

eral attention, was the firing of a striking miner's little home and the death in the flames of the miner's wife, three of her children and two grandchildren. The crime is charged to some of the imported workmen who have taken the strikers' places.

At Garrett was enacted the same tragedy witnessed almost yearly in this State.

It is a simple matter to trace the cause. Every large corporation in this Commonwealth, with rapacious greed, has steadily encroached upon the just demands of workingmen. The organization of labor in self-defense has furnished excuse for employers to fill strikers' places with imported laborers. For, while the swarms of immigrants who have come to this State in the past 15 years have not been under contract to work in mines and mills, their presence has been availed of with the greatest eagerness by mine operators and the beneficiaries of the Protective system. The freedom with which thousands of the so-called pauper labor of Europe have been admitted to our shores gave to such immigration a greater impetus than would have existed under a free right of contract. Fifteen or twenty years ago it was the exception to find other than American-born men engaged in mining coal and in varied industries. Now the rule is reversed, and the payrolls of mine operators, where the number or check system is not used, read like the pages of a Slav directory. In this studied employment of the foreign laborer the protected industries especially have shown their wonderful solicitude for the protection of the American. And so 'tis a truth that Protection has proved an open Pandora's box. Here in Pennsylvania, perhaps, is the real falsity and infamy of the whole system of Protection more apparent than in any other State of the Union. Only because of the mental enslavement of men could such a monstrous absurdity exist. Absolute Free Trade in men who must compete with others for a day's wage; for the products of labor barriers erected against their admission because our great industries must be protected! It is, then, clear why a steady influx of a cosmopolitan flood into this State and into other States is causing with greater frequency the signs of a great social disease. These natives of Italy, Hungary, Bohemia, Poles, Russians and all branches of the Slavonic race soon turn against corporate greed, and there is re-enacted, with greater intensity, the revolt of humanity against injustice. In view of the complacency with which the administration views the proposition to import coolies to dig the Panama canal, it would not be surprising to have Baer et al. requisition the government for the services of the Asiatics, should any survive the pestilential climate of the Isthmus.

In this great center of human activity,

where might rise an imperial city, a city whose name, synonymous for all that made for civic righteousness and true happiness and prosperity, would be known wherever the American flag is floated, the great tragedy of life as we know it in our present state of civilization is presented in all its hideous forms. It is not always a pleasure to record the truth, and if this crude picture of existing conditions is shaded darkly, it is for the reason that the palette has been scanned in vain for pigments of a brighter hue.

JAMES A. WARREN.

NEWS

Week ending Thursday, June 23.

The event of the week is the Republican national convention (pp. 157, 171), which opened at Chicago on the 21st.

Prior to the convention's meeting the national committee prepared the roll of delegates for the temporary organization, and for that purpose passed preliminary judgment on contests. In a Delaware contest the committee decided in favor of the followers of J. Edward Addicks (vol. v, pp. 312, 378), usually distinguished in newspaper reports as "Gas" Addicks. This decision was sustained by the committee on credentials, afterward appointed by the temporary organization of the convention. In the Louisiana contest between the organization of white Republicans ("lily-whites" as they are called by their rivals) and the organization of white and black Republicans ("black-and-tans" as they are called by the other faction), the national committee decided against the "lily whites," but the credentials committee of the temporary organization partly reversed this action by admitting both delegations with half a vote for each delegate.

The most important contest was that from Wisconsin (p. 119)—most important alike in magnitude and political significance and possibilities. This fight is between the supporters of the old Republican machine or "stalwarts," led by Senator Spooner, and the followers of Gov. La Follette, whom the "stalwarts" call "half-breeds." The contestants were the "stalwarts," and they were accorded on the 17th the Wis-

consin seats in the temporary organization by the unanimous vote of the national committee. When the contest came before the committee on credentials on the 21st the La Follette delegation submitted a written statement of their case, which contained the following declaration:

The national committee did not examine our record or appoint any sub-committee to do so, but at the close of the argument, immediately decided the contest upon the conflicting and wholly contradictory oral statements of counsel for the respective parties. An examination of these records and evidence "would at once have disclosed the fact that every material claim advanced by the attorneys of said contesting delegates was without any foundation in fact." The conduct of the committee in deciding the contest immediately without examining the records or any of the credentials of delegates made it clear that the case had been determined by them in advance of its presentation. We now find on the credentials committee a number of gentlemen who as members of the national committee were most active in their support of the cause of the contesting delegates. Other members of said credentials committee, as we are credibly informed, have expressed themselves in favor of the contesting delegation, while every member of the credentials committee, as we are informed, has been approached in advance of the hearing for the purpose of securing a determination of the contest in favor of the contesting delegates. Believing, in view of the foregoing, that it would be futile to present our cause before this committee, we prefer to rest it with the Republican voters of the State of Wisconsin for their determination.

Thereupon the La Follette delegation returned to their homes. A sub-committee of the credentials committee entered, however, upon an investigation of the case and in accordance with its report the whole committee reported to the convention rebuking the La Follette delegation for impeaching its integrity and declaring in favor of the regularity of the "stalwarts." Only a small scattering vote against this report was heard in the convention. In an interview on the 22d, Lieut.-Gov. Davidson, of Wisconsin, stated that the question will be carried to the people of Wisconsin, who know that—

the influences which combined to shut out the representatives of the majority of the party in Wisconsin were: First,

"senatorial courtesy," because of the personal relations between the 26 senators who were on the floor and Senator Spooner; second, congressional fear, inspired by Mr. Babcock, who dispenses the funds of the Congressional committee; third, the post office clique, consisting of the army of postmasters under the leadership of Postmaster General Payne; fourth, the combined railroad influences of the country, which to the last one are arrayed against Gov. La Follette, because he demands that they treat the people justly.

The convention was called to order on the 21st by the postmaster general, Henry C. Payne, of Wisconsin, acting chairman of the national committee. He introduced as chaplain for the day the Rev. Timothy P. Frost, pastor of the First Methodist church of Evanston, Ill., who made the prayer. Mr. Payne then nominated as the temporary chairman selected by the national committee, Elihu Root, ex-secretary of war, of New York, whose nomination was, upon motion of Gov. Odell, of New York, unanimously accepted by the convention. Mr. Root made a long and carefully prepared speech of acceptance which, it is reported, is designed for use by the party as the keynote document of the campaign. At the close of this speech the committee decided to admit two delegates from Porto Rico and six from the Philippines, the latter, however, to have but two votes. Without further business, other than the announcement of committees, the convention adjourned for the day.

The second day's session began on the 22d with prayer by the chaplain of the day, the Rev. Father Thomas E. Cox, an assistant pastor at the Roman Catholic cathedral in Chicago (who is also a well-known disciple of Henry George). Permanent organization was then effected with Joseph G. Cannon, speaker of the House of Representatives, as permanent chairman.

The principal work of the convention on the second day was the adoption of the platform, and the most important feature of this business was its disposition of the tariff question. In the committee on resolutions that subject was the only one that elicited any considerable discussion, and the

tariff revisionists were voted down. The only concession to them was the declaration that with changing conditions tariff schedules should be readjusted; but this was coupled with the proviso that readjustments must always be in the interest of protection. As adopted by the convention the platform recites at length the accomplishments of the Republican party in the 50 years of its existence; compliments the administration of McKinley and Roosevelt; charges the Democratic party under President Cleveland with refusing to enforce Republican laws against trusts, and claims to have enforced those laws since superseding the Democratic party in the government; characterizes protection as "a cardinal policy of the Republican party," the measure of which "should always at least equal the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad," and, insisting upon the maintenance of protection, demands that rates of duty "be readjusted only when conditions have so changed that the public interest demands these alterations," a work which "cannot safely be committed to any other hands than those of the Republican party;" calls for reciprocity treaties "consistent with the principles of protection and without injury to American agriculture, American labor or any American industry;" renews its party's pledges to the gold standard of money; advocates ship subsidies; favors a navy powerful enough to defend the Monroe doctrine and guard our commerce and people; declares for Chinese exclusion, the civil service law, liberal pensions, international arbitration, and protection of citizens abroad; favors such Congressional "action as shall determine whether by special discriminations the elective franchise in any State has been unconstitutionally limited," and if such is the case demands "that representation in Congress and in the electoral colleges shall be proportionately reduced as directed by the Constitution of the United States;" and asserts that combinations of labor and of capital "when lawfully formed for lawful purposes are alike entitled to the protection of the laws, but both are subject to the laws and neither

can be permitted to break them." Although a delegation of Republican women appeared before the resolutions committee and asked for a plank favoring "the submission by Congress to the various State legislatures of an amendment to the Federal Constitution forbidding disfranchisement of United States citizens on account of sex," there is no clause in the platform favoring woman suffrage.

No other business of importance was done at the second day's session except that a decision was made as to the status of Hawaii. Territories are allowed 6 delegates with one vote each; "possessions" are allowed from 2 to 6 delegates, but with only two votes for the whole delegation. Thus, New Mexico has 6 delegates with 6 votes, while Porto Rico with 2 delegates and the Philippines with 6 have only 2 votes. In behalf of the Hawaiian delegation it was contended that Hawaii is a Territory and not a "possession," and is therefore entitled to 6 votes. But the convention, by a roll call vote of 497 to 490, decided otherwise. So Hawaii, while allowed 6 delegates, was accorded only 2 votes.

Democratic conventions (p. 170) have been held in Louisiana, which instructed for Parker on the 20th; in North Dakota, which refused on the 21st to instruct for any candidate; in Vermont, which refused on the 22d to instruct for Parker; in Texas, which instructed for Parker on the 22d; and in Minnesota, where the convention, though organized on the 22d by Hearst's supporters, refused to instruct.

The situation with reference to instructions for Democratic candidates (p. 105) is now as follows:

| Hearst— | Delegates. |
|---------------------|------------|
| Arizona | 6 |
| California | 20 |
| Florida | 10 |
| Idaho | 6 |
| Illinois | 54 |
| Iowa | 26 |
| Massachusetts | 6 |
| New Mexico | 6 |
| Nevada | 6 |
| South Dakota | 5 |
| Washington | 10 |
| Wyoming | 6 |
| Total | 164 |
| — | |
| Parker— | Delegates. |
| Arkansas | 18 |
| Georgia | 28 |
| Connecticut | 14 |