

Henry George, our hearts gained new courage in the advocacy of the ideals for which we strive; new confidence in the coming of the Kingdom of Righteousness in which justice will be the regulator of the communal relations of men, as love will be the regulator of their private relations.

Not only to us, but to all those who earnestly strive in their several ways to make the world better for those who come after them, your life and your teaching has been a source of inspiration, and such it will remain for all time to come. When in due season you are gathered to your fathers that inspiration and the memory of you will continue priceless possessions of mankind. That this day may yet be distant, that more years of joyful devotion to the highest interests of your fellow men may be granted to you, is the heartfelt desire of all Australian Single Taxers, as of all your world-wide admirers.

\* \*

#### Advance Toward Constitutional Government in China.

It will be remembered that two years ago rumors of approaching constitutionalism came from China (vol. ix, p. 511), followed by announcement of an Imperial edict looking to the establishment of a constitutional form of government (vol. ix, p. 537). This was followed by successive preparatory steps (vol. ix, pp. 777, 1066; vol. x, p. 948). Now an edict has been issued, on the 30th, according to a dispatch from Peking, which sets forth in detail the stages that will be reached each year in the conversion of the form of government in China to the foreign system; and which assures the people, in the name of the Emperor, that a constitution will be granted nine years hence. This announcement has undoubtedly been hastened by a formidable movement in the provinces looking to the securing of a constitution, as further reported by the dispatch. Provincial delegations have come up to Peking to inquire into the matter, with arguments drawn from the recent constitutional revolutions in Persia and Turkey (pp. 471, 495), and declaring that China must not be behind the other nations.

\* \*

#### The Burden of India.

A state of wide and deep unrest has been reported from India for two years or more. Convictions for sedition have reached to well-known and popular men, like Lala Lajpat Rai (vol. x, p. 948), and during the last weeks the English and Indian papers have reported the trial and conviction on very slender charges of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, of whom it has been said that he is "beyond question the most powerful and astute of living Indians." It may be remembered that after the meeting of the National Congress of India last Christmas, the Extremists organized under Mr. Tilak and Ajit Singh (vol. x, p. 1019). Mr. Tilak has now suffered sentence of deportation to the Andaman Islands for six years. In-

dian sympathizers regard the sentence as monstrous. In writing to the London Times of July 27, in regard to it, Mr. Hyndman said:

I am quite sure that any unprejudiced Englishman, reading the evidence which you have adduced from the journals edited by Mr. Tilak, will come to the conclusion that if articles of that character are to earn the writer six years' transportation to the Andaman Islands then we may just as well at once state plainly that no free criticism of our rule is to be permitted in India at all. I defy any one to point to a sentence in Mr. Tilak's articles which incites to bomb throwing or violence; and I can not understand how Englishmen, who have always supported peoples struggling for freedom in other countries and are doing so today in regard to Russians and Turks, can resort to such measures of repression as those which Lord Morley and Lord Minto, both nominally Liberals, are applying in India.

Of the danger of the whole situation Mr. Hyndman said further:

Even from the point of view of policy, is it wise for our government to take the course which it is taking? By suppressing free speech and free criticism in the newspapers, we are inevitably encouraging and fostering secret conspiracy. It is foolish to imagine that 200,000 Europeans and Eurasians can permanently control the 300,000,000 of India, should even 10 per cent of that vast population be seriously disaffected to our rule. It is childish also to suppose that we can keep track of such conspiracy when it is clear that these recent outbursts all over Hindustan have taken our government completely by surprise.

\*

A strong side light from the native Indian's point of view in regard to his lack of freedom of speech (vol. x, p. 757) and his pressing personal danger if he be suspected of even free thought, is thrown by the following extract from a private letter written in the month of July by a gentleman of India to a friend in the United States:

I am sorry I have not been able to keep you posted of the affairs in India for the past months, but it could not be helped. Although I don't write for the press here, still the government have got scent of my doings, and consequently I am very minutely watched. It will surprise you to learn that detectives follow me day and night.

What to write and what not to write, I don't know. Matters have been going on from bad to worse day after day, and the country in spite of all its appeals is being grossly misruled. Yes, "grossly" is the word. The "sedition" scare has imbedded itself in the brain of every Britisher. Not only that, such great fuss is made over minute matters that it savours more of a typical farce than any system of administration. Mountains are made of mole hills, and thus the administrative council for India is trying to show to the world at large how effectively they are keeping down a rebellious nation. The crisis has not been yet reached. A few Bengalee fanatics have taken recourse to bombs and gunpowder, and this

has driven the brains of the poor, just Englishmen down to their heels. Personal safety is the first question, and in defence Indians are prosecuted wholesale. What of editors and proprietors of papers, what of barristers and pleaders, what of prominent leaders, graduates and M. A.'s of Oxford and Cambridge, what of college professors and learned pundits, what of school boys and college students—what of all these? I say. All, all fall under the pale of the law. New laws have been drawn up and new enactments passed; printing establishments and printing houses confiscated; papers, periodicals and weeklies stopped; prominent people shipped off to the Andamans and transported for life for penal servitude. Some are sentenced to years of hard labor; others hanged for murder—or so-called murder. All this has become too common to comment upon—and for what? For speaking the truth, and asking for justice. But to ask for justice, to ask for our rights, to ask for our share, to speak the truth, is sedition. Even to talk and think of these matters is sedition. Justice, justice!—the heart of every true Indian is crying for justice today.

Sedition is in the air. Detectives and police officers in "mufti," that is, in plain clothes, move about in electric tram cars and railway trains. They attend every meeting, public or private; go to the bazaars and markets; frequent the stock exchange and theater houses; even enter temples and places of worship. Business houses generally find them hanging about in the way of "tardy" customers. They generally converse with you on general topics, which gradually lead on to political affairs. They talk on religion and philosophy. They endorse your opinions and ideas. The day following the police are at your door—"just come to make enquiries." They search, and go through everything in your house; carry away papers, documents, letters, personal and private, for inspection, leaving everything topsy turvy. The following morning finds you in the magistrate's court, with some charge of sedition, exciting hatred, creating ill feeling—or for the matter of fact, anything hanging over your head. You must make the best defence you can. Pleaders, solicitors and advocates refuse to attend to your case. The conventionalities are gone through, the farce is over, and you find yourself in some lockup by the afternoon. Three years, five years, ten years, fifteen years are common terms—away from home and family, away from friends, away from the world, rotting in some jail, serving your sentence, bearing insults and injury from morning to night. God forbid!

What else may I write? I can not write more. As sure as there is a God; as sure as there are love, sympathy, fellow feeling, I own, I believe, I know that this shall not continue long. The Britisher is digging his own grave. He has cut the branch on which he was seated. He has bit the hand that fed him. The result—his days are numbered; the firm foundation on which he stood is tottering, crumbling fast away. The world shall very soon hear of his sudden downfall. And what a downfall! One unequalled in the annals of history. Let him allow the Indian to live peaceably, and I am quiet. Revenge—I seek none. Let him bear the fruits of his deeds. Let him reap what he has sown. Let him see his own folly—it is enough.

---

## NEWS NOTES

---

—More than thirty miners were suffocated in a coal mine at Haileyville, Oklahoma, on the 26th.

—The Atlantic-Pacific fleet reached Melbourne, Victoria, from Sydney, N. S. W., on the 29th (p. 519).

—The report of the Municipal traction service of Cleveland for July (p. 418) shows a profit of \$19,000 for that month.

—Abd-el-Aziz, the Sultan of Morocco, reported defeated hopelessly last week (p. 518), is now reported as regaining power.

—The Congo treaty passed by the Belgian house of deputies on the 20th (p. 518), was taken up by the Belgian senate on the 27th.

—Tony Pastor, the father of the variety theater in the United States, died at his summer home on Long Island on the 27th, at the age of about seventy-one.

—Prussia has granted to women and girls educational opportunities in pursuing the professions and the higher branches of learning, equal to those open to men.

—George Hughes, a son of Thomas Hughes of "Tom Brown of Rugby" fame, is a Democratic candidate for the legislature in Kansas. Mr. Hughes is a democratic Democrat.

—The International Exposition announced last Spring (vol. x, p. 1233) for Tokio, in 1912, may be postponed, partly on account of the industrial depression (p. 159), until 1917.

—The presidential and congressional elections in Cuba are to be held on November 14, and the inauguration of the newly elected president will take place on January 28 (p. 444).

—Freeport celebrated on the 27th the second of the Lincoln-Douglas debates of fifty years ago (p. 519). About fifty grizzled men who had heard the first debate, were seated on the platform.

—A special campaign train (p. 494) carrying Eugene V. Debs, Presidential candidate of the Socialist Party (p. 178), left Chicago for the Pacific coast on the 31st. Speeches are to be made at stops along the route.

—William F. Vilas, postmaster-general and secretary of the interior during President Cleveland's first term, and United States Senator from 1891 to 1897, died at his home in Madison, Wis., on the 27th, aged sixty-eight.

—A third series of Saturday afternoon walking trips in the forests, fields, hills and valleys about Chicago, has been arranged by a committee of the Playground Association, to come off on September 7 and 26 and October 3.

—Cholera is reported to be making marked headway in the Philippines (p. 489). In forty-eight hours 201 cases and 134 deaths were reported from Iloilo on the 17th. The total in all provinces since January is 11,914 cases and 7,568 deaths.

—Richard L. Hand, to whom Gov. Hughes of New York referred charges of malfeasance against District Attorney Jerome for opinion and advice (vol.