

would maintain the rule of civil law—of going from man to man and public official to public official with the question: Are you in sympathy with the right of labor to organize?—which, if answered in the affirmative, brings an enforced command to get away and never come back! Does anybody suppose a well-dressed mob, any more than one in overalls, can thus outrage justice and humanity without deplorable consequences? It is impossible.

GEORGE THE THIRD RISEN FROM THE DEAD IN THE PERSON OF COLORADO'S BANKER-GOVERNOR.

In speaking of the Colorado labor war in *Cincinnati*, July 3, Herbert S. Bigelow said in part:

Read again the Declaration of Independence and think of Colorado. When the firecrackers give out, here is a suggestion for the patriotic.

For George III. substitute the names of the mine owners. To be more specific, substitute the name of the Standard Oil monopoly, since this is the power behind the throne in Colorado. Then note how many of those indictments against King George apply literally to this new tyranny.

He has refused his consent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

In Colorado the legislature passed an eight-hour law. The mine owners refused to obey it. The unions asked the courts to enforce the law. The Supreme Court of the State declared it unconstitutional. The unions secured the submission of a constitutional amendment. The people adopted it by more than two-thirds majority. It then became the duty of the Legislature to pass the Enabling Act. But a powerful lobby of the mine owners was there. The Legislature gallied along for months and then adjourned without heeding the mandate of the people. This was an act of insurrection on the part of the Legislature. When the monopolists hire legislatures to betray the people they bring republican institutions into contempt and sow the seeds of anarchy.

It is said that when the bloodhounds were put upon the trail of the Independence assassins, they went straight to the house of the company's detective. But they should have gone to the capitol building at Denver. It was there, in the lobby of the legislature, that the wire was pulled that discharged the pistol into the dynamite. Those who tamper with legislatures and subvert popular government are worse than assassins, as they are more dangerous.

For their crimes they gain wealth and honor, and then, with hypocritical zeal for the law, they help to prosecute the men whom they have provoked to deeds of desperation.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone.

This is Fourth of July, 1904—not 1776. Yet two weeks ago to-morrow the president of the Miners' Union was arraigned for murder in a Colorado court. Who was the judge to try him? One elected by the people? No, the duly elected prosecutor had been deposed by a mob. Before this mob-appointed judge the mob-appointed prosecutor brought his prisoner. George Washington would have been as likely to get justice before the star chamber of the English king as President Moyer is to receive justice at the hands of the revolutionary appointees of the Standard Oil crowd.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

George III. has risen from the dead in the person of Colorado's banker-governor. The Supreme Court of the State was the good angel that called him back to life. That court has decided that the governor may destroy all civil government and exercise absolutely despotic power whenever a state of insurrection exists.

And what was still more obliging in the court, it decided that the governor is the sole judge as to when occasion requires that he cease to be a public servant and assume the role of despot.

With gunpowder and bunting we celebrate a victory which brought us political independence a century and more ago. But while we drown our thoughts in the noise, tyranny is busy with new chains. In those days of our youth we thought our political freedom was the cause of our prosperity. We did not understand that it was the unmonopolized bounty of nature which gave us prosperity, nor did we foresee that with the monopoly of these natural resources the old world tyranny was bound to arise in spite of our boasted liberty.

Slowly the dreadful truth is beginning to dawn. The thoughtful see it now, and adversity will increase the number of thinkers. We must make haste to use the political freedom which we still possess. Let the railroads become public property. Let the mines be treated as a common inheritance. Let labor cooperate to furnish the capital with which to work them. Can this economic freedom be won before political freedom is lost? On this issue hangs the fate of the republic.

THE "BALANCE OF TRADE" FALLACY.

From a speech made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Parliament of the Canadian Dominion, at Ottawa, June 14, 1904, as reported by the *Montreal Daily Herald*, of June 15, 1904.

To tell us simply that the balance of trade is against us with our neighbors, is no argument at all. We must look behind the balance, and because this old fallacy has been put forward, let us consider it. Bast Bastien in one of his books gives a very striking example of how the balance of trade works. A ship left France in 1840 or thereabouts loaded for New Orleans, with a cargo of articles from Paris valued at 200,000 francs. She reached New Orleans. The freight on these goods amounted to ten per cent., and the customs duty to 30 per cent., and they were sold at 20 per cent. profit. The sale, therefore, realized 352,000 francs. The money was immediately invested in cotton and the same ship came back to Havre with a cargo of cotton. The duty in France is ten per cent. The cargo was charged in France with ten per cent. freight and sold at 20 per cent. profit, realizing 464,000 francs. Therefore, the shipper made a double profit. He made a profit on his outward cargo of articles de Paris and also upon his inward cargo of cotton. He made over 100,000 francs altogether and enriched himself and his country to that extent.

But how did the entries balance in the customs? In the customs returns there appeared an export value of 200,000 francs and an entry of imports to the value of 352,000 francs, showing thereby a balance of trade against France of 152,000 francs. Therefore, France, according to the argument of honorable gentlemen opposite, was a loser by the operation. But what followed? That same gentleman, encouraged by his first experience, thought he would tempt fortune again and he shipped another cargo of the same goods to New Orleans valued at 200,000 francs. Then an occurrence happened which would cheer the hearts of my honorable friends on the other side. The entry in the customs returns showed an export of 200,000 francs from France, but the ship was lost at sea and, therefore, the balance of trade remained in favor of France to the extent of 200,000 francs. This is a fit illustration of the logic of honorable gentlemen opposite.

Let us discard this bugbear of the trade balance because it is utter nonsense.