear any complaint that any aggrieved employé might have to make.

**Magnanimity in the Hour of Victory.**

He who is magnanimous in victory has conquered twice. Having subdued his foe by the sword, he proceeds to win a victory over the heart of his captive by the exercise of kindly acts. It was thus with our foremost general, the valiant and magnanimous Grant. His valor conquered the body, and his noble generosity in the hour of his triumph won the hearts of those who were already conquered by the sword, for when he returned the captured horses to the Southern cavalrymen, in order that they might plow their fields, they were no longer foes—he had disarmed them of their resentment. This was knightly in its best sense. And so should all knights deport themselves in the hour of success and in the presence of those whom they have overcome. This advice has been given them by their foremost friend and highest officer. When they shall have achieved their ends by a “strike” or a “boycott,” they should go quietly away from the field of action to their homes, carrying the glad tidings of victory to their waiting and anxious wives and daughters, and there quietly, soberly, and like good and true men, enjoy, with their loved ones, the fruits of their triumphs.

**The Sinews of War.**

England’s power is in her gold, for with that she can place vast armies in the field and great fleets of war-ships upon the seas. Gold is the capitalist’s wand of power, for with that he can buy the law-makers, paying them to enact measures which make the rich richer and the poor poorer. And gold must be employed by the workmen, for that is also their power. Therefore they should economize as much as possible, saving especially from those constant outlays which go for their personal gratifications. They should first supply their families with all
comfortable things and requirements and then put away what is left for "a rainy day." By pursuing this course they will also be prepared, like good and faithful knights, to pay in their quotas of dues and contributions, which go to swell the grand aggregate of their "sinews of war," without which they can win no victories.

THE MODUS OPERANDI OF A STRIKE.

There were several little episodes which occurred during the late strikes, going to prove that personal courage will manifest itself in the ranks of Labor, when occasion calls for its display. The following spirited action on the part of William Wallace is an illustration of our meaning:

WILLIAM WALLACE (grandly and correctly named), of the Executive Board of the "EMPIRE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION," taking the initiative in the first act of the strike against the Brooklyn Broadway Railroad Company, ordered the first driver who made his appearance, to take the car into the house, which he did. As each car came in the same order was given and obeyed by every man. Wallace advised all to go home and get some rest so as to be able to attend a meeting to be held at Scheillem's East New York Hotel later in the afternoon. The men were also cautioned to keep sober, not to gather in crowds about the stable, and under no circumstance to use violence. He was obeyed in every particular. The last car was housed at 3 o'clock. Enough stablemen were allowed to remain to take care of the horses.

In the evening a meeting was held, as above intimated. Mr. Wallace was loudly cheered when he entered the hall. He called the meeting to order and said:

"The corporation against whom the strike has been ordered has for years been sucking the life-blood from the men. Every man is entitled to reasonable hours and to a fair compensation for his Labor. In no country in the world are the laboring classes treated with such contempt as they are here. The working people have just cause for complaint. We have sent a telegram to Mr. Hazzard, of the Brooklyn City Railroad Company,
warning him that if he interferes, and sends aid to the Broadway Railroad Company we will tie up his roads.”

Ex-Assemblyman Mortimer C. Earl made a speech, in which he said: “Do not go out from this hall and boast of what you will do. Act wisely. You have right on your side, and as long as you act well the public will sustain you. You men to-day are organized, and success awaits you.”

At another time in the West, a small party of Knights were standing near the track, when an engine was run out, upon which stood an officer in charge; who, thinking to intimidate the Knights, drew his pistol and pointed it in their direction. Whereupon they drew their own revolvers and promised to riddle the officious party if he should dare to fire upon them.

Grangers and Knights.

At the present writing it is said that there is a movement on foot to have the “Grangers” initiated into the “Noble Order of the Knights of Labor;” in fact, to merge the two grand organizations into one. The mere mention of such a purpose is, indeed, startling to the thoughtful mind. What a potentiality for the benefit of the sons and daughters of Labor is here indicated! With the “bold yeomanry, our country’s pride,” closely allied with the noble Knights of Labor in the strong and loving bonds of one mighty fraternity, the combined power of soulless corporations, of heartless employers and of truckling legislators, must suffer an ignominious and utter downfall. Such a body of men might well and truly claim to be the rulers of the land, and they would only have to be true to themselves, their sacred pledges, and to all they hold dear in their family circle, to enter upon a career of successes which would culminate in a peaceful revolution, with ballots as their only weapons, as grand, glorious and just as any recorded in the pages of history.

Scared Out of Building Ships.

WILMINGTON, Del., March 19.—A prominent officer of the Harlan & Hollingworth Company, ship-builders, said to-day: “We received an order to build two new steamers for the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company, but to-day wrote the parties and declined to accept the order. The amount of the contract would have been about $225,000, but in view of the
possibility of there being a general Labor agitation throughout the country during this summer, and especially on account of the uncertainty which exists in industrial circles, owing to the unreasonable demands which are being made by the workmen, we deemed it wise not to fill up our works with contracts at this time, at least not until we see clearly what the outcome of the present difficulties will be. Hence the order was refused."

The above communication appeared in the N. Y. Sun of same date, and we cannot allow it to pass into further circulation without comment. Now, what does "a prominent officer" of a rich company, a would-be "contractor" for another and far wealthier organization of capitalists, say in effect? Why, simply this: "Inasmuch as workmen will not take just what I choose to pay them for their labor, I will build no more ships, and so, by biting off my own nose, I will spite the workmen." The man is a fool of the most pronounced type and heartless in the extreme; in fact, to express it all in one word, he is a "contractor," and a member of a firm of men who are no doubt clothed in purple and fine linen, and dine sumptuously every day. Here is the cure, Mr. "Contractor," for all your trouble concerning labor, "only this and nothing more: Figure into your contract "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work," and then go ahead on that just, rational and humane basis, and build more ships and gather into your already plethoric coffers more of your God—GOLD.

We need make no mention of the mean intention of the "prominent officer" to poison the minds of the business citizens of Wilmington against the ship-building workmen (because the latter demand wages enough to live upon), as that intention is sufficiently transparent to all intelligent minds. It is in keeping with the nature of the "contractor."

"Accursed thirst for Gold! to what dost thou not compel human hearts."

Bless him who lays the massive keel,
Who bends the trusty sail,
That bids the ocean wanderer
Safe battle with the gale;
Who rears the tall and slender mast,
Whence floats to every breeze,
The stars and stripes of Liberty,
As rainbow o'er the seas.
EMPLOYÉS AS POLICEMEN.

Another trap, other than legal arbitration, is a proposition to make policemen or militiamen of all the railroad employés, thus cunningly arming them against themselves. If they should rebel against any act of injustice, or against a great wrong inflicted upon them by their employers, they would be in duty bound to arrest themselves. The absurdity of the thing is laughable, but anything to cripple Labor. Of course it is not supposable that a corporation would be willing to pay anything extra to the policeman who is to arrest himself. Such soulless bodies are not fond of paying anything for extra service. If, however, such a thing, from any miraculous cause, should occur, perhaps the combined pay of the policeman and the railroad employé (two in one) would be sufficient to keep house with in comfort, and so tend to reconcile the two individuals to the situation. But if a railroad company could only capture about five hundred Siamese twins, and make one of each of the five hundred pairs a policeman, and the annexed twin a conductor or brakeman, the whole thing might be arranged to suit the purposes of the railroad companies. We may be sure, however, that every conceivable effort will be made to render the employé powerless, homeless—yes, lifeless, if need be—in the interests of capital, through the usual instrumentality of legislative bodies. Knights and all who sympathize with them in their great humanitarian work should watch the law-makers. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

THE MOCKING "INDEPENDENT."

That self-righteous journal of unorthodox religionism, called the Independent (New York City) speaks mockingly of Mr. Powderly as "King Powderly." The rude and cruel rabble in the days of old called Jesus of Nazareth mockingly "King of the Jews." The Independent affects to, or does, believe that the Carpenter of Nazareth, poor and persecuted, was engaged in a good cause, which was the cause of the poor and persecuted like himself. He was also reviled by the Pharisees, and now that same mean spirit has come down the stretch of years to the
present time, and it reviles the man among men who champions the cause of the poor and persecuted. But not only this does our “Christian” friend do, but with blood and death in his eye perpetrates an ill-mannered pun on the honored name of Powderly, and flippantly talks of “Powder” as a remedy for the “crying evil” of men who cry aloud for a just compensation for the labor of their tired hands, and the sweat of their aching brows, wrung from them by merciless and gold-grasping capitalists and task masters. Such language, interlaided with the significant words, “powder;” “dynamite;” “blood;” “handgrenades” and “death” has been the lingo of the more radical Communists, Anarchists and Nihilists heretofore, but we now find a no less lofty authority of Christianity and civilization than the Independent, indulging in a like strain of vulgar barbarism. And this at a time and an hour when the poor (as poor as Jesus was) of Belgium, rendered desperate and frantic by stress of dire necessity, are striking for the right to live, and who with a despairing cry, rendered only less piercing by the faintness of hunger, utter the shibboleth of revolution in the terrible words: “Let every man bring a revolver! Then, forward!”

And at a time, too, when our own oppressed people are groaning under a load of adversity, caused by the meager and grudgingly paid wages they receive for their toil, and by the grinding tyranny of capitalized, soulless corporations, at a time when these distressed workmen are making an effort to right their wrongs, in order to preserve their manhood, and to protect the womanhood of their sister sufferers. In a crisis of such intense suffering, the Independent, representing the gilded, glittering bejeweled and purple-robed pew holders of the gorgeous palaces of worship, glibly talks of “Powder” as a sovereign remedy for pinching Poverty and its close companion, grim Despair.

This is a sad picture of pious pitilessness and religious rancor—but, thank Heaven, there are true representatives of Christianity who possess an abundance of the milk of human kindness, and more of the peace and good-will doctrine of the tender-hearted Jesus of Nazareth in their kindly souls than
there appears to be in the heart (if it may be called a heart) which wildly beats with an angry thud somewhere in the perturbed anatomy of the Independent man, who is, nevertheless, severely dependent upon the patronage of the gilded pew-owners.

“Look upon that picture, and then upon this.”

THE HOUSE CHAPLAIN DENOUNCES THE ORGANIZED CRUELTY OF MONOPOLY.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The prayer this morning of the Chaplain of the House, Rev. Dr. Milburn, was as follows:

“Give ear, O God of Jacob, and awaken us to see the danger which threatens the civilized world, a revolution more tremendous than any of which history tells, in which the scenes of the Reign of Terror may be enacted in every capital of Europe and America. For long the few have mastered the many because they understood the open secret, the tools to them that can use them, but now the many have learned the secret of organization, drill and dynamite. Rouse the rich of the world to understand that the time has come for grinding, selfish monopoly to cease, that corporations may get souls in them with justice, honor, conscience and human kindness. Teach the rich men of this country that great fortunes are lent them by Thee for other purposes than to build and decorate palaces, to found private collections of art, to stock wine cellars, to keep racing studs and yachts, and find better company than hostlers, grooms and jockeys, pool-sellers and bookmakers. Teach them, O God, that it is Thee who has given them power to get these fortunes; that it is to prove them to know what is in their hearts, whether they will keep Thy commandments or no, and that those commandments are, ‘Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and thy neighbor as thyself’; that if the rich men of our land keep these commandments the poor will follow the example, and we at least will be saved from the days of tribulation that are fast coming on all the world. Help us, O God, and save us.”

Mr. Grosvenor (O.) asked unanimous consent that the prayer be printed in the Record.

Far be it from us to say that the clergy are not friendly to the cause of Labor. No, indeed; there are very many noble-hearted men in the pulpit who fear not to denounce, in scathing terms, the pride and pomp and circumstance that are but too
conspicuous within the exclusive walls of the gorgeous edifices where “divine worship” is luxuriously and sensually enjoyed by those who are blessed with abundant wealth. Nor do those true Christians forget the poor, for they plead the cause of the downtrodden, with fervent souls. Most notably we feel it a duty to mention the name of the Rev. Heber Newton, as one possessing, in an eminent degree, a sense of the wrongs inflicted upon the laboring people, and he pours out the tender feelings of his loving heart, clothed in grand and burning language, constantly in behalf of the oppressed and suffering multitudes. The poor have no better, no braver, no abler friend in the wide world than Heber Newton.

The following paragraph will also show that the dignitaries of the Roman Church have wisely foreborne to stem the tide of the Labor reform now moving with resistless force:

The Examiner, a Roman Catholic journal of the diocese of Brooklyn, says in its current issue concerning the Decrees of the Plenary Council, which were said to contain utterances inimical to organizations of workingmen, and particularly the Knights of Labor: “We have seen the Decrees of the Council, and we are in a position to state authoritatively that the Council did not legislate on the Labor movement at all, feeling that the movement was a legitimate one, and had so kept within bounds that it called for no special attention.”

The Very Rev. Father Conway, Vicar-General of the Diocese of Chicago, speaking for Archbishop Feehan, says: “I look upon the Order of the Knights of Labor as necessary to prevent Capital forcing Labor down to almost starvation wages; and because the society known as the Knights of Labor has but this one object—the securing of better wages for the toil of its members; and because it does not interfere with the religious belief of its members, nor assume the position of a religious teacher, and for the further reason that it has no religious ceremony in its ritual, the Church has not and does not forbid Catholics from joining it.”
THE PEOPLE'S ANTHEM.

Lord, from thy blessed throne,
Sorrow look down upon—
God save the Poor!

Teach them true liberty,
Make them from tyrants free,
Let their homes happy be—
God save the Poor!

Raise them from lowliness,
Succor their dire distress,
Thou whom the meanest bless—
God save the Poor!

Give them staunch honesty,
Let their pride manly be—
God save the Poor!

Help them to hold the right,
Give them both truth and might,
Lord of all truth and light—
God save the poor!

Arm thou the Knight of Toil,
Who would the tyrants foil—
God save the Poor!

Give him the heart to dare,
Give him the strength to bear,
Give him a wreath to wear—
God save the poor!

CAPITAL VERSUS LABOR.

The industrial organizations are not antagonizing that kind of capital which does not militate against their rights and interests. Farmers are capitalists, in the sense that they own property, the equivalent of money; but such material wealth is in harmony with all kinds of industrial pursuits, because those who follow such callings are consumers of the products of the farm. The products of agriculture are the results of labor, and go to feed the working people, the laborious multitudes; but when
millionaires combine their wealth and use it in the forms of extortionate and arrogant corporations, domineering monopolies and monstrous manufacturing concerns whose sole purpose is a rapid accumulation of more millions, regardless of the well-being and comfort of the producers of those millions—then Labor protests against the iniquity. This is the antagonism of Capital that Labor antagonizes in self-defense. Labor is not fighting Capital as capital, indiscriminately, but in its form of an oppressive and cruel weapon in the hands of hard task-masters. All workmen know that there are very wealthy men and women who are friendly to Labor, and that all such should have full credit for their friendship. These, alas, too few in number, show vividly in contrast to such greedy and unscrupulous monsters as the railroad cormorants who control the Third avenue line of street-cars. These rapacious gourmmandizers of capital seem to be possessed by an infernal phrenzy of accumulation, and have become oblivious to all sense of shame in their mad career of rapine, and their ravenous and insatiable appetite for gold, more gold, and still more gold. They half starve their miserable stock of horses, and would wholly starve their employés if the latter would submit to the infliction. They run their dirty, filthy cars until the smell of them is nauseating to a stomach of any delicacy, and pursue other methods equally infamous in order that wealth may pour into their purses in one copious and unceasing torrent. Such an exhibition of the gluttony of avarice was never before witnessed on earth. It is a spectacle that causes men to blush for their kind, and to almost forswear their species. Men like George Peabody, Peter Cooper, James Lenox, Judge Roosevelt, and others whose names would form a limited but honorable list, excite the admiration and love of the people, as do such noble women as she who is best known to the world as Miss Burdett-Coutts, of London, and one in our own midst, Miss Catharine L. Wolfe, whose munificent gifts to all beneficent purposes are to herself a crowning glory, and to the great metropolis an honor and a subject for just
pride. We can count such grand natures, in a few repetitions, on our fingers’ ends. It should be said, in justice to the Vanderbilts, that they have contributed most liberally towards a greater usefulness of that well-deserving institution, the “College of Physicians and Surgeons,” the late William H. Vanderbilt having donated half a million dollars to it, and now his sons give a quarter of a million for a clinic and dispensary as a memorial of their father. Mr. and Mrs. Sloan, the latter a Vanderbilt, have also endowed a “Maternity Hospital,” in conjunction with the college. Thus one million dollars are to be expended in this grand work. “This new institution, besides the great opportunities it will give for scientific instruction, will be of immense direct benefit to all who chose to avail themselves of its privileges. Medical advice and appliances will be given free to all at the dispensary, and in the clinic the best surgical skill will be available for anybody for the cure of all sorts of diseases that require operations.”

Nor is Wm. H. Vanderbilt’s present of $100,000 to his employees forgotten by the Labor Unions. Should a miracle occur in the shape of a gift by Jay Gould to any institution of a benevolent character before the issuance of our next edition of fifty thousand copies of the “Knights’ Book” we will duly mention it; but we fear we shall not have that agreeable task to perform. And what are the Astors doing? To be sure, the late John Jacob Astor endowed the great “Astor Library” with a large amount of money, ostensibly for the benefit of the people; but it has resulted in an almost total exclusion of the working classes, for its doors are shut in the faces of those who have to work during the regular hours of Labor. The Astors are rich enough to do a world of good for their fellow-men, but they are wanting in the virtue of generosity. One good old Peter Cooper was worth an army of the Astors. It can be said, however, in behalf of the capital of the Astor family, that it is at least passive and non-antagonistic in its relation to labor. It can even be said that workmen have been benefited by it, inasmuch as that it has been employed in the construction of thousands of dwellings,
etc. Workmen were promptly paid for their labor. No obligation on either side.

There are other owners of immense estates in this and other large cities who could accomplish wonders in the line of philanthropic deeds which would render the condition of the less fortunate portion of the populace more comfortable and make them happier. Nor do the rich men of New York manifest any marked degree of patriotic pride in the glory of the city, nor in that which is honorable to the Union, for they leave the poorer people—even little boys and girls—to give their dimes and dollars for the erection of a pedestal for the grandest statue on earth, representing that spirit of Liberty to which they are indebted for all the riches they possess, and for all the comfort and happiness they enjoy. The phlegmatic millionaires, too dignified and self-satisfied to manifest the vulgar passion of national pride, are content to labor under a load of obligation to the World newspaper for having spared our city the shame and disgrace which it would have suffered but for the persistent efforts of that journal of the millions. And yet, in the face of this burning fact, the same millionaires are subjecting the city that gave them their colossal fortunes to another terrible disgrace by neglecting to add another grand feature to the metropolis in the form of a memorial in honor of the great and illustrious Grant. Will the wealthy men of New York allow the World and the people of moderate means to do this work also?
VERSES FROM THE "LAY OF THE LABORER."

BY THOMAS HOOD.

A spade! a rake! a hoe!  
A pick-axe or a bill!  
A hook to reap or scythe to mow,  
A flail, or what you will—  
And here’s a ready hand  
To ply the needful tool;  
And skilled enough, by lessons rough,  
In Labor’s rugged school.

To a flaming barn or farm  
My fancies never roam;  
The fire I yearn to kindle and burn  
Is on the hearth at home.

Where children huddle and crouch  
Through dark long winter’s days;  
Where starving children huddle and crouch  
To see the cheerful rays,  
A-glowing on the haggard cheek  
And not in the haggard’s blaze.

Aye, only give me work,  
And then you need not fear  
That I shall snare his worship’s hare,  
Or kill his grace’s deer;  
Break into his lordship’s house,  
To steal the plate so rich;  
Or leave the yoeman that had a purse  
To welter in the ditch.

No parish money or loaf,  
No pauper badge for me,  
A son of the soil by right of toil  
Entitled to my fee.  
No alms I ask, give me my task;  
Here are the arm, the leg,  
The strength, the sinews of a man,  
To work, and not to beg.
THE KNIGHT AND MAIDEN.

Rich and rare were the gems she wore,
And a bright gold ring on her wand she bore;
But oh! her beauty was far beyond
Her sparkling gems or snow-white wand.

"Lady! dost thou not fear to stray
So lone and lonely through this bleak way?
Are Erin's sons so good or so cold
As not to be tempted by woman or gold?"

"Sir Knight, I feel not the least alarm;
No son of Erin will offer me harm.
For though they love women and golden store,
Sir Knight! they love honor and virtue more."

On she went, and her maiden smile
In safety lighted her round the green isle;
And blest forever is she who relied
Upon Erin's honor and Erin's pride.

—Thomas Moore.
THE GREAT EIGHT-HOUR DEMONSTRATION.

Thirty thousand workmen in New York, on Union Square; one hundred thousand in Chicago; ten thousand St. Louis, and so on all over the country, asking to be relieved from a too long and severe strain upon their hands and arms.

Truly the Labor Organizations are engaged in the noblest humanitarian work on record, and "woe, woe to those who stand against the right." The man who strikes at the purpose and progress of the present movement in behalf of the poorer portion of the human race, is no friend of humanity. Appeals have been in vain, and now demands are made as a matter of self-preservation. Let the good work go on!

On the grand stand, at the late gathering in Union Square, many of the prominent leaders in Labor circles were present. The following among the large number were conspicuous: John Swinton, Robert Blisert, George McKay, George Blair, Edward King, J. Conkling, Colonel Richard Hinton, Thomas Moran, Charles L. Miller, Thomas W. Jackson, William Martin, John T. McKechnie, John G. Jones, William McCabe, Captain Thomas Collum, Samuel Gompers, E. S. Schevitsch, Dr. Jonas, George Bloch, Philip Emrich, William F. Price, James Allan, John Jackson, Patrick Fogan, John Davitt, Jesse G. Miller, P. C. McGuire, Charles A. Merrill, Andrew D. Best, John Vincent Brown, Everett Glackin, George K. Lloyd, T. J. Rooney, Stephen Taylor, Paul Herman, J. Henry Sayers, Louis Howe, Frank Cornell, John Hernan, John B. Kelly, James P. Archibald.

The Noble Order of the Knights of Labor inculcates lessons of morality, sobriety, order, peacefulness, economy, and magnanimity. Temperance is one of its special tenets, and its leaders are ever warning the members to let strong drink alone. On every occasion at the close of a strike the men are advised to go home quietly and peaceably and by all means to avoid drinking by the way. With such principles and an earnest and honest determination to do its best to secure fair compensation and reasonable hours for labor, who can have the heart to put a stone in its way?
That true friend of Labor, the *Morning Journal* of New York city, covers the ground of the short-hour policy, and pays a just compliment to the well-known clothing house of Rogers, Peet & Co., who besides the noble action spoken of by the *Journal* share a portion of the profits with their salesmen:

**SHORTER HOURS OF LABOR.**

The action of Messrs. Rogers, Peet & Co. in granting shorter hours to their working people without any solicitation on the part of the latter is especially commendable, and should not be forgotten by the public. To show an exalted regard for those one employs, to take an interest in the daily current of their lives and to endeavor to promote their happiness by such means as lie within one's reach should be a permanent duty with all employers. Such a course carries with it the assurance of proper remuneration, and adds that which is better than money—contentment. How much of the present unrest of the Labor world would be spared if all employers acted in the spirit of Rogers, Peet & Co.!

The benefit of reasonable hours of labor is as great to capital and to society at large as to the workingman himself. Capital will obtain attention, alertness and more uniform effort during working hours, resulting in better workmanship and more valuable products. Society will gain by the extra time given to the higher domestic duties, and even to the graces and amenities of life. To the workingman it will mean longer life and more of its sunshine than now. We scout as utterly unworthy of the age and its ennobling tendencies the idea of the narrow-minded that extra hours for rest will mean to the workingman extra time for body-wearing dissipation and home-pinching extravagance. The responsibility for using the extra hours to the best mental and physical advantage can safely be left in the hands of Labor itself, which is charged with the task of leaving the world better for all humanity than it was when the present generation received its mandate to go forth and toil.

**SENATOR VAN WYCK ATTACKS GOULD.**

In discussing the Inter-State Commerce bill Mr. Van Wyck said that the basis of charges was "all that the traffic will bear." We were in the midst of depression, yet all pursuits must be laid under contribution so that full dividends shall be declared by railroad companies on watered stock and fraudulent bonds. Grain, beef and pork might be reduced one-half in price, yet there could be no abatement in freight charges.

As to the commission feature of the bill, the people, Mr. Van
Wyck said, were not demanding a commission, but the corpora-
tions were becoming earnest advocates of it. Railroad and
telegraph rates west of the Missouri River were about four
times greater than rates east of that river. For years capital
had been organized, unscrupulous and rapacious, moving as
Gould had moved, according to his sworn testimony, and as
Huntington, according to his own written history, had moved,
on State Legislatures, the courts and Congress, unblushingly
purchasing judges and legislators. But the crisis was coming.
There was an irrepressible conflict between right and wrong.
Could the nation be made to believe that the $4,000,000,000 of,
watered stock and bonds were honest property deserving pro-
tection from courts or legislatures, or were honestly obtained?
The owners of these fictions should accord decent treatment to
the remainder of mankind from whom they expected to force
dividends and interest. The Senate Committee failed at the
precise point where the monster evil should be grasped by the
law. If the industries were only required to pay fair dividends
on the real cost of railroads the nation would be prosperous.

The Senate could take an example from Jay Gould. The
Senate Committee on Education and Labor had industriously
obtained from that worthy a complete history of his life, proba-
bly for the youth of America to imitate. The committee had
tremblingly and beseechingly implored him to give a minute
account of his daring exploits and he unblushingly consented.
Early in life, when hard pressed for dinner, he adopted his sis-
ter's method and went behind the blacksmith's shop to pray.
The blessing came in great measure. In a few years the tanning
business in which he was engaged was in financial stress so over-
whelming that his partner was driven to suicide, while he him-
self bought a railroad. The wrong partner had committed
suicide.

The committee was doubtless dazed as much by Gould's
recital as by reading the exploits of Jack the Giant Killer, or
Kidd the Pirate. Modesty induced Gould to refrain from tell-
ing one feature of the history of his time. At Kansas City he
was once overtaken with another religious spasm and wrestled a second time in prayer, telling the people how happy he was and that he wanted no more money. He had purchased the Missouri Pacific only for the good of mankind and should use it only for the glory of God and the benefit of the people. As he was contemplating another raid he felt the necessity of another installment of divine grace, so he went “short” on the promise by pretending that he would not benefit himself by the blessing. It was to be hoped he would not indulge in a third prayer on earth. Should he in the end secure an entrance into the New Jerusalem, he would soon be conspiring there, from force of habit, to buy a railroad, and when he should have torn up the shining avenues the angels could not restrain him from stealing the golden pavements. [Laughter.]

THE DISTRESS WHICH PREVAILS AMONG THE OUT-OF-WORK POOR IN LONDON.

“Have you much distress in your neighborhood?” I recently asked of a gentleman who carries on a large business at Wapping Wall, writes an English lady, relating her experience among the poor of London. I put the question, although I knew what the answer would be; but I was hardly prepared for the sudden change in his expression and the earnestness with which he replied hurriedly and as if I had touched an over-sensitive nerve:

“Distress! Aye, distress, indeed! You should see them at the dock gates fighting like wild beasts when there’s a call. You should hear them yell when they know how few of them are wanted.”

Fighting and yelling like wild beasts?
And for what?
Twopence per hour!
I called on several people, but everywhere we found extreme poverty, and yet so bravely concealed that only those who knew the decent homes well quite knew how sharp was the pinch endured. Wonderfully patient and uncomplaining are hundreds of such men and women as we constantly meet with. To let
their poverty be known is to them almost worse than want itself. One poor woman who was in great straits—for, living in a Peabody block, the rent had to be found as regularly as Monday morning came—said, only a day or two ago, to one of our workers who had helped her a little, "We never let any one know about our troubles. I have a good husband, and we talk to each other, for we have no friend in London."

Over 40,000 Children Compelled to Lead a Life of Slavery.

The child-labor question is looming up in industrial circles, and strong efforts will be made to curtail, if not abolish, the evil effects of the system.

There are between 40,000 and 50,000 little boys and girls under fourteen years of age working in the factories, foundries and mills in this city. Many of them work from choice, but the great majority are compelled to in order that they may contribute to the support of their parents.

Many manufacturers who are not over-particular about the class of goods they produce hire children in preference to young men and women, for two reasons: first, they work for little or nothing, and secondly, because they are easily managed and will not strike. The employment of child labor gives these manufacturers a great advantage over other business firms, because they are enabled to undersell the employers of adult labor. Robert Blissett, who is both a business man and a Labor Unionist, said yesterday to a Journal reporter:

"I am firmly opposed to child labor. I do not think that any employer need hire young boys or girls to do factory work. I know considerable about the profits of factories and shops in this city, and I know that most employers make enough money to pay wages to grown-up boys and girls. Another thing, no employer should be permitted to hire a boy under fourteen years of age to do anything but office work or messenger service."

"What wages do boys receive, so far as you know?"

"They get about $2.50 in tobacco factories, $3 per week in
tin and machine shops. The same in printing offices and mills. They do work for which men would get $9 and $10 a week."

John T. McKeehie, Secretary of the Central Labor Union, said he considered the employment of children in factories and mills a serious evil. The Unions, he said, were endeavoring to prevent it by making the employment of children under fourteen years of age a misdemeanor.—N. Y. Morning Journal.

John Swinton, one of the ablest and best friends of Labor, in a communication addressed to the World, says: "The present Labor movement is not a 'foreign importation,' as Jay Gould implied in that Tribune interview which the World copied. The Order of the Knights of Labor was founded by an American of the old anti-slavery school, upon an American basis, and has developed according to the forms and instincts of American life. There never has been an organization like it in any part of Europe. It is American throughout in its system; and the massiveness and inclusiveness of its groundwork make it worthy of American idealism.

"Finally, the present 'Labor movement' is larger and deeper than the mere labor question in the old narrow view. It is the all-embracing social question. It is the volcanic energy of society under the forces of the depths. It is the child of the earthquake that is convulsing and transforming the American Commonwealth.

"The intensity of the earnestness of the present Labor movement is another of its predominant features. Those who watch its workings know that the hosts united in it feel that they are confronted by what the English call 'burning questions.' I have, within the past few years, addressed hundreds of 'Labor meetings' here and there, at many of which the audience seemed to be possessed by the spirit of the conquering Saracens of the seventh century, or of the Crusaders of the eleventh. This is not the mere effervescence of log-cabin campaign politics. It is a deep and mighty force, not to be overlooked."
KNIGHTHOOD AND CHIVALRY.

As to the origin of Chivalry, let it suffice for our present purpose to say, that it is so obscurely traced along the dim vista of ages as to have baffled the efforts of all writers upon the subject, and they have failed to find its exact time and place of birth. In making this assertion, G. P. R. James, whom we shall mostly quote in the following brief summary, wishes it to be understood that by the term Chivalry is meant the daring gallantry and courage which distinguished those individual heroes who were moved by the spirit of those qualities to protect the weak from the oppression of the powerful, and to defend the right cause against the wrong. Chivalry, however, took on a more definite form and pronounced vitality when the feudal system arose on the elevation of Hugues Capet, the Count of Paris, to the throne, year 998.

At this period, says James, great confusion existed. The authority of the sovereign extended but a few leagues around the city of Paris. The Normans ravaged the court; the powerful and the wicked had no restraint imposed upon their actions, and the weak were everywhere oppressed and wronged. Property was acquired and held by the sword, and injustice reigned alone.
Personal courage, however, had been raised to the highest pitch. Valor was a necessity and a habit. It was then that a few poor nobles, probably suffering themselves from the oppression of some more powerful lords, but at the same time touched with sincere compassion for the wretchedness they saw around them, first leagued together, with the holy purpose of redressing wrongs and defending the weak. They gave their hands in pledge to one another that they would not turn back from the work, and called upon St. George to bless their righteous cause. Religious enthusiasm became added to noble indignation and charitable zeal, so that the Spirit of Chivalry was kindled into light.

The spirit so evoked spread rapidly, and the adoration of the people, who were moved to gratitude by the noble attitude of their champions, was intensified to the point almost of deification, and this manifestation of interest and faith gave both fresh vigor and purity to the design of the people's self-appointed defenders. Every moral virtue became a part of knightly honor, and the men whose hands were ever ready to draw the sword in defense of innocence, who in their own conduct set the most brilliant example, whose sole object was the establishment of right, and over whom no earthly fear or interested consideration held sway, were readily recognized as judges and appealed to as arbitrators.

Public opinion raised them above all other men, even above kings themselves, and so the chivalric spirit took form and shape, acquired numerous followers, and became, instead of a mere verbal engagement between a few generous and valiant men, a great and powerful institution. The time, however, at which fixed regulations first distinguished Chivalry from any other order in the state, cannot be precisely determined. Certainly it was not before the eleventh century, and then it was by slow degrees, owing to the confused condition of affairs, that it ultimately became an establishment having its duties, rules and principles, no doubt properly defined.

The first point required of aspirants to Chivalry in its earliest
state was certainly a solemn vow, "To speak the truth, to succor the helpless and oppressed, and never to turn back from an enemy."

**Rise of the Order.**

James believes that the Order (of Chivalry) first took its rise in France, and probably the disgust felt by some pure minds at the gross and barbarous licentiousness of the times infused that virtuous severity into the institution of Chivalry which was in itself a glory. If, says the writer, whose words we closely follow, we may give the least credit to the picture of immorality and luxury of the French as drawn by Abbon in his poem on "The Siege of Paris," no words will be found sufficient to express our admiration for the men who first undertook to combat, not only the tyranny, but the vices of the age; who singly went forth to war against crime, injustice and cruelty; who defied the whole world in defense of innocence, virtue and truth; who stemmed the torrent of barbarity and evil, and who, from the wrecks of ages and the ruins of empires, drew out a thousand jewels to glitter in the star that shone upon the breast of knighthood.

**The Champion of Christianity.**

For long the Christian religion has struggled alone, a great but shaded light, through the storms of dark and barbarous ages. Till Chivalry arose there was nothing to uphold it; but from that moment, with a champion in the field to lead forth the knowledge that had been imprisoned in the cloister, the influence of religion began to spread and increase.

In its brightest days Chivalry stood forth the most glorious institution that man himself ever devised. In its youth and in its simplicity it appeared grand and beautiful, both from its intrinsic excellence and from its contrast with the things around. And although it acquired pomp and luxury, to which succeeded decay and death, still the legacy that it left behind it to posterity was a treasure of noble feelings and generous principles.

**Defender of the Fair.**

There cannot be a doubt that Chivalry, more than any other
institution (except religion), aided to work out civilization in Europe. It first taught devotion and reverence to those weak, fair beings who, but in their beauty and their gentleness, have no defense.

It first raised love above the passions of the brutes, and, by dignifying woman, made her worthy of love. It gave purity to enthusiasm, crushed barbarous selfishness, taught the heart to expand like a flower to the sunshine, beautified glory with generosity, and smoothed even the rugged brow of war.

For the mind, as far as knowledge went, Chivalry itself did but little, but by its influence it did much. For the heart it did everything; and there is scarcely a noble feeling or a bright aspiration that we find among ourselves, or trace in the history of modern Europe, that is not, in some degree, referable to that great and noble principle which has no name but that of "The Spirit of Chivalry."

**The Duties and Discipline of Knights.**

The duties of a knight were onerous in the extreme, and his physical exercises were incessant and of the most robust nature. To spring upon horseback armed from head to foot, without putting a foot in the stirrup, to cast somersets in heavy armor, for the purpose of strengthening the arms, to leap upon the shoulders of another knight from behind without other hold than one hand laid upon his shoulder, such and many other, were the daily exercises of the young noble who aspired to reach the higher degrees of a glorious knighthood, and many other hardy feats constituted the daily discipline, besides regular instructions in riding and managing his arms.

The result of such severe and incessant training was that in after years those men were found bearing a weight that few persons of the present time could lift, through the heat in a whole summer's day, under the burning suns of Palestine.

"He who seeks to be a knight," said the Bishop of Valenciennes to the young Count of Ostravant, "should have great qualities. He must be of noble birth, liberal in gifts, high in
courage, strong in danger, secret in council, patient in difficulties, powerful against enemies, prudent in his deeds. He must undertake no war without just cause, favor no injustice, but protect the innocent and oppressed."

The Tournament.

The tournament was a purely chivalrous institution. James, in speaking of this romantic, poetic and thrilling theme, pays "The Wizard of the North" a high and well-deserved tribute when he says, "The most complete description ever given of a tournament is to be found in the writings of one whose words are pictures; and if I dared but copy into this place the account of the passage-at-arms in `Ivanhoe,' I should be enabled to give a far better idea of what such a scene was than all the antiquarian researches in my power will afford." [See note on last page.]

The ceremonies and splendor of the tournament, says the same writer, of course differed in different ages, but the principle was the same. Sometimes it was the king himself who sent his heralds through the land to announce to all noblemen and ladies that on a certain day he would hold a grand tournament, where all brave knights might try their prowess. At other times a tournament was determined upon by a body of knights, and messengers were often sent into distant countries to invite all gallant gentlemen to honor the passage-at-arms.

The spot usually fixed upon for the lists was in the immediate neighborhood of some abbey or court, where the emblazoned and inscribed shields of the knights were exposed to view for several days previous to the meeting. Sometimes it occurred that a blot was found upon the fame of a recreant knight, when he was expelled from the lists with marks of ignominy.

Round about the field appointed for the spectacle were raised galleries, scaffoldings, tents and pavilions, decorated with all the magnificence of a luxurious age. Banners and escutcheons and bandrols, silks and cloth of gold covered the galleries and floated round the field, while all that rich garments and precious
stones, beauty and youth could do to outshine the inanimate part of the scene, was to be found among the spectators. Bands of warlike music were stationed near, to animate the contests and to salute the victors. The knights, as they appeared in the lists, were greeted by the heralds and the people, according to their renown. But the approbation of the female part of the spectators was the great stimulus to all the chivalry of the field. Each knight, as a part of his duty, either felt or feigned himself in love, and it was upon these occasions that his lady-love might descend from the high state to which the mystic adoration of the day had raised her, and bestow upon her favored champion a glove, a ribbon, a bracelet, a jewel, which, borne upon his crest through the hard-contested field, was the chief object of his care and the great exciting cause of his valor. The other spectators also, though animated by less thrilling interests, took no small share in the feelings and hopes of the different parties. Each blow of the lance or sword, struck well and home, was greeted with loud acclamations, and valor met with both its incitement and its reward in the expecting silence and the thundering plaudits with which each good champion's movements were waited for and seen.

In the meantime, without giving encouragement to any particular knight, the heralds strove to animate all by quaint and characteristic exclamations, such as "The love of ladies," "Honor to the brave," "Glory is to be won by blood and sweat." "A Templar."
ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

and

DECORATIONS OF HONOR.

A brief mention of a number of the best known Orders of Knighthood will assist the novice in such matters to a better understanding of the subject in hand, and we therefore attach to the main body of this little book a limited list of such institutions.

"THE ORDER OF ALBERT THE BEAR."—The Order common to the three Anhalt Duchies is known as that of "ALBERT THE BEAR," founded by Prince Sigismund I. about the year 1382. The knights wore the decoration at the button-hole, suspended by a ribbon.

THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE—Austrian—was founded by Philip le Bon ("The Good"), Duke of Burgundy and the Netherlands, in the year 1429. The annual festival of the Order is celebrated in Vienna on St. Andrew's Day (30th of November), or on the following Sunday, when the Emperor and all the knights then present at Vienna, repair in procession and full costume to the Court Chapel to hear divine service, and thence return to the castle and dine at open table in the "Knights' Saloon."

"THE ORDER OF THE EMPRESS MARIA THERESA," of Austria, is a purely military order, and was established in 1757. The badge of the order is worn by the Knights, and is held in high estimation on account of the rareness of its distribution.

"THE TEUTONIC, KNIGHTLY ORDER."—In the earlier part of the Twelfth Century, about the time when, in the East, the knights
of various countries began, after the model of the monks, to form themselves into different orders for the purpose of vanquishing the Infidels, a pious German, whose name is now lost, built at Jerusalem a hospital for the pilgrims of his native land, the then existing Orders of the Templars and of St. John having thought fit to devote their care exclusively to the comforts of the French and Italian pilgrims. In 1191, Frederick of Suabia deemed it advisable to secure to the institution a more solid basis, and it grew in wealth, power and influence.

"The Order of Malta" (St. John).—This famous institution occupies in history an important page. Its origin falls in the time when Jerusalem was still in the hands of the Mahometans, A. D. 1048. In 1099 Godfrey of Bouillon, having conquered Jerusalem gave to the hospital a constitution, endowed it with considerable lands and capital, and released the monks from the duties of its management, which now devolved upon several of the knights of his army. The history of this renowned order is one of the grandest among the knightly institutions in Christendom.

"The Order of Henry the Lion" was founded by Duke William of Brunswick, 1834. The object is to reward those who have distinguished themselves in the service of the State, military or civil, in war, or the arts and sciences. No regard is had in the disposition of its medals of merit, to birth, rank or religion, except in the higher classes, when a previous possession of a knightly insignia is required.

"Order of the Garter."—Selden fixes as the foundation of the Garter, St. George's day, in the eighteenth year of the reign of King Edward III., and this statement is corroborated by Froissart. The account given by this old chronicler is, as in his usual style, so quaint and so vivid that, like a painting, it brings the whole scene at once before our eyes. He says: "At this
time there came into the mind and will of King Edward of England, that he would cause to be made and erected the great Castle of Windsor, which King Arthur had formerly made and founded, where first was begun and established the noble 'Round Table,' of which were so many good and valiant men and knights, who went forth and toiled in arms and in prisons throughout the world, and that the same king would make an 'Order of Knights.' And it is told how he carried out his royal intention in regal style; but we cannot here go into the details. As to the origin of the name of the order and its well known motto it is recorded that, having a festival at court, a lady chanced to drop her garter, when it was picked up by the king. Observing that the incident made the bystanders smile significantly, Edward exclaimed, in a tone of rebuke, "Honi soit qui mal y pense," "Dishonored be he who thinks evil of it." And to prevent any further innuendoes he tied the garter round his own knee. This incident was strictly in accordance with the romantic habits of an age when devotion to women was one of the first duties of knighthood. Burke, from whom we quote, says: "No order in Europe is so ancient, none so illustrious, for it exceeds in majesty, honor and fame all chivalrous fraternities in the world."

"The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle," as an organized knightly fraternity, is traced back to King James II. of England and VII. of Scotland.

"The Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick" was instituted by King George III., who wished to manifest his regard for Ireland by assigning to that kingdom a national order, February 5, 1783, a fraternity of knights, and named after the tutelar saint, St. Patrick.

"Order of the Madonna of Guadalupe," of the Republic of Mexico, was founded, after the model of the old Emperor Iturbide, on the 11th of November, 1853. The head of the Mexican
Government is Grand Master, and nominates twenty-four Knights of the Grand Cross, one hundred commanders, and an unlimited number of other knights. Motto, "Religion, Independence, Union." Inscription, "Heroic Patriotism."

"ORDER OF THE WHITE FALCON," or of "VIGILANCE."—This Order was founded by Ernest Augustus, Duke of Saxe-Weimar and Eisenach, Commanding General of the whole Imperial Cavalry, on the 2nd of August, 1732. Among the duties imposed upon the members was this: To live with the other Knights of the Order in union, love and perfect confidence, without deceit and falsehood, and to assist them in their emergencies and necessities, as also to afford relief to the poor and oppressed generally, but more especially to poor officers and soldiers.

BELGIUM MEDAL OF HONOR.—The following royal patent was issued on the 7th of November, 1847, by Leopold I., King of Belgium:

1. A decoration with the symbols of commerce and industry is to be issued under the name "Reward for artisans, mechanics and the working classes." The name of the recipient, and the year when granted, to be impressed on the reverse.
2. There are to be two classes, one of gold, and the other a silver medal.
3. It is to be worn on a small chain of the same metal, on the left side of the breast.
4. It is exclusively designed for mechanics who join skill to irreproachable conduct.
5. The jury, appointed at the "Industry Exhibition," is to report on their various merits.
6. The skill of the mechanic or artisan is to show itself in a distinguished, fine form—wholly or mostly of his own production.
7. The first reward is the silver medal, while the gold is to be awarded to increased skill, after the receipt of the former.
8. The number of the members is limited to 1,000—200 to the gold and 800 to the silver medal.

In 1848, the reward was also extended to agricultural talent and improvement, on the occasion of the Agricultural Exhibition.

MASONIC KNIGHTHOOD.

Daniel Sickles, in his Freemason Monitor, says: "The knightly degrees in Freemasonry consist of the orders of the "Commandery," known as "Knights of the Red Cross," "Knights Templar" and "Knights of Malta." The first of these orders is founded upon incidents which occurred during the reign of Darius, King of Persia, etc. The order of the "Knights of Malta," who were originally called Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem, took its rise about the year 1099, from which time to the year 1118 their whole employment was works of charity, and taking care of the sick. Some time after the establishment of this order, nine gentlemen formed a society to guard and protect the Christian pilgrims who traveled from abroad to visit the Holy Sepulcher. These men were encouraged by the abbot of Jerusalem, who assigned them and their companions a place of retreat in a Christian Church called the Church of the Holy Temple, from which they were called "Templars." The Beauseant or Battle flag of the Ancient Templars is displayed in the South, in charge of the Senior Warden.

It will be seen by the following words, addressed to the "Eminent Commander" on the occasion of his initiation, that the same spirit of chivalry which distinguished the knights of old is instilled into the minds of the Masonic Knights of the present day. The Grand Commander addresses the Commander-elect as follows: "It will henceforth be your special duty to preserve inviolate the Laws and Constitutions of the Order; to dispense justice, reward merit, encourage truth, and diffuse the sublime principles of universal benevolence. You will distribute alms to poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar; feed the hungry; clothe the naked, and bind up the wounds of
the afflicted. You will inculcate the duties of charity and hospitality, and govern your Commandery with justice and moderation. And finally, my brother, may the bright example of the illustrious heroes of former ages, whose matchless valor has shed undying luster over the name of Knight Templar, encourage and animate you to the faithful performance of every duty."

[We are indebted to Mr. A. C. Searles, "Grand District Deputy," for the following concise account of the Order of "Knights of Honor," which is also indorsed and corroborated by Benjamin Browne, Esq., another eminent Grand District Deputy.]

"KNIGHTS OF HONOR;"

THE OBJECTS OF THE ORDER

Are stated briefly by the Supreme Lodge as follows:

First—To unite fraternally all acceptable white men of every profession, business or occupation.

Second—To give all moral and material aid in its power to members of the Order, by holding moral, instructive and scientific lectures, by encouraging each other in business, and by assisting one another to obtain employment.

Third—To promote benevolence and charity by establishing a Widows and Orphans' Benefic Fund, from which a sum not exceeding $2,000 shall be paid at the death of a member to his family, or as he may direct.

Fourth—To provide for the relief of sick and distressed members.

Fifth—To ameliorate the condition of humanity in every possible manner.

ASSESSMENT INSURANCE, PURE AND SIMPLE.

Life Insurance is a duty every man owes to his family.

To get at the average saving which accrues to the insured Knights of Honor, we will take the entire business of a prominent Life Insurance Company ("The New York") for the last twenty-five years. It has cost that company an average
of $23.54 to carry $2,000 insurance one year. To meet this they have required five dollars paid in for what has cost them one dollar. The experience of this Order (K. of H.) is, that to carry $2,000 one year requires eighteen to twenty assessments of one dollar each—say the latter—adding $4.00 for dues, which makes $24.00 (a sum about equal to the actual cost in the old Life Insurance Company), leaving a balance in favor of the Order's method of over $97.00 on each year's insurance. That's "why there are so many Knights of Honor."

In 1873 a band of men, with J. A. Demaree at their head, organized the Knights of Honor. It was to extend fraternal aid to its members in various ways, it was to have a representative form of government, and its principal feature was the payment of $2,000 death benefit. It was a bold stroke, although its fundamental principles had been extant for centuries, but it was a new application of them. The rapidly acquired power and strength of the organization grew out of the fact that its perpetuity was the mutual advantage of all.

The Supreme Lodge is the head of the Order, and is composed of representatives from Grand Lodges (one representative for each 2,500 members); the Grand Lodges are composed of representatives from each subordinate lodge in the State; the subordinate lodges are composed of members in good standing who favorably pass a strict medical examination, which is subject to approval or disapproval at the expert judgment of a State Medical Examiner. Thus every possible safeguard is employed to assure sound health when joining.

The Order is over thirteen years old, and has already about 130,000 members, and down to May 1, 1886, has paid to the families of deceased members $16,886,345. The officers claim that there is not a record equal to it, where benefits are paid from one common fund, in all the annals of fraternal societies.

Thus it will be seen that the people can insure themselves in their own way, the result of organization and the aggregation of numbers. It seems incredible that this immense sum of money can be collected and disbursed at an expense of twenty-
five cents per annum to each member. Yet such is the truth. It has cost a member who joined in 1873 an average of $14.41 per annum for an insurance of $2,000. In fact the whole question of fraternal insurance compared with the old line companies amounts to just this: The company collects enough to pay the policy on every death that should occur theoretically if every policy remained in force till death.

While the Knights of Honor collect just what is needed to pay a benefit of $2,000 dollars upon each death which does occur among its members.

Therefore the insurance in the Knights is obtained at cost, whatever it may be—a pay-as-you-go, common-sense insurance—which commends itself to the good judgment of every thinking man; an insurance of the people, by the people, for the people.

A. C. Searles, of 124 Avenue C, cor Eighth street, New York City; and Benjamin Browne, of 116 East One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, are Grand District Deputies.

Our limited space will not allow of a more extended description of the salient features of Knighthood and Chivalry, but the foregoing, we think, will convey to the minds of the KNIGHTS OF LABOR a sufficient knowledge of the subject to enable them to comprehend the significance and sentiment embodied in the proud title of "KNIGHT;" and we sincerely hope and believe that a perusal of the foregoing pages will have the happy effect of inspiring the modern champions of the wronged and oppressed with the same noble enthusiasm and courage that moved the great and valiant hearts of the "Knights of Old," who, throwing aside all considerations of self, went forth to smite the oppressor, to uphold the feeble hands of innocence, and to right the wrongs inflicted upon a downtrodden people.

And now, to render this summary of the history of Chivalry complete, we will do that which the celebrated novelist James expressed himself as not daring to do; for we are prepared to dare everything in the interests of Labor and its worthy Knights.

Here, then, follows the "Passage of Arms" from "Ivanhoe."
CRUSADERS AND SARACENS.
Knights, with a long retinue of their squires,
In gaudy liveries march and quaint attires;
One laced the helm, another held the lance,
A third the shining buckler did advance.
The courser paw'd the ground with restless feet,
And snorting, foam'd and champ'd the golden bit.
The smiths and armorer's on palfreys ride,
Files in their hands, and hammers at their side;
And nails for loosen'd spears, and thongs for shields provide.
The yoemen guard the streets in seemly bands,
And clowns come crowding on, with cudgels in their hands.
—Palamon and Arcite.

The condition of the English nation was at this time sufficiently miserable. King Richard was absent a prisoner, and in the power of the perfidious and cruel Duke of Austria. Even the very place of his captivity was uncertain, and his fate but very imperfectly known to the generality of his subjects, who were, in the meantime, a prey to every species of subaltern oppression.

Prince John, in league with Phillip of France, Cour-de-Lion's mortal enemy, was using every species of influence with the Duke of Austria to prolong the captivity of his brother Richard, to whom he stood indebted for so many favors. In the meantime, he was strengthening his own faction in the kingdom, of which he proposed to dispute the succession, in case of the king's death, with the legitimate heir, Arthur, Duke of Brittany, son of Geoffrey Plantagenet, the elder brother of John. This usurpation, it is well known, he afterward effected. His own character being light, profligate and perfidious, John easily attached to his person and faction, not only all who had reason to dread the resentment of Richard for criminal proceedings during his absence, but also the numerous class of "lawless resolutes," whom the crusades had turned back on their country, accomplished in the vices of the East, impoverished in substance and hardened in character, and who placed their hopes of harvest in civil commotion.

To these causes of public distress and apprehension must be added the multitude of outlaws who, driven to despair by the oppression of the feudal nobility and the severe exercise of the forest laws, banded together in large gangs, and keeping possession of the forests and the wastes, set at defiance the justice and magistracy of the country. The nobles themselves, each fortified within his own castle, and playing the petty sovereign over his own dominions, were the leaders of bands scarce less law-
less and oppressive than those of the avowed depredators. To maintain these retainers, and to support the extravagance and magnificence which their pride induced them to affect, the nobility borrowed sums of money from the Jews at the most usurious interest, which gnawed into their estates like consuming cankers, scarce to be cured unless when circumstances gave them an opportunity of getting free by exercising upon their creditors some act of unprincipled violence.

Under the various burdens imposed by this unhappy state of affairs, the people of England suffered deeply for the present, and had yet more dreadful cause to fear the future. To augment their misery, a contagious disorder of a dangerous nature spread through the land; and, rendered more virulent by the uncleanness, the indifferent food and the wretched lodging of the lower classes, swept off many whose fate the survivors were tempted to envy, as exempting them from the evils which were to come.

Yet amid these accumulated distresses, the poor as well as the rich, the vulgar as well as the noble, in the event of a tournament, which was the grand spectacle of that age, felt as much interested as the half-starved citizen of Madrid, who has not a real left to buy provisions for his family, feels in the issue of a bull fight. Neither duty nor infirmity could keep youth or age from such exhibitions. The Passage of Arms, as it was called, which was to take place at Ashby, in the county of Leicester, as champions of the first renown were to take the field in the presence of Prince John himself, who was expected to grace the lists, had attracted universal attention, and an immense confluence of persons of all ranks hastened upon the appointed morning to the place of combat.

The scene was singularly romantic. On the verge of a wood, which approached to within a mile of the town of Ashby, was an extensive meadow of the finest and most beautiful green turf, surrounded on one side by the forest, and fringed on the other by straggling oak trees, some of which had grown to an immense size. The ground, as if fashioned on purpose for the martial display which was intended, sloped gradually down on all sides to a level bottom, which was inclosed for the lists with strong palisades, forming a space of a quarter of a mile in length and about half as broad. The form of the inclosure was an oblong square, save that the corners were considerably rounded off, in order to afford more convenience for the spectators. The openings for the entry of the combatants were at the northern and southern extremities of the lists, accessible by strong wooden gates, each wide enough to admit two horsemen riding abreast. At each of these portals were stationed two heralds, attended by six trumpets, as many pursuivants, and a strong body of men-at-arms for maintaining order and ascertaining the quality of the knights who propose to engage in this martial game.
On a platform beyond the southern entrance, formed by a natural elevation of the ground, were pitched five magnificent pavilions, adorned with pennons of russet and black, the chosen colors of the five knights challengers. The cords of the tents were of the same color. Before each pavilion was suspended the shield of the knight by whom it was occupied, and beside it stood his squire, quaintly disguised as a salvage or sylvan man, or in some other fantastic dress, according to the taste of his master and the character he was pleased to assume during the game. The central pavilion, as the place of honor, had been assigned to Brian de Bois-Guilbert, whose renown in all games of chivalry, no less than his connection with the knights who had undertaken this Passage of Arms, had occasioned him to be eagerly received into the company of the challengers, and even adopted as their chief and leader, though he had so recently joined them. On one side of his tent were pitched those of Reginald Front-de-Bœuf and Richard de Malvoisin, and on the other was the pavilion of Hugh de Grantmesnil, a noble baron in the vicinity, whose ancestor had been Lord High Steward of England in the time of the Conqueror, and his son William Rufus. Ralph de Vipont, a knight of St. John of Jerusalem, who had some ancient possessions at a place called Heather, near Ashby-de-la-Zouche, occupied the fifth pavilion. From the entrance into the lists, a gently sloping passage, ten yards in breadth, led up to the platform on which the tents were pitched. It was strongly secured by a palisade on each side, as was the esplanade in front of the pavilions, and the whole was guarded by men-at-arms.

The northern access to the lists terminated in a similar entrance of thirty feet in breadth, at the extremity of which was a large inclosed space for such knights as might be disposed to enter the lists with the challengers, behind which were placed tents containing refreshments of every kind for their accommodation, with armorers, farriers and other attendants in readiness to give their services wherever they might be necessary.

The exterior of the lists was in part occupied by temporary galleries, spread with tapestry and carpets, and accommodated with cushions for the convenience of those ladies and nobles who were expected to attend the tournament. A narrow space, betwixt these galleries and the lists, gave accommodation for yeomanry and spectators of a better degree than the mere vulgar, and might be compared to the pit of a theater. The promiscuous multitude arranged themselves upon large banks of turf, prepared for the purpose, which, aided by the natural elevation of the ground, enabled them to overlook the galleries, and obtain a fair view into the lists. Besides the accommodation which these stations afforded, many hundreds had perched themselves on the branches of the trees.
which surrounded the meadow; and even the steeple of a country church, at some distance, was crowded with spectators.

It only remains to notice respecting the general arrangement that one gallery in the very center of the eastern side of the lists, and consequently exactly opposite to the spot where the shock of the combat was to take place, was raised higher than the others, more richly decorated, and graced by a sort of throne and canopy, on which the royal arms were emblazoned. Squires, pages and yeomen in rich liveries waited around this place of honor, which was designed for Prince John and his attendants. Opposite to this royal gallery was another, elevated to the same height, on the western side of the lists, and more gayly, if less sumptuously decorated than that destined for the Prince himself. A train of pages and of young maidens, the most beautiful who could be selected, gayly dressed in fancy habits of green and pink, surrounded a throne decorated in the same colors. Among pennons and flags bearing wounded hearts, burning hearts, bleeding hearts, bows and quivers, and all the commonplace emblems of the triumphs of Cupid, a blazoned inscription informed the spectators that this seat of honor was designed for _La Reyne de la Beaute et des Amours_. But who was to represent the Queen of Beauty and of Love on the present occasion no one was prepared to guess.

Meanwhile, spectators of every description thronged forward to occupy their respective stations, and not without many quarrels concerning those which they were entitled to hold. Some of these were settled by the men-at-arms with brief ceremony; the shafts of their battle-axes, and pummels of their swords, being readily employed as arguments to convince the more refractory. Others, which involved the rival claims of more elevated persons, were determined by the heralds, or by the two marshals of the field, William de Wyvil and Stephen de Martival, who, armed at all points, rode up and down the lists to enforce and preserve good order among the spectators.

Gradually the galleries became filled with knights and nobles, in their robes of peace, whose long and rich-tinted mantles were contrasted with the gayer and more splendid habits of the ladies, who, in a greater proportion than even the men themselves, thronged to witness a sport which one would have thought too bloody and dangerous to afford their sex much pleasure. The lower and interior space was soon filled by substantial yeomen andburghers, and such of the lesser gentry, as, from modesty, poverty, or dubious title, durst not assume any higher place.

Prince John entered the lists, attended by a numerous and gay train, consisting partly of laymen, and partly of churchmen, as light in their dress and as gay in their demeanor as their companions. Among the latter was the Prior of Jorvaulx, in the most gallant trim which a dignitary of the church could venture to exhibit. Fur and gold were not
spared in his garments; and the points of his boots, out-heroding the preposterous fashion of the time, turned up so very far as to be attached, not to his knees merely, but to his very girdle, and effectually prevented him from putting his foot into the stirrup. This, however, was a slight inconvenience to the gallant Abbot, who, perhaps even rejoicing in the opportunity to display his accomplished horsemanship before so many spectators, especially of the fair sex, dispensed with the use of these supports to a timid rider. The rest of Prince John's retinue consisted of the favorite leaders of his mercenary troops, some marauding barons and profligate attendants upon the court, with several Knights Templars and Knights of St. John.

It may be here remarked, that the knights of these two orders were accounted hostile to King Richard, having adopted the side of Philip of France in the long train of disputes which took place in Palestine betwixt that monarch and the lion-hearted King of England. It was the well-known consequence of this discord that Richard's repeated victories had been rendered fruitless, his romantic attempts to besiege Jerusalem disappointed, and the fruit of all the glory which he had acquired had dwindled into an uncertain truce with the Sultan Saladin. With the same policy which had dictated the conduct of their brethren in the Holy Land, the Templars and Hospitalers in England and Normandy attached themselves to the faction of Prince John, having little reason to desire the return of Richard to England, or the succession of Arthur, his legitimate heir. For the opposite reason, Prince John hated and contemned the few Saxon families of consequence which subsisted in England, and omitted no opportunity of mortifying and affronting them; being conscious that his person and pretensions were disliked by them, as well as by the greater part of the English commons, who feared further innovation upon their rights and liberties, from a sovereign of John's licentious and tyrannical disposition.

Attended by this gallant equipage, himself well mounted, and splendidly dressed in crimson and in gold, bearing upon his hand a falcon, and having his head covered by a rich fur bonnet, adorned with a circle of precious stones, from which his long curled hair escaped and overspread his shoulders, Prince John, upon a gray and high-mettled palfrey, caracoled within the lists at the head of his jovial party, laughing loud with his train, and eying with all the boldness of royal criticism the beauties who adorned the lofty galleries.

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The Prince, assuming his throne, and being surrounded by his followers, gave signal to the heralds to proclaim the laws of the tournament, which were briefly as follows:

First, the five challengers were to undertake all comers.
Secondly, any knight proposing to combat, might, if he pleased, select a special antagonist, from among the challengers by touching his shield. If he did so with the reverse of his lance, the trial of skill was made with what were called the arms of courtesy, that is, with lances at whose extremity a piece of round, flat board was fixed, so that no danger was encountered, save from the shock of the horses and riders. But if the shield was touched with the sharp end of the lance, the combat was understood to be at *outrance*; that is, the knights were to fight with sharp weapons, as in actual battle.

Thirdly, when the knights present had accomplished their vow, by each of them breaking five lances, the Prince was to declare the victor in the first day’s tourney, who should receive as prize a war-horse of exquisite beauty and matchless strength; and in addition to this reward of valor, it was now declared, he should have the peculiar honor of naming the Queen of Love and Beauty, by whom the prize should be given on the ensuing day.

Fourthly, it was announced, that, on the second day, there should be a general tournament, in which all the knights present who were desirous to win praise, might take part; and being divided into two bands of equal numbers, might fight it out manfully, until the signal was given by Prince John to cease the combat. The elected Queen of Love and Beauty was then to crown the knight whom the prince should adjudge to have borne himself best, in this second day, with a coronet of thin gold plate cut into the shape of a laurel crown. On this second day the knightly games ceased. But on that which was to follow, feats of archery, of bull baiting, and other popular amusements, were to be practiced, for the more immediate amusement of the populace. In this manner did Prince John endeavor to lay the foundation of a popularity which he was perpetually throwing down by some inconsiderate act of wanton aggression upon the feelings and prejudices of the people.

The lists now presented a most splendid spectacle. The sloping galleries were crowded with all that was noble, great, wealthy and beautiful in the northern and midland parts of England; and the contrast of the various dresses of these dignified spectators, rendered the view as gay as it was rich, while the interior and lower space, filled with the substantial burgesses and yeomen of merry England, formed in their more plain attire, a dark fringe, or border, around this circle of brilliant embroidery, relieving, and at the same time setting off, its splendor.

The heralds finished their proclamation with the usual cry of "Largesse, largesse, gallant knights!" and gold and silver pieces were showered on them from the galleries, it being a high point of chivalry to exhibit liberality toward those whom the age accounted at once the secretaries and the historians of honor. The bounty of the spectators was
acknowledged by the customary shouts of "Love of Ladies—Death of Champions—Honor to the Generous—Glory to the Brave!"—to which the more humble spectators added their acclamations, and a numerous band of trumpeters the flourish of their martial instruments. When these sounds had ceased, the heralds withdrew from the lists in gay and glittering procession, and none remained within them save the marshals of field who, armed cap-a-pie, sat on horseback, motionless as statues, at the opposite end of the lists. Meantime, the inclosed space at the northern extremity of the lists, as it was, was now completely crowded with knights desirous to prove their skill against the challengers, and when viewed from the galleries, presented the appearance of a sea of waving plumage, intermixed with glistening helmets and tall lances, to the extremities of which were, in many cases, attached small pennons of about a span's breadth, which, fluttering in the air as the breeze caught them, joined with the restless motion of the feathers to add liveliness to the scene.

At length the barriers were opened, and five knights, chosen by lot, advanced slowly into the area; a single champion riding in front, and the other four following in pairs. All were splendidly armed, and my Saxon authority (in the Wardour Manuscript) records at great length their devices, their colors, and the embroidery of their horse trappings.

The champions advanced through the lists, restraining their fiery steeds and compelling them to move slowly, while at the same time they exhibited their paces, together with the grace and dexterity of the riders. As the procession entered the lists, the sound of a wild, barbaric music was heard from behind the tents of the challengers, where the performers were concealed. It was of Eastern origin, having been brought from the Holy Land, and the mixture of the cymbals and bells seemed to bid welcome at once, and defiance to the knights as they advanced. With the eyes of an immense concourse of spectators fixed upon them, the five knights advanced up the platform upon which the tents of the challengers stood, and there separating themselves, each touched slightly, and with the reverse of his lance, the shield of the antagonist to whom he wished to oppose himself. The lower orders of spectators in general—nay, many of the higher class, and it is even said several of the ladies—were rather disappointed at the champions choosing the arms of courtesy. For the same sort of persons who in the present day applaud most highly the deepest tragedies were then interested in a tournament exactly in proportion to the danger incurred by the champions engaged.

Having intimated their more pacific purpose, the champions retreated to the extremity of the lists, where they remained drawn up in a line; while the challengers, sallying each from his pavilion, mounted their horses, and, headed by Brian de Bois-Guilbert, descended from the plat-
form, and opposed themselves individually to the knights who had touched their respective shields.

At the flourish of clarions and trumpets they started out against each other at full gallop; and such was the superior dexterity or good fortune of the challengers, that those opposed to Bois-Guilbert, Malvoisin and Front de-Boeuf, rolled on the ground. The antagonist of Grantmesnil, instead of bearing his lance-point fair against the crest or the shield of his enemy, swerved so much from the direct line as to break the weapon athwart the person of his opponent—a circumstance which was accounted more disgraceful than that of being actually unhorsed; because the latter might happen from accident, whereas the former evinced awkwardness and want of management of the weapon and of the horse. The fifth knight alone maintained the honor of his party, and parted fairly with the knight of St. John, both splintering their lances without advantage on either side.

The shouts of the multitude, together with the acclamations of the heralds and the clangor of the trumpets, announced the triumph of the victors and the defeat of the vanquished. The former retreated to their pavilions, and the latter, gathering themselves up as they could, withdrew from the lists in disgrace and dejection, to agree with their victors concerning the redemption of their arms and their horses, which, according to the laws of the tournament, they had forfeited. The fifth of their number alone tarried in the lists long enough to be greeted by the applause of the spectators, amongst whom he retreated, to the aggravation, doubtless, of his companions' mortification.

A second and third party of knights took the field; and although they had various success, yet, upon the whole, the advantage decidedly remained with the challengers, not one of whom lost his seat or swerved from his charge—misfortunes which befell one or two of their antagonists in each encounter. The spirits, therefore, of those opposed to them seemed to be considerably damped by their continued success. Three knights only appeared on the fourth entry, who, avoiding the shields of Bois-Guilbert and Front-de-Boeuf, contented themselves with touching those of the three other knights, who had not altogether manifested the same strength and dexterity. This politic selection did not alter the fortune of the field, the challengers were still successful; one of their antagonists was overthrown, and both the others failed in the attestant,* that is, in striking the hemlet and shield of their antagonist firmly and strongly, with the lance held in a direct line, so that the weapon might break unless the champion was overthrown.

*This term of chivalry, transferred to the law, gives the phrase of being attainted of treason.
After this fourth encounter there was a considerable pause; nor did it appear that any one was very desirous of renewing the contest. The spectators murmured among themselves; for, among the challengers, Malvoisin and Front-de-Bœuf were unpopular from their characters, and the others, except Grantmesnil, were disliked as strangers and foreigners.

But none shared the general feeling of dissatisfaction so keenly as Cedric the Saxon, who saw in each advantage gained by the Norman challengers, a repeated triumph over the honor of England. His own education had taught him no skill in the games of chivalry, although with the arms of his Saxon ancestors, he had manifested himself, on many occasions, a brave and determined soldier. He looked anxiously to Athelstane, who had learned the accomplishments of the age, as if desiring that he should make some personal effort to recover the victory which was passing into the hands of the Templar and his associates. But, though both stout of heart, and strong of person, Athelstane had a disposition too inert and unambitious to make the exertions which Cedric seemed to expect from him.

"The day is against England, my lord," said Cedric in a marked tone; "are you not tempted to take the lance?"

"I shall tilt to-morrow," answered Athelstane, "in the melee; it is not worth while for me to arm myself to-day."

Two things displeased Cedric in this speech. It contained the Norman word *melee* (to express the general conflict), and it evinced some indifference to the honor of the country; but it was spoken by Athelstane, whom he held in such profound respect, that he would not trust himself to canvass his motives or his foibles. Moreover, he had no time to make any remark, for Wamba thrust in his word, observing, "It was better, though scarce easier, to be the best man among a hundred, than the best man of two."

Athelstane took the observation as a serious compliment; but Cedric, who better understood the Jester's meaning, darted at him a severe and menacing look; and lucky it was for Wamba, perhaps, that the time and place prevented his receiving, notwithstanding his place and service, more sensible marks of his master's resentment.

The pause in the tournament was still uninterrupted, excepting by the voices of the heralds exclaiming—"Love of ladies, splintering of lances! stand forth, gallant knights, fair eyes look upon your deeds!"

The music also of the challengers breathed from time to time wild bursts expressive of triumph or defiance, while the clowns grudged a holiday which seemed to pass away in inactivity; and old knights and nobles lamented in whispers the decay of martial spirit, spoke of the triumphs of their younger days, but agreed that the land did not now
supply dames of such transcendent beauty as had animated the jousts of former times. Prince John began to talk to his attendants about making ready the banquet, and the necessity of adjudging the prize to Brian de Bols-Guillbert, who had, with a single spear, overthrown two knights and foiled a third.

At length as the Saracenic music of the challengers concluded one of those long and high flourishes with which they had broken the silence of the lists, it was answered by a solitary trumpet, which breathed a note of defiance from the northern extremity. All eyes were turned to see the new champion which these sounds announced, and no sooner were the barriers opened than he paced into the lists.

As far as could be judged of a man sheathed in armor, the new adventurer did not greatly exceed the middle size, and seemed to be rather slender than strongly made. His suit of armour was formed of steel, richly inlaid with gold, and the device on his shield was a young oak tree pulled up by the roots, with the Spanish word Desdichado, signifying Disinherited. He was mounted on a gallant black horse, and as he passed through the lists he gracefully saluted the prince and the ladies by lowering his lance. The dexterity with which he managed his steed, and something of youthful grace which he displayed in his manner, won him the favor of the multitude, which some of the lower classes expressed by calling out, "Touch Ralph de Vipont's shield—touch the Hospitaler's shield; he has the least sure seat, he is your cheapest bargain."

The champion, moving onward amid these well-meant hints, ascended the platform by the sloping alley which led to it from the lists, and, to the astonishment of all present, riding straight up to the central pavilion, struck with the sharp end of his spear the shield of Brian Bols de Guiltbert until it rung again. All stood astonished at his presumption, but none more than the redoubted knight whom he had thus defied to mortal combat, and who, little expecting so rude a challenge, was standing carelessly at the door of the pavilion. "Have you confessed yourself, brother," said the Templar, "and have you heard mass this morning, that you peril your life so frankly?"

"I am fitter to meet death than thou art," answered the Disinherited Knight; for by this name the stranger had recorded himself in the books of the tourney.

"Then take your place in the lists," said Bois-Gilbert, "and look your last upon the sun, for this night thou shalt sleep in paradise."

"Gramercy for thy courtesy," replied the Disinherited Knight; "and to requite it, I advise thee to take a fresh horse and a new lance, for, by my honor, you will need both."

Having expressed himself thus confidently, he reined his horse back-
ward down the slope which he had ascended, and compelled him in the same manner to move backwards through the lists, till he reached the northern extremity, where he remained stationary, in expectation of his antagonist. This feat of horsemanship again attracted the applause of the multitude.

However incensed at his adversary for the precaution which he recommended, Brian de Bois-Gilbert did not neglect his advice, for his honor was too nearly concerned to permit his neglecting any means which might insure victory over his presumptuous opponent. He changed his horse for a proved and fresh one of great strength and spirit. He chose a new and tough spear, lest the wood of the former might have been strained in the previous encounters he had sustained. Lastly, he laid aside his shield, which had received some little damage, and received another from his squires. His first had only borne the general device of his rider, representing two knights riding upon one horse, an emblem expressive of the original humility and poverty of the Templars, qualities which they had since exchanged for the arrogance and wealth that finally occasioned their suppression. Bois-Guilbert's new shield bore a raven in full flight, holding in its claws a skull, and bearing the motto, Gare le Corbeau.

When the two champions stood opposed to each other at the two extremities of the lists, the public expectation was strained to the highest pitch. Few augured the possibility that the encounter could terminate well for the Disinherited Knight, yet his courage and gallantry secured the general good wishes of the spectators.

The trumpets had no sooner given the signal than the champions vanished from their posts with the speed of lightning, and closed in the center of the lists with the shock of a thunderbolt. The lances burst into shivers up to the very grasp, and it seemed at the moment that both knights had fallen, for the shock had made each horse recoil backward upon its haunches. The address of the riders recovered their steeds by use of the bridle and spur, and having glared on each other for an instant with eyes which seemed to flash fire through the bars of their visors, each made a demivolte, and, retiring to the extremity of the lists, received a fresh lance from the attendants.

A loud shout from the spectators, waving of scarfs and handkerchiefs and general acclamations, attested the interest taken by the spectators in this encounter; the most equal, as well as the best performed, which had graced the day. But no sooner had the knights resumed their station than the clamor of applause was hushed into a silence so deep and so dead that it seemed the multitude were afraid even to breathe.

A few minutes' pause having been allowed, that the combatants and
their horses might recover breath, Prince John with his truncheon signed to the trumpets to sound the onset. The champions a second time sprung from their stations and closed in the center of the lists with the same speed, the same dexterity, the same violence, but not the same equal fortune as before.

In this second encounter, the Templar aimed at the center of his antagonist's shield, and struck it so fair and forcibly, that his spear went to shivers, and the Disinherited Knight reeled in his saddle. On the other hand, that champion had in the beginning of his career directed the point of his lance toward Bois-Guilbert's shield, but changing his aim almost in the moment of encounter, he addressed it to the helmet, a mark more difficult to hit, but which, if attained, rendered the shock more irresistible. Fair and true he hit the Norman on the visor, where his lance's point kept hold of the bars. Yet, even at this disadvantage, the Templar sustained his high reputation; and had not the girths of his saddle burst, he might not have been unhorsed. As it chanced, however, saddle, horse and man rolled on the ground under a cloud of dust.

To extricate himself from the stirrups and fallen steed was to the Templar scarce the work of a moment, and stung with madness, both at his disgrace and at the acclamations with which it was hailed by the spectators, he drew his sword and waved it in defiance of his conqueror. The Disinherited Knight sprung from his steed and also unsheathed his sword. The marshals of the field, however, spurred their horses between them and reminded them that the laws of the tournament did not, on the present occasion, permit this species of encounter.

"We shall meet again, I trust, said the Templar, casting a resentful glance at this antagonist; "and where there are none to separate us."

"If we do not," said the Disinherited Knight, "the fault shall not be mine. On foot or horseback, with ax or with sword, I am alike ready to encounter thee."

More and angrier words would have been exchanged, but the marshals, crossing their lances betwixt them, compelled them to separate. The Disinherited Knight returned to his first station and Bois-Guilbert to his tent, where he remained for the rest of the day in an agony of despair.

Without alighting from his horse, the conqueror called for a bowl of wine, and opening the beaver or lower part of his helmet, announced that he quaffed it "To all true English hearts and to the confusion of foreign tyrants." He then commanded his trumpet to sound a defiance to the challengers, and desired a herald to announce to them that he should make no election, but was willing to encounter them in the order in which they pleased to advance against him.

The gigantic Front-de-Boeuf, armed in sable armor, was the first who
took the field. He bore on a white shield a black bull’s head, half defaced by the numerous encounters which he had undergone, and bearing the arrogant motto, Cave, adsum. Over this champion the Disinherited Knight obtained a slight but decisive advantage. Both Knights broke their lances fairly but Front-de-Bœuf, who lost a stirrup in the encounter, was adjudged to have the disadvantage.

In the stranger’s third encounter with Sir Philip Malvoisin he was equally successful, striking that baron so forcibly on the casque that the laces of the helmet broke, and Malvoisin, only saved from falling by being unhelmeted, was declared vanquished like his companions.

In his fourth encounter with De Grantmesnil, the Disinherited Knight showed as much courtesy as he had hitherto evinced courage and dexterity. De Grantmesnil’s horse, which was young and violent, reared and plunged in the course of the career so as to disturb the rider’s aim, and the stranger, declining to take the advantage which this accident afforded him, raised his lance and, passing his antagonist without touching him, wheeled his horse and rode back again to his own end of the lists, offering his antagonist, by a herald, the chance of a second encounter. This DeGrantmesnil declined, avowing himself vanquished as much by the courtesy as by the address of his opponent.

Ralph de Vipont summed up the list of the stranger’s triumphs, being hurled to the ground with such force, that the blood gushed from his nose and mouth, and he was borne senseless from the lists.

The acclamations of thousands applauded the award of the Prince and marshals, announcing that day’s honors to the Disinherited Knight.

THE QUEEN OF BEAUTY AND OF LOVE.

In the midst was seen
A lady of a more majestic mien,
By stature and by beauty marked their sovereign queen.

William de Wyvil and Stephen de Martival, the marshals of the field, were the first to offer their congratulations to the victor, praying him at the same time, to suffer his hemlet to be unlaced, or at least that he would raise his visor ere they conducted him to receive the prize of the day’s tourney from the hands of Prince John. The Disinherited Knight, with all knightly courtesy, declined their request, alleging that he could not at this time suffer his face to be seen, for reasons which he had assigned to the heralds when he entered the lists. The marshals were perfectly satisfied by this reply; for amidst the frequent and capricious vows by which knights were accustomed to bind themselves in the days of chivalry, there were none more common than those by which they engaged to remain incognito for a certain space, or until some particular
adventure was achieved. The marshals, therefore, pressed no further into the mystery of the Disinherited Knight, but announcing to King John the conqueror's desire to remain unknown, they requested permission to bring him before his Grace, in order that he might receive the reward of his valor.

John's curiosity was excited by the mystery observed by the stranger; and, being already displeased with the issue of the tournament, in which the challengers whom he favored had been successively defeated by one knight, he answered haughtily to the marshals, "By the light of Our Lady's brow, this same knight hath been disinherited as well of his courtesy as of his lands, since he desires to appear before us without uncovering his face. Wot ye, my lords," he said, turning round to his train, "who this gallant can be, that bears himself thus proudly?"

"I cannot guess," answered De Bracy, "nor did I think there had been within the four seas that girth Britain a champion that could bear down these five knights in one day's jousting. By my faith, I shall never forget the force with which he shocked De Vipont. The poor Hospitaler was hurled from his saddle like a stone from a sling."

"Boast not of that," said a Knight of St. John, who was present; "your Temple champion had no better luck. I saw your brave lance, Bois Guilbert, roll thrice over, grasping his hands full of sand at every turn."

De Bracy, being attached to the Templars, would have replied, but was prevented by Prince John. "Silence, sirs!" he said; "what unprofitable debate have we here?"

"The victor," said De Wyvil, "still waits the pleasure of your highness."

"It is our pleasure," answered John, "that he do so wait until we learn whether there is not some one who can at least guess at his name and quality. Should he remain there till night-fall, he has had work enough to keep him warm."

"Your Grace," said Waldemar Fitzurse, "will do less than due honor to the victor, if you compel him to wait till we tell your highness that which we cannot know; at least, I can form no guess—unless he be one of the good lances who accompanied King Richard to Palestine, and who are now straggling homeward from the Holy Land."

"It may be the Earl of Salisbury," said De Bracy; "he is about the same pitch."

"Sir Thomas de Mulvon, the Knight of Gilsland, rather," said Fitzurse; "Salisbury is bigger in the bones."

A whisper arose among the train, but by whom first suggested could not be ascertained.
"It might be the King—it might be Richard Cœur-de-Lion himself!"

"Over gods forbode!" said Prince John, involuntarily turning at the same time as pale as death, and shrinking as if blighted by a flash of lightning; "Waldemar! De Bracy! brave knights and gentlemen, remember your promises, and stand truly by me!"

"Here is no danger impending," said Waldemar Fitzurse; "are you so little acquainted with the gigantic limbs of your father's son as to think they can be held within the circumference of yonder suit of armor? De Wyvil and Martival, you will best serve the Prince by bringing forward the victor to the throne, and ending the error that has conjured all the blood from his cheeks. Look at him more closely," he continued, "your highness will see that he wants three inches of King Richard's height, and twice as much of his shoulder-breadth. The very horse he backs could not have carried the ponderous weight of King Richard through a single course."

While he was yet speaking, the marshals brought forward the Disinherited Knight to the foot of a wooden flight of steps, which formed the ascent from the lists to Prince John's throne. Still discomposed with the idea that his brother, so much injured, and to whom he was so much indebted, had suddenly arrived in the kingdom, even the distinctions pointed out by Fitzurse did not altogether remove the Prince's apprehensions; and while, with a short and embarrassed eulogy upon his valor, he caused to be delivered to him the war-horse assigned as the prize, he trembled lest from the barred visor of the mailed form before him, an answer might be returned, in the deep and awful accents of Richard the Lion-hearted.

But the Disinherited Knight spoke not a word in reply to the compliment of the Prince, which he only acknowledged with a profound obeisance.

The horse was led into the lists by two grooms richly dressed, the animal itself being fully accoutered with the richest war furniture; which, however, scarcely added to the value of the noble creature in the eyes of those who were judges. Laying one hand upon the pommel of the saddle, the Disinherited Knight vaulted at once upon the back of the steed without making use of the stirrup, and, brandishing aloft his lance, rode twice around the lists, exhibiting the points and paces of the horse with the skill of a perfect horseman.

The appearance of vanity, which might otherwise have been attributed to this display, was removed by the propriety shown in exhibiting to the best advantage the princely reward with which he had been just honored, and the Knight was again greeted by the acclamations of all present.
In the meantime, the bustling Prior of Jorvaulx had reminded Prince John, in a whisper, that the victor must now display his good judgment instead of his valor, by selecting from among the beauties who graced the galleries, a lady who should fill the throne of the Queen of Beauty and of Love, and deliver the prize of the tourney upon the ensuing day. The Prince accordingly made a sign with his truncheon, as the Knight passed him in his second career around the lists. The Knight turned toward the throne, and, sinking his lance until the point was within a foot of the ground, remained motionless, as if expecting John's commands; while all admired the sudden dexterity with which he instantly reduced his fiery steed from a state of violent emotion and high excitation to the stillness of an equestrian statue.

"Sir Disinherited Knight," said Prince John, "since that is the only title by which we can address you, it is now your duty, as well as privilege, to name the fair lady who as Queen of Honor and of Love is to preside over next day's festival. If, as a stranger in our land, you should require the aid of other judgment to guide your own, we can only say that Alicia, the daughter of our gallant Knight Waldemar Fitzurse, has at our court been long held the first beauty as in place. Nevertheless, it is your undoubted prerogative to confer on whom you please this crown, by the delivery of which to the lady of your choice the election of to-morrow's Queen will be formal and complete. Raise your lance."

The Knight obeyed; and Prince John placed upon its point a coronet of green satin, having around its edge a circlet of gold, the upper edge of which was relieved by arrow points and hearts placed interchangeably, like the strawberry leaves and balls upon a ducal crown.

In the broad hint which he dropped respecting the daughter of Waldemar Fitzurse, John had more than one motive, each the offspring of a mind which was a strange mixture of carelessness and presumption with low artifice and cunning. He wished to banish from the minds of the chivalry around him his own indecent and unacceptable jest respecting the Jewess Rebecca; he was desirous of conciliating Alicia's father Waldemar, of whom he stood in awe, and who had more than once shown himself dissatisfied during the course of the day's proceedings. He had also a wish to establish himself in the good graces of the lady; for John was at least as licentious in his pleasures as profligate in his ambition. But besides all these reasons, he was desirous to raise up against the Disinherited Knight (toward whom he already entertained a strong dislike) a powerful enemy in the person of Waldemar Fitzurse, who was likely, he thought, highly to resent the injury done to his daughter, in case, as was not unlikely, the victor should make another choice.

And so indeed it proved. For the Disinherited Knight passed the gal-
lery close to that of the Prince, in which the Lady Alice was seated in the full pride of triumphant beauty, and, pacing forward as slowly as he had hitherto rode swiftly around the lists, he seemed to exercise his right of examining the numerous fair faces which adorned that splendid circle.

It was worth while to see the different conduct of the beauties who underwent this examination during the time it was proceeding. Some blushed, some assumed an air of pride and dignity, some looked straight forward, and essayed to seem utterly unconscious of what was going on, some drew back in alarm, which was perhaps affected, some endeavored to forbear smiling, and there were two or three laughed outright. There were also some who dropped their veils over their charms; but, as the Wardour Manuscript says these were fair ones of ten years' standing, it may be supposed that, having had their full share of such vanities, they were willing to withdraw their claim, in order to give a fair chance to the rising beauties of the age.

At length the champion paused beneath the balcony in which the Lady Rowena was placed, and the expectation of the spectators was excited to the utmost.

It must be owned that if an interest displayed in his success could have bribed the Disinherited Knight, the part of the lists before which he paused had merited his predilection. Cedric, the Saxon, overjoyed at he discomfiture of the Templar, and still more so at the miscarriage of his two malevolent neighbors, Front-de-Boeuf and Malvoisin, had, with his body half stretched over the balcony, accompanied the victor in each course, not with eyes only, but with his whole heart and soul. The Lady Eowena had watched the progress of the day with equal attention, though without openly betraying the same intense interest. Even the unmoved Athelstane had shown symptoms of shaking off his apathy, when, calling for a huge goblet of muscadine, he quaffed it to the health of the Disinherited Knight.

Whether from indecision or some other motive of hesitation, the champion of the day remained stationary for more than a minute, while the eyes of the silent audience were riveted upon his motions; and then, gradually and gracefully sinking the point of his lance, he deposited the coronet which it supported at the feet of the fair Rowena. The trumpets instantly sounded, while the heralds proclaimed the Lady Rowena the Queen of Beauty and of Love for the ensuing day, menacing with suitable penalties those who should be disobedient to her authority. They then repeated their cry of "Largesse," to which Cedric, in the height of his joy, replied by an ample donative, and to which Athelstane, though less promptly, added one equally large.

There was some murmuring among the damsels of Norman descent,
who were as much unused to see the preference given to a Saxon beauty,
as the Norman nobles were to sustain defeat in the games of chivalry
which they themselves had introduced. But these sounds of disaffection
were drowned by the popular shout of "Long live the Lady Rowena, the
chosen and lawful Queen of Love and of Beauty!" To which many in the
lower area added: "Long live the Saxon Princess! long live the race of
the immortal Alfred!"

However unaccepted these sounds might be to Prince John, and to
those around him, he saw himself nevertheless obliged to confirm the
nomination of the victor, and accordingly calling to horse, he left his
throne; and mounting his jennet, accompanied by his train, he again
entered the lists. The Prince paused a moment beneath the gallery of
the Lady Alicia, to whom he paid his compliments, observing, at the same
time, to those around him: "By my halidome, sirs! if the Knight's feats
in arms have shown that he hath limbs and sinews, his choice hath no less
proved that his eyes are none of the clearest."

It was on this occasion, as during his whole life, John's misfortune
not perfectly to understand the characters of those whom he wished to
conciliate. Waldemar Fitzurse was rather offended than pleased at the
Prince stating thus broadly an opinion that his daughter had been
sloighted.

'I know no right of chivalry," he said, "more precious or inalienable
than that of each free knight to choose his lady-love by his own judg­
ment. My daughter courts distinction from no one; and in her own
character, and in her own sphere, will never fail to receive the full pro­
portion of that which is her due."

Prince John replied not; but, spurring his horse, as if to give vent to
his vexation, he made the animal bound forward to the gallery where
Rowena was seated, with the crown still at her feet.

"Assume," he said, "fair lady, the mask of your sovereignty, to
which none vows homage more sincerely than ourself, John of Anjou; and
if it please you to-day, with your noble sire and friends, to grace our
banquet in the Castle of Ashby, we shall learn to know the empress to
whose service we devote to-morrow."

Rowena remained silent, and Cedric answered for her in his native
Saxon.

"The Lady Rowena," he said, "possesses not the language in which
to reply to your courtesy, or to sustain her part in your festival. I also,
and the noble Athelstane of Coningsburgh, speak only the language and
practice only the manners of our fathers. We therefore decline with
thanks your Highness's courteous invitation to the banquet. To-morrow,
the Lady Rowena will take upon her the state to which she has been
called by the free election of the victor Knight, confirmed by the acclama-
tions of the people."

So saying, he lifted the coronet and placed it upon Rowena’s head, in
token of her acceptance of the temporary authority assigned to her.

“What says he?” said Prince John, affecting not to understand the
Saxon language, in which, however, he was well skilled. The purport of
Cedric’s speech was repeated to him in French. “It is well,” he said,
“to-morrow we will ourself conduct this mute sovereign to her seat of
dignity. You at least, Sir Knight,” he added, turning to the victor, who
had remained near the gallery, “will this day share our banquet?”

The Knight, speaking for the first time, in a low and hurried voice,
excused himself by pleading fatigue, and the necessity of preparing for
to-morrow’s encounter.

“It is well,” said Prince John, haughtily, “although unused to such
refusals, we will endeavor to digest our banquet as we may, though un-
graced by the most successful in arms, and his elected Queen of Beauty.”

So saying, he prepared to leave the lists with his glittering train, and
his turning his steed for that purpose was the signal for the breaking up
and dispersion of the spectators.

Prince John resumed his retreat from the lists, and the dispersion of
the multitude became general.

In various routes, according to the different quarters from which
they came, and in groups of various numbers, the spectators were seen
retiring over the plain. By far the most numerous part streamed toward
the town of Ashby, where many of the distinguished persons were lodged
in the castle, and where others found accommodation in the town itself.
Among these were most of the knights who had already appeared in the
tournament, or who proposed to fight there the ensuing day, and who, as
they rode slowly along, talking over the events of the day, were greeted
with loud shouts by the populace. The same acclamations were bestowed
upon Prince John, although he was indebted for them rather to the splen-
dor of his appearance and train, than to the popularity of his character.

A more sincere and more general, as well as a better-merited accla-
mation attended the victor of the day, until, anxious to withdraw himself
from popular notice, he accepted the accommodation of one of those pavil-
ions pitched at the extremities of the lists, the use of which was courteously
tendered him by the marshals of the field. On his retiring to his tent, many
who had lingered in the lists to look upon and form conjectures concern-
ing him, also dispersed.

The signs and sounds of a tumultuous concourse of men lately
crowded together in one place, and agitated by the same passing events,
were now exchanged for the distant hum of voices of different groups re-
treating in all directions, and these speedily died away in silence. No other sounds were heard save the voices of the menials who stripped the galleries of their cushions and tapestry, in order to put them in safety for the night, and wrangled among themselves for the half-used bottles of wine and relics of the refreshment which had been served round to the spectators.

Beyond the precincts of the lists more than one forge was erected, and these now begin to glimmer through the twilight, announcing the toil of the armorers, which was to continue through the whole night, in order to repair or alter the suits of armor to be used again on the morrow.

A strong guard of men-at-arms renewed at intervals, from two hours to two hours, surrounded the lists, and kept watch during the night.

The Disinherited Knight had no sooner reached his pavilion, than squires and pages in abundance tendered their services to disarm him, to bring fresh attire, and to offer him the refreshment of the bath. Their zeal on this occasion was perhaps sharpened by curiosity, since every one desired to know who the Knight was that had gained so many laurels, yet had refused, even at the command of Prince John, to lift his visor or to name his name. But their officious inquisitiveness was not gratified.

The Disinherited Knight refused all other assistance save that of his own squire, or rather yoeman—a clownish-looking man, who, wrapt in a cloak of dark-colored felt, and having his head and face half buried in a Norman bonnet made of black fur, seemed to affect the incognito as much as his master. All others being excluded from the tent, this attendant relieved his master from the more burdensome parts of his armor and placed food and wine before him, which the exertions of the day rendered very acceptable.

The Knight had scarcely finished a hasty meal ere his menial announced to him that five men, each leading a barbed steed, desired to speak with him. The Disinherited Knight had exchanged his armor for the long robe usually worn by those of his condition, which, being furnished with a hood, concealed the features, when such was the pleasure of the wearer, almost as completely as the visor of the helmet itself; but the twilight, which was now fast darkening, would of itself have rendered a disguise unnecessary, unless to persons to whom the face of an individual chanced to be particularly well known.

The Disinherited Knight, therefore, stepped boldly forth to the front of his tent, and found in attendance the squires of the challengers, whom he easily knew by their russet and black dresses, each of whom led his master’s charger, loaded with the armor in which he had that day fought.
"According to the laws of chivalry," said the foremost of these men, "I, Baldwin de Oyley, squire to the redoubted Knight, Brian de Bois-Guilbert, make offer to you, styling yourself, for the present, the Disinherited Knight, of the horse and armor used by the said Brian de Bois-Guilbert in this day's passage of arms, leaving it with your nobleness to retain or to ransom the same according to your pleasure; for such is the law of arms."

The other squires repeated nearly the same formula, and then stood to await the decision of the Disinherited Knight.

"To you four, sirs," replied the Knight, addressing those who had last spoken, "and to your honorable and valiant masters, I have one common reply. Commend me to the noble knights, your masters, and say, I should do ill to deprive them of steeds and arms, which can never be used by braver cavaliers. I would I could here end my message to these gallant knights; but being, as I term myself, in truth and earnest, the Disinherited, I must be thus far bound to your masters, that they will, of their courtesy, be pleased to ransom their steeds and armor, since that which I wear I can hardly term mine own."

"We stand commissioned, each of us," answered the Squire of Reginald, "to offer a hundred zecchins in ransom of these horses and suits of armor."

"It is sufficient," said the Disinherited Knight. "Half the sum my present necessities compel me to accept; of the remaining half, distribute one moiety among yourselves, six squires, and divide the other half betwixt the heralds and the pursuivants and minstrels and attendants."

The squires, with cap in hand, and low reverences, expressed their deep sense of a courtesy and generosity not often practiced, at least upon a scale so extensive. The Disinherited Knight then addressed his discourse to Baldwin, the squire of Brian de Bois-Guilbert. "From your master," said he, "I will accept neither arms nor ransom. Say to him in my name that our strife is not ended—no, not till we have fought as well with swords as with lances—as well on foot as on horseback. To this mortal quarrel he has himself defied me, and I shall not forget the challenge. Meantime, let him be assured that I hold him not as one of his companions, with whom I can with pleasure exchange courtesies, but rather as one with whom I stand upon terms of mortal defiance."

"My master," answered Baldwin, "knows how to requite scorn with scorn, and blows with blows, as well as courtesy with courtesy. Since you disdain to accept from him any share of the ransom at which you have rated the arms of the other knights, I must leave his armor and his horse here, being well assured that he will never deign to mount the one or wear the other."

"You have spoken well, good squire," said the Disinherited Knight,
"well and boldly, as it beseemeth him to speak who speaks for an absent master. Leave not, however, the horse and armor here. Restore them to thy master; or, if he scorns to accept them, retain them, good friend, for thine own use. So far as they are mine, I bestow them upon you freely."

Baldwin made a deep obeisance, and retired with his companions, and the Disinherited Knight entered the pavilion.

"Thus far, Gurth," said he, addressing his attendant, "the reputation of English chivalry hath not suffered in my hands."

"And I," said Gurth, "for a Saxon swine-herd, have not ill played the personage of a Norman squire at arms."

"Yea, but," answered the Disinherited Knight, "thou hast ever kept me in anxiety, lest thy clownish bearing should discover thee."

"Tush!" said Gurth, "I fear discovery from none, saving my play-fellow, Wamba, the Jester, of whom I could never discover whether he were most knave or fool. Yet I could scarce choose but laugh, when my old master passed so near to me, dreaming all the while that Gurth was keeping his porkers many a mile off, in the thickets and swamps of Rotherwood. If I am discovered—"

"Enough," said the Disinherited Knight, "thou knowest my promise."

"Nay, for that matter," said Gurth, "I will never fail my friend for fear of my skin-cutting. I have a tough hide, that will bear knife or scourge as well as any boar's hide in my herd."

"Trust me, I will requite the risk you run for my love, Gurth," said the Knight. "Meanwhile, I pray you to accept these ten pieces of gold."

"I am richer," said Gurth, putting them into his pouch, "than ever was swine-herd or bondsman."

"Take this bag of gold to Ashby," continued his master, "and find out Isaac, the Jew of York, and let him pay himself for the horse and arms with which his credit supplied me."

Thus they parted, the outlaws returning in the direction from whence they had come, and Gurth proceeding to the tent of his master, to whom, notwithstanding the injunction he had received, he communicated the whole adventure of the evening.

The Disinherited Knight was filled with astonishment, no less at the generosity of Rebecca, by which, however, he resolved he would not profit, than that of the robbers, to whose profession such a quality seemed totally foreign. His course of reflections upon these singular circumstances was, however, interrupted by the necessity of taking repose,
which the fatigue of the preceding day, and the propriety of refreshing himself for the morrow's encounter, rendered alike indispensable.

The Knight, therefore, stretched himself for repose upon a rich couch with which the tent was provided; and the faithful Gurth, extending his hardy limbs upon a bear-skin, which formed a sort of carpet to the pavilion, laid himself across the opening of the tent, so that no one could enter without awakening him.

THE SECOND DAY'S TOURNAMENT.

Morning arose in unclouded splendor, and ere the sun was much above the horizon the idlest or the most eager of the spectators appeared on the common, moving to the lists as to a general center, in order to secure a favorable situation for viewing the continuation of the expected games.

The marshals and their attendants appeared next on the field, together with the heralds, for the purpose of receiving the names of the knights who intended to joust, with the side which each chose to espouse. This was a necessary precaution, in order to secure equality betwixt the two bodies who should be opposed to each other.

According to due formality, the Disinherited Knight was to be considered as leader of the one body, while Brian de Bois-Guilbert, who had been rated as having done second-best in the preceding day, was named first champion of the other band. Those who concurred in the challenge adhered to his party, of course, excepting only Ralph de Vipont, whom his fall had rendered unfit so soon to put on his armor. There was no want of distinguished and noble candidates to fill up the ranks on either side.

In fact, although the general tournament, in which all knights fought at once, was more dangerous than single encounters, they were, nevertheless, more frequented and practiced by the chivalry of the age. Many knights, who had not sufficient confidence in their own skill to defy a single adversary of high reputation, were, nevertheless, desirous of displaying their valor in the general combat, where they might meet others with whom they were more upon an equality. On the present occasion about fifty knights were inscribed as desirous of combating on each side, when the marshals declared that no more could be admitted, to the disappointment of several who were too late in preferring their claim to be included.

About the hour of 10 o'clock the whole plain was crowded with horsemen, horsewomen and foot passengers hastening to the tournament; and shortly after, a grand flourish of trumpets announced Prince John and his retinue, attended by many of those knights who meant to take share in the game, as well as others who had no such intention.
About the same time arrived Cedric the Saxon, with the Lady Rowena, unattended, however, by Athelstane. This Saxon lord had arrayed his tall and strong person in armor, in order to take his place among the combatants; and, considerably to the surprise of Cedric, had chosen to enlist himself on the part of the Knight Templar. The Saxon, indeed, had remonstrated strongly with his friend upon the injudicious choice he had made of his party; but he had only received that sort of answer usually given by those who are more obstinate in following their own course than strong in justifying it.

His best, if not his only, reason for adhering to the party of Brian de Bois-Guilbert Athelstane had the prudence to keep to himself. Though his apathy of disposition prevented his taking any means to recommend himself to the Lady Rowena, he was, nevertheless, by no means insensible to her charms, and considered his union with her as a matter already fixed beyond doubt, by the assent of Cedric and her other friends. It had therefore been with sullen displeasure that the proud though indolent Lord of Coningsburgh beheld the victor of the preceding day select Rowena as the object of that honor which it became his privilege to confer. In order to punish him for a preference which seemed to interfere with his own suit, Athelstane, confident of his strength, and to whom his flatterers, at least, ascribed a great skill in arms, had determined not only to deprive the Disinherited Knight of his powerful succor, but, if an opportunity should occur, to make him feel the weight of his battle-ax.

De Bracy and the other knights attached to Prince John, in obedience to a hint from him, had joined the party of the challengers, John being desirous to secure, if possible, the victory to that side. On the other hand, many other knights, both English and Norman, natives and strangers, took part against the challengers, the more readily that the opposite band was to be led by so distinguished a champion as the Disinherited Knight had approved himself.

As soon as Prince John observed that the destined Queen of the day had arrived upon the field, assuming that air of courtesy which sat well upon him when he was pleased to exhibit it, he rode forward to meet her, doffed his bonnet, and alighting from his horse, assisted the Lady Rowena from her saddle, while his followers uncovered at the same time, and one of the most distinguished dismounted to hold her palfrey.

"It is thus," said Prince John, "that we set the dutiful example of loyalty to the Queen of Love and Beauty, and are ourselves her guide to the throne which she must this day occupy. Ladies," he said, "attend your Queen, as you may wish in your turn to be distinguished by like honors."
So saying, the Prince marshaled Rowena to the seat of honor opposite his own, while the fairest and most distinguished ladies present crowded after her to obtain places as near as possible to their temporary sovereign.

No sooner was Rowena seated than a burst of music, half-drowned by the shouts of the multitude, greeted her new dignity. Meantime the sun shone fierce and bright upon the polished arms of the knights of either side, who crowded the opposite extremities of the lists, and held eager conference together concerning the best mode of arranging their line of battle and supporting the conflict.

The heralds then proclaimed silence until the laws of the tourney should be rehearsed. These were calculated in some degree to abate the dangers of the day; a precaution the more necessary, as the conflict was to be maintained with sharp swords and pointed lances.

The champions were, therefore, prohibited to thrust with the sword, and were confined to striking. A knight, it was announced, might use a mace or a battle-ax at pleasure, but the dagger was a prohibited weapon. A knight unhorsed might renew the fight on foot with any other on the opposite side in the same predicament; but mounted horsemen were in that case forbidden to assail him. When any knight could force his antagonist to the extremity of the lists, so as to touch the palisade with his person or arms, such opponent was obliged to yield himself vanquished, and his armor and horse were placed at the disposal of the conqueror. A knight thus overcome was not permitted to take further share in the combat. If any combatant was struck down and unable to recover his feet, his squire or page might enter the lists and drag his master out of the press; but in that case the knight was adjudged vanquished and his arms and horse declared forfeited. The combat was to cease as soon as Prince John should throw down his leading staff or truncheon; another precaution usually taken to prevent the unnecessary effusion of blood by the too long endurance of a sport so desperate. Any knight breaking the rules of the tournament or otherwise transgressing the rules of honorable chivalry, was liable to be stripped of his arms, and, having his shield reversed, to be placed in that posture astride upon the bars of the palisade and exposed to public derision in punishment of his unknighthly conduct. Having announced these precautions, the heralds concluded with an exhortation to each good knight to do his duty, and to merit favor from the Queen of Beauty and of Love.

This proclamation having been made, the heralds withdrew to their stations. The knights, entering at either end of the lists in long procession, arranged themselves in double file, precisely opposite to each other, the leader of each party being in the center of the foremost rank, a post
which he did not occupy until each had carefully arranged the ranks of his party, and stationed every one in his place.

It was a goodly, and at the same time an anxious sight, to behold so many gallant champions, mounted bravely, and armed richly, stand ready prepared for an encounter so formidable, seated on the war-saddles like so many pillars of iron, and awaiting the signal of encounter with the same ardor as their generous steeds, which, by neighing and pawing the ground, gave signal of their impatience.

As yet the knights held their long lances upright, their bright points glancing to the sun, and the streamers with which they were decorated fluttered over the plumage of the helmets. Thus they remained while the marshals of the field surveyed their ranks with the utmost exactness, lest either party had more or fewer than the appointed number. The tale was found exactly complete. The marshals then withdrew from the lists, and William de Wyvil, with a voice of thunder, pronounced the signal words—*Laissez aller!* The trumpets sounded as he spoke—the spears of the champions were at once lowered and placed in the rests—the spurs were dashed in the flanks of the horses, and the two foremost ranks of either party rushed upon each other in full gallop, and met in the middle of the lists with a shock, the sound of which was heard at a mile's distance. The rear rank of each party advanced at a slower pace to sustain the defeated, and follow up the success of the victors of their party.

The consequences of the encounter were not instantly seen, for the dust raised by the trampling of so many steeds darkened the air, and it was a minute ere the anxious spectators could see the fate of the encounter. When the fight became visible, half the knights on each side were dismounted, some by the dexterity of their adversary's lance—some by the superior weight and strength of opponents, which had borne down both horse and man—some lay stretched on the earth as if never more to rise—some had already gained their feet, and closing hand to hand with those of their antagonists who were in the same predicament—and several on both sides, who had received wounds by which they were disabled, were stopping their blood with their scarfs, and endeavoring to extricate themselves from tumult. The mounted knights, whose lances had been almost all broken by the fury of the encounter, were now closely engaged with their swords, shouting their war-cries, and exchanging buffets, as if honor and life depended on the issue of the combat.

The tumult was presently increased by the advance of the second rank on either side, which, acting as a reserve, now rushed on to aid their companions. The followers of Brian de Bois-Guilbert shouted—*"Ha! Beau-seant! Beau-seant!* For the Temple—For the Temple!" The op—

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*The name of the Templars' banner, which was half black, half white, to intimate that they were candid and fair toward Christians, but terrible toward infidels.*
posite party shouted in answer—"Desdichado! Desdichado!"—which watch-word they took from the motto upon their leader's shield.

The champions thus encountering each other with the utmost fury, and with alternate success, the tide of battle seemed to flow now toward the southern, now toward the northern extremity of the lists, as the one or the other party prevailed. Meantime the clang of the blows, and the shouts, of the combatants, mixed fearfully with the sound of trumpets, and drowned the groans of those who fell, and lay rolling defenseless beneath the feet of the horses. The splendid armor of the combatants was now defaced with dust and blood, and gave way at every stroke of the sword and battle-ax. The gay plumage, shorn from the crests, drifted upon the breeze like snow-flakes. All that was beautiful and graceful in the martial array had disappeared, and what was now visible was only calculated to awake terror or compassion.

Yet such is the force of habit, that not only the vulgar spectators, who are naturally attracted by sights of horror, but even the ladies of distinction, who crowded the galleries, saw the conflict with a thrilling interest certainly, but without a wish to withdraw their eyes from a sight so terrible. Here and there, indeed, a fair cheek might turn pale, or a faint scream might be heard, as a lover, a brother, or a husband was struck from his horse. But in general, the ladies around encouraged the combatants, not only by clapping their hands and waving their veils and kerchiefs, but even by exclaiming: "Brave lance!" "Good sword!" when any successful thrust or blow took place under their observation.

Such being the interest taken by the fair sex in this bloody game, that of the men is the more easily understood. It showed itself in loud acclamations, upon every change of fortune, while all eyes were so riveted on the lists, that the spectators seemed as if they themselves had dealt and received the blows which were there so freely bestowed. And between every pause was heard the voice of the heralds, exclaiming, "Fight on, brave knights! Man dies, but glory lives! Fight on; death is better than defeat! Fight on, brave knights! for bright eyes behold your deeds!"

Amid the varied fortunes of the combat, the eyes of all endeavored to discover the leaders of each band, who, mingling in the thick of the fight, encouraged their companions both by voice and example. Both displayed great feats of gallantry, nor did either Bois-Guilbert or the Disinherited Knight find in the ranks opposed to them a champion who could be termed their unquestioned match. They repeatedly endeavored to single out each other, spurred by mutual animosity, and aware that the fall of either leader might be considered as decisive of victory. Such, however, was the crowd and confusion that, during the earlier part of
the conflict, their efforts to meet were unavailing, and they were repeatedly separated by the eagerness of their followers, each of whom was anxious to win honor by measuring his strength against the leader of the opposite party.

But when the field became thin by the numbers on either side who had yielded themselves vanquished, had been compelled to the extremity of the lists, or been otherwise rendered incapable of continuing the strife, the Templar and the Disinherited Knight at length encountered hand to hand, with all the fury that mortal animosity, joined to a rivalry of honor, could inspire. Such was the address of each in parrying and striking that the spectators broke forth into a unanimous and involuntary shout, expressive of their delight and admiration.

But at this moment, the party of the Disinherited Knight had the worst; the gigantic arm of Front-de-Bœuf on the one flank, and the ponderous strength of Athelstane on the other, bearing down and dispersing those immediately exposed to them. Finding themselves freed from their immediate antagonists, it seems to have occurred to both these knights at the same instant, that they would render the most decisive advantage to their party by aiding the Templar in his contest with his rival. Turning their horses, therefore, at the same moment, the Norman spurred against the Disinherited Knight on the one side, and the Saxon on the other. It was utterly impossible that the object of this unequal and unexpected assault could have sustained it, had he not been warned by a general cry from the spectators, who could not but take interest in one exposed to such disadvantage.

"Beware! beware! Sir Disinherited!" was shouted so universally, that the Knight became aware of his danger; and, striking a full blow at the Templar, he reined back his steed in the same moment, so as to escape the charge of Athelstane and Front-de-Bœuf. These knights, therefore, their aim being thus eluded, rushed from opposite sides betwixt the object of their attack and the Templar, almost running their horses against each other ere they could stop their career. Recovering their horses, however, and wheeling them round, the whole three pursued their united purpose of bearing to the earth the Disinherited Knight.

Nothing could have saved him, except the remarkable strength and activity of the noble horse which he had won on the preceding day.

This stood him in the more stead, as the horse of Bois-Guilbert was wounded, and those of Front-de-Bœuf and Athelstane were both tired with the weight of their gigantic masters, clad in complete armor, and with the preceding exertions of the day. The masterly horsemanship of the Disinherited Knight, and the activity of the noble animal which he mounted, enabled him for a few minutes to keep at sword's point his
three antagonists, turning and wheeling with the agility of a hawk upon the wing, keeping his enemies as far separate as he could, and rushing now against the one, now against the other, dealing sweeping blows with his sword, without waiting to receive those which were aimed at him in return.

But although the lists rang with the applauses of his dexterity, it was evident that he must at last be overpowered; and the nobles around Prince John implored him with one voice to throw down his warder and to save so brave a knight from the disgrace of being overcome by odds.

"Not I, by the light of Heaven!" answered Prince John. "This same springal, who conceals his name and despises our proffered hospitality, has already gained one prize, and may now afford to let others have their turn." As he spoke thus an unexpected incident changed the fortune of the day.

There was among the ranks of the Disinherited Knight a champion in black armor mounted on a black horse, large of size, tall, and to all appearances powerful and strong, like the rider by whom he was mounted. This knight, who bore on his shield no device of any kind, had hitherto evinced very little interest in the event of the fight, beating off with seeming ease those combatants who attacked him, but neither pursuing his advantages nor himself assailing any one. In short, he had hitherto acted the part rather of a spectator than of a party in the tournament, a circumstance which procured him among the spectators the name of Le Noir Faineant, or the Black Sluggard.

At once this knight seemed to throw aside his apathy, when he discovered the leader of his party so hard bestead; for, setting spurs to his horse, which was quite fresh, he came to his assistance like a thunderbolt, exclaiming in a voice like a trumpet call, "Desdichado, to the rescue!" It was high time; for, while the Disinherited Knight was pressing upon the Templar, Front-de-Boeuf had got nigh to him with his uplifted sword; but ere the blow could descend, the Sable Knight dealt a stroke on his head, which, glancing from the polished helmet, lighted with violence scarcely abated on the chamfron of the steed, and Front-de-Boeuf rolled on the ground, both horse and man equally stunned by the fury of the blow. Le Noir Faineant then turned his horse upon Athelstane of Coningsburgh; and his own sword having been broken in his encounter with Front-de-Boeuf, he wrenched from the hand of the bulky Saxon the battle-axe which he wielded, and like one familiar with the use of the weapon, bestowed him such a blow upon the crest that Athelstane also lay senseless on the field. Having achieved this double feat, for which he was the more highly applauded that it was totally unexpected from him, the Knight seemed to resume the sluggishness of his character, re-
turning calmly to the northern extremity of the lists, leaving his leader to cope as he best could with Brian de Bois-Guilbert. This was no longer a matter of so much difficulty as formerly. The Templar's horse had bled much, and gave way under the shock of the Disinherited Knight's charge. Brian de Bois-Guilbert rolled on the field, encumbered with the stirrup, from which he was unable to draw his foot. His antagonist sprung from horseback, waved his fatal sword over the head of his adversary, and commanded him to yield himself, when Prince John, more moved by the Templar's dangerous situation than he had been by that of his rival, saved him the mortification of confessing himself vanquished, by casting down his warder, and putting an end to the conflict.

It was, indeed, only the relics and embers of the fight which continued to burn; for of the few knights who still continued in the lists, the greater part had, by tacit consent, forborne the conflict for some time, leaving it to be determined by the strife of the leaders.

The squires, who had found it a matter of danger and difficulty to attend their masters during the engagement, now thronged into the lists to pay their dutiful attendance to the wounded, who were removed with the utmost care and attention to the neighboring pavilion, or to the quarters prepared for them in the adjoining village.

Thus ended the memorable field of Ashby-de-la-Zouche, one of the most gallantly contested tournaments of that age; for although only four knights, including one who was smothered by the heat of his armor, had died upon the field, yet upward of thirty were desperately wounded, four or five of whom never recovered. Several more were disabled for life; and those who escaped best carried the marks of the conflict to the grave with them. Hence it is always mentioned in the old records, as the Gentle and Joyous Passage of Arms of Ashby.

It being now the duty of Prince John to name the knight who had done best, he determined that the honor of the day remained with the knight whom the popular voice had termed Le Noir Faineant. It was pointed out to the Prince, in impeachment of this decree, that the victory had been in fact won by the Disinherited Knight, who, in the course of the day, had overcome six champions with his own hand, and who had finally unhorsed and struck down the leader of the opposite party. But Prince John adhered to his own opinion, on the ground that the Disinherited Knight and his party had lost the day, but for the powerful assistance of the Knight of the Black Armor, to whom, therefore, he persisted in awarding the prize.

To the surprise of all present, however, the knight thus preferred was nowhere to be found. He had left the lists immediately when the conflict ceased, and had been observed by some spectators to move down
one of the forest glades with the same slow pace and listless and indifferent manner which had procured him the epithet of the Black Sluggard. After he had been summoned twice by the sound of the trumpet and proclamation of the heralds, it became necessary to name another to receive the honors which had been assigned to him. Prince John had now no further excuse for resisting the claim of the Disinherited Knight, whom, therefore, he named the champion of the day.

Through a field slippery with blood, and encumbered with broken armor and the bodies of slain and wounded horses, the marshals of the lists again conducted the victor to the foot of Prince John's throne.

"Disinherited Knight," said Prince John, "since by that title alone you will consent to be known to us, we a second time award to you the honors of this tournament and announce to you your right to claim and receive from the hands of the Queen of Love and Beauty the Chaplet of Honor which your valor has justly deserved." The Knight bowed low and gracefully, but returned no answer.

While the trumpet sounded, while the heralds strained their voices in proclaiming honor to the brave and glory to the victor—while ladies waved their silken handkerchiefs and embroidered veils, and while all ranks joined a clamorous shout of exultation, the marshals conducted the Disinherited Knight across the lists to the foot of that throne which was occupied by the Lady Rowena.

On the lower step of this throne the champion was made to kneel down. Indeed, his whole action since the fight had ended seemed rather to have been upon the impulse of those around him than from his own free will; and it was observed that he tottered as they guided him the second time across the lists. Rowena, descending from her station with a graceful and dignified step, was about to place the chaplet which she held in her hand upon the helmet of the champion, when the marshals exclaimed with one voice: "It must not be thus—his head must be bare." The knight muttered faintly a few words, which were lost in the hollow of his helmet, but their purport seemed to be a desire that his casque might not be removed.

Whether from love of form, or from curiosity, the marshals paid no attention to his expressions of reluctance, but unhelmed him by cutting the laces of his casque, and undoing the fastening of his gorget. When the helmet was removed, the well-formed yet sunburnt features of a young man of twenty-five were seen, amidst a profusion of short, fair hair. His countenance was as pale as death, and marked in one or two places with streaks of blood.

Rowena had no sooner beheld him than she uttered a faint shriek; but at once summoning up the energy of her disposition, and compelling
herself, as it were, to proceed, while her frame yet trembled with the violence of sudden emotion, she placed upon the drooping head of the victor the splendid chaplet which was the destined reward of the day, and pronounced, in a clear and distinct tone, these words: "I bestow on thee this chaplet, Sir Knight, as the meed of valor assigned to this day's victor." Here she paused a moment, and then firmly added: "And upon brows more worthy could a wreath of chivalry never be placed!"

The Knight stooped his head, and kissed the hand of the lovely sovereign by whom his valor had been rewarded; and then, sinking yet further forward, lay prostrate at her feet.

There was a general consternation. Cedric, who had been struck mute by the sudden appearance of his banished son, now rushed forward, as if to separate him from Rowena. But this had been already accomplished by the marshals of the field, who guessing the cause of Ivanhoe's swoon, had hastened to undo his armor, and found that the head of a lance had penetrated his breastplate and inflicted a wound in his side.

The name of Ivanhoe was no sooner pronounced than it flew from mouth to mouth, with all the celerity with which eagerness could convey and curiosity receive it. It was not long ere it reached the circle of the Prince, whose brow darkened as he heard the news. Looking around him, however, with an air of scorn, "My lords," said he, "and especially you, Sir Prior, what think ye of the doctrine the learned tell us, concerning innate attractions and antipathies? Methinks that I felt the presence of my brother's minion, even when I least guessed whom yonder suit of armor inclosed."

"Front-de-Boeuf must prepare to restore his fief of Ivanhoe," said De Bracy, who, having discharged his part honorably in the tournament, had laid his shield and helmet aside and then mingled with the Prince's retinue.

"Ay," answered Waldemar Fitzurse, "this gallant is likely to reclaim the castle and manor which Richard assigned to him, and which your highness's generosity has since given to Front-de-Boeuf."

"Front-de-Boeuf," replied John, "is a man more willing to swallow three manors such as Ivanhoe, than to disgorge one of them. For the rest, sir, I hope none here will deny my right to confer the fiefs of the crown upon the faithful followers who are around me and ready to perform the usual military service in the room of those who have wandered to foreign countries, and can neither render homage nor service when called upon."

The audience were too much interested in the question not to pronounce the Prince's assumed right altogether indubitable. "A generous
Prince! A most noble Lord, who thus takes upon himself the task of rewarding his faithful followers!"

Such were the words which burst from the train, expectants all of them of similar grants at the expense of King Richard's followers and favorites, if indeed they had not as yet received such. Prior Aymer also assented to the general proposition, observing, however, "That the blessed Jerusalem could not indeed be termed a foreign country. She was communis mater—the mother of all Christians. But he saw not," he declared, "how the Knight of Ivanhoe could plead any advantage from this, since he" (the Prior) "was assured that the Crusaders, under Richard, had never proceeded much further than Askalon, which all the world knew was a town of the Philistines, and entitled to none of the privileges of the Holy City."

"Whatever becomes of him," said Prince John, "he is victor of the day; and were he tenfold our enemy, or the devoted friend of our brother, which is perhaps the same, his wounds must be looked to—our own physician shall attend him."

A stern smile curled the Prince's lip as he spoke. Waldemar Fitzurse hastened to reply that Ivanhoe was already removed from the lists, and in the custody of his friends.
Extracts from

The Song of the Shirt.

With fingers weary and worn,
With eyelids heavy and red,
A woman sat, in unwomanly rags,
Plying her needle and thread—
Stitch! stitch! stitch!
In poverty, hunger, and dirt,
And still, with a voice of dolorous pitch,
She sang the "Song of the Shirt!"

* * * * * *

Work—work—work!
Till the brain begins to swim!
Work—work—work!
Till the eyes are heavy and dim!
Seam, and gusset, and band,
Band, and gusset, and seam,
Till over the buttons I fall asleep,
And sew them on in my dream!

* * * * * *

"Oh! men with sisters dear!
Oh! men with mothers and wives!
It is not linen you're wearing out,
But human creatures' lives!
Stitch—stitch—stitch!
In poverty, hunger, and dirt,
Sewing at once, with a double thread,
A SHROUD as well as a shirt!

* * * * * *
" But why do I talk of death,  
That phantom of gristly bone?  
I hardly fear his terrible shape,  
It seems so like my own—  
It seems so like my own,  
Because of the fast I keep:  
O God! that bread should be so dear,  
And flesh and blood so cheap!  

* * * * * *

With fingers weary and worn,  
With eyelids heavy and red,  
A woman sat, in unwomanly rags,  
Plying her needle and thread;  
Stitch—stitch—stitch!  
In poverty, hunger, and dirt;  
And still with a voice of dolorous pitch—  
Would that its tone could reach the rich!—  
She sang this "Song of the Shirt!"

—Thomas Hood.
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