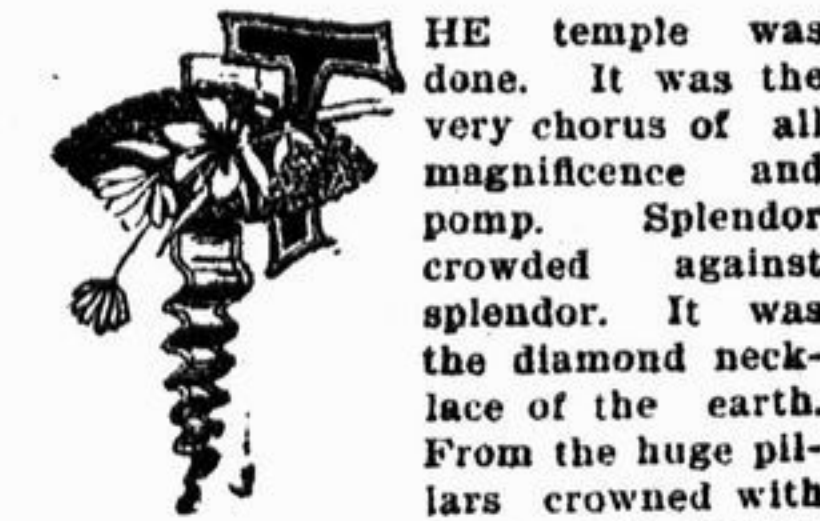


TALMAGE'S SERMON.

"MUSIC IN THE CHURCHES" SUNDAY'S SUBJECT.

From the Text, II. Chron. 5:13 as Follows: "It Came Even to Pass the Singers Were as One to Make One Sound in the Praise of the Lord."



HE temple was done. It was the very chorus of all magnificence and pomp. Splendor crowded against splendor. It was the diamond necklace of the earth. From the huge pillars crowned with leaves and flowers and rows of pomegranate wrought out in burnished metal, down even to the tongs and snuffers made out of pure gold, everything was as complete as the God-directed architect could make it.

There has been much discussion as to where music was born. I think that at the beginning, "when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy," that the earth heard the echo. The cloud on which the angel stood to celebrate the creation was the birthplace of song. The stars that glitter at night are only so many keys of celestial pearl, on which God's fingers play the music of the spheres.

I propose to speak about sacred music, first showing you its importance and then stating some of the obstacles to its advancement. I draw the first argument for the importance of sacred music from the fact that God commanded it. Through Paul he tells us to admonish one another to psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; through David he cries out: "Sing ye to God, all ye kingdoms of the earth."

I draw another argument for the importance of this exercise from the impressiveness of the exercise. You know something of what secular music has achieved. You know it has made its impression upon governments, upon laws, upon literature, upon whole generations.

Why should we rob the programmes of worldly gaiety when we have so many appropriate songs and tunes composed in our own day, as well as that magnificent inheritance of church psalmody which has come down fragrant with the devotions of other generations—tunes no more worn out than when our great-grandfathers climbed up on them from the church pew to glory?

Dear old souls, how they used to sing! And in those days there were certain tunes married to certain hymns and they have lived in peace a great while, these two old people, and we have no right to divorce them.

Many of you are illustrations of what a sacred song can do. Through it you were brought into the kingdom of Jesus Christ. You stood out against the warning and the argument of the pulpit, but when, in the sweet words of Charles Wesley or John Newton or Toplady, the love of Jesus was sung to your soul, then you surrendered, as an armed captor that could not be taken by a host, lifts its windows to listen to a harp's trill.

But I must now speak of some of the obstacles in the way of the advancement of this sacred music, and the first is that it has been impressed into the service of Satan. I am far from believing that music ought always to be positively religious. Refined art has opened places where music has been secularized, and lawfully so. The drawing room, the concert, by the gratification of pure taste and the production of harmless amusement and the improvement of talent, have become very forces in the advancement of our civilization.

Another obstacle has been an inordinate fear of criticism. The vast majority of people singing in church never want anybody else to hear them sing. Everybody is waiting for somebody else to do his duty. If we all sang then the inaccuracies that are evident when only a few sang would be drowned out. God asks you to do as well as you can, and then if you get the wrong pitch or keep wrong time he will forgive any deficiency of the ear and imperfection of the voice.

Another obstacle in the advancement of this art has been the erroneous notion that this part of the service could be conducted by delegation. Churches have said, "O, what an easy time we shall have. The minister will do the preaching, and the choir will do the singing, and we will have nothing to do." And you know as well as I that there are a great multitude of churches all through this land where the people are not expected to sing.

My Christian friends, have we a right to delegate to others the discharge of this duty which God demands of us? Suppose that four wood-thrushes propose to do all the singing some bright day, when the woods are ringing with bird voices. It is decided that four wood-thrushes shall do all of the singing of the forest. Let all other voices keep silent. How beautifully the four warble! It is really fine music. But how long will you keep the forest still?

Why should we rob the programmes of worldly gaiety when we have so many appropriate songs and tunes composed in our own day, as well as that magnificent inheritance of church psalmody which has come down fragrant with the devotions of other generations—tunes no more worn out than when our great-grandfathers climbed up on them from the church pew to glory?

deemed spirits would cry—myriads of voices coming into the harmony and the one hundred and forty and four thousand breaking forth into one acclamation. Stop that loud singing! Stop! Oh, no; they cannot hear me. You might as well try to drown the thunder of the sky, or beat back the roar of the sea, for every soul in heaven has resolved to do its own singing. Alas! that we should have tried on earth that which they cannot do in heaven, and, instead of joining all our voices in the praise of the Most High God, delegating perhaps to unconsecrated men and women this most solemn and most delightful service.

Music ought to rush from the audience like the water from a rock—clear, bright, sparkling. If all the other part of the church service is dull, do not have the music dull. With so many thrilling things to sing about, away with all drawing and stupidity! There is nothing makes me so nervous as to sit in a pulpit and look off on an audience with their eyes three-fourths closed and their lips almost shut, mumbling the praises of God. During my recent absence I preached to a large audience, and all the music they made together did not equal one skylark. People do not sleep when we come to a Saviour's crowning. In order to a proper discharge of this duty, let us stand up, save as age or weakness or fatigue excuses us. Seated in an easy pew we cannot do this duty half so well as when, upright, we throw our whole body into it.

We want to rouse all our families upon this subject. We want each family of our congregation to be a singing school. Childish petulance, obduracy and intractability would be soothed if we had more singing in the household, and then our little ones would be prepared for the great congregation on Sabbath day, their voices uniting with our voices in the praises of the Lord. After a shower there are scores of streams that come down the mountain side with voices rippling and silvery, pouring into one river, and then rolling in united strength to the sea. So I would have all the families in our church send forth the voice of prayer and praise, pouring it into the great tide of public worship that rolls on and on to empty into the great wide heart of God.

There will be a great revolution on this subject in all our churches. God will come down by his Spirit and rouse up the old hymns and tunes that have not been more than half awake since the time of our grandfathers. The silent pews in the church will break forth into music, and when the conductor takes his place on the Sabbath Day there will be a great host of voices rushing into the harmony. My Christian friends, if we have no taste for this service on earth, what will we do in heaven, where they will sing, and sing forever? I would that our singing today might be like the Saturday night rehearsal for the Sabbath morning in the skies, and we might begin now, by the strength and by the help of God, to discharge a duty which none of us has fully performed.

QUEER FABRICS.

There is a firm in Venice which is turning out glass bonnets by the thousand and several other European factories are showing remarkable results in this particular industry. The Infanta Mercedes, sister of the little king of Spain, recently received from the Venetian factory a white ball dress of spun glass as pliable as silk. Many society women with a whim for the curious have similar gowns.

Queen Victoria owns a more marvelous robe. In 1877 the empress of Brazil sent her a gown woven from a certain spider's web which for fineness of texture and beauty surpasses the loveliest silk. A drachm of web reaches 200 miles and is proportionately stronger than a bar of tempered steel. A web of equal thickness would support seventy-four tons, while steel would break at fifty tons. These spiders when at work eat seventy-eight times their own weight every day and produce only half a grain of silk.

Louis XIV. has a coat made of spiders' web which was a great curiosity in those days. Le Bon, a great bean of Languedoc, had, some 200 years ago, webs woven into gloves and stockings.

In one of Gilbert's funny "Bah Balads" there is a story of two noted dukes, one of whom wore silver underclothing and the other pewter. The Japanese make underclothing of a much cheaper commodity—paper—fine-grained and grained. This is cut, sewed together as cloth would be, and where buttonholes are necessary linen is used for strengthening the paper. The material is strong and flexible and light, weighing about ninety grains to the square foot. The Japanese also make umbrellas of paper which even after it has become wet is hard to tear.

To Get Rid of Flies. Pope Stephen (A. D. 890) drove away a plague of locusts by sprinkling the fields with holy water, while St. Bernard destroyed an innumerable multitude of flies which filled his church and interrupted his sermon by simply pronouncing the words excommunication ("I excommunicate them").—Cornhill Magazine.

INTEREST IN OHIO.

THE FIGHT IS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE.

United States Senators to Be Elected from Two States—Everything Points to Republican Victories but Democrats Are Banking on Over Confidence.

Washington Letter. Advice from Ohio indicate that the voters there understand pretty clearly the heavy responsibility which rests upon them. A failure to elect a Republican from that state passes the control of the Senate into the hands of those opposed to President McKinley at least until March 4, 1899, perhaps to the end of his term. It is a big responsibility, and it is well that the Ohio Republicans recognize it.

Much interest is felt here in the Senatorial contests in the several states, especially Ohio, and also Maryland, New Jersey, Texas and Iowa, for portions of the Legislatures which are to be chosen in Iowa and New Jersey are to participate in the election of Senators.

While all Senatorial elections are subjects of especial interest here, those this fall, especially in Ohio and Maryland, are particularly so because the control of the Senate from March 4, 1899, to 1901 may be determined by them. On the Ohio election will depend the complexion of the Senate between this and 1899, provided a Republican is seated from Oregon.

So Ohio is the first to attract attention, because she may determine the control of the Senate for the next two years, while she, with the other states above named, may control it for two years more. It is not surprising, then, that every politician from Ohio is eagerly questioned on his arrival here, and that those from other states are also the subject of attention when they put in an appearance. On the state above named may depend the control of the Senate during all of President McKinley's term.

There are now 43 Republicans in the Senate, 32 silver Democrats, 5 silver Republicans, so-called; 5 Populists and 3 sound-money Democrats. The death of Senator George and the absence of a Senator from Oregon leaves the total number but 88. With a Republican seated from Oregon, and one elected in Ohio, that party would, with the co-operation of one Populist, control the Senate. Even if a Democrat were appointed to succeed Senator George it is considered probable that at least one of the Populists would co-operate

on Ohio, Maryland and a few other close states as to the control of that body during the remainder of President McKinley's term.

Happily, the reports from all of these states are very encouraging to the Republicans. In Ohio there now remains no doubt of success provided the members of the party in that state do not allow their good prospects to lead to a neglect of duty. They have some very shrewd men to deal with, and some very unscrupulous ones, too, and between these two they will need to get out every vote. But if they do so, it is conceded they will win. In Maryland the Republicans are hopeful. They are all standing now well in line, and when the good, round majority by which they carried the state last year is remembered, it is apparent that they have good chances of success. Yet, they have as shrewd and unscrupulous a man to fight as have the Ohioans, for Arthur P. Gorman is a man who can only be beaten by the most heroic work on the part of the Republicans of Maryland.

G. H. WILLIAMS.



Exclude This Cheap Labor.

It has long been known, and recent experience has shown its intensity, that quite a number of unemployed laborers come to this country across the Canadian border. It is not the mere fact that they are unemployed to which we object, as it is the fact of their unfortunate impoverished condition. The immigration laws upon our statute are supposed to check any influx of pauper labor. But they do not, because they are not rigidly enforced. It is not possible to watch every mile of the Canadian border, but it should be possible to prevent the admission of British pauper labor at those points where American officials are stationed. With the restoration of prosperity under our policy of Protection, and the consequent greater employment of labor, we are sure to see many hundreds of En-

REPUBLICAN OPINION.

The silver men admit grumblingly that there has been an advance in wheat while silver has fallen, but say that this is due to shortages abroad. Oats are 25 per cent higher than a year ago; wool 50 per cent higher; tobacco double in value; corn, rye, barley, hay and meats have all advanced; meantime silver has fallen 20 per cent in a year. How is this, anyway?

Can it be possible that the "gold power" has obtained control of the trades unions? Here they are reporting an increase of 34 per cent in the number of people employed as against one year ago, and silver steadily falling meantime.

That party of Republican "spellbinders" who are stumping Ohio will please omit to mention the fact that silver has fallen over 15 per cent in value since the Democratic platform was adopted, and 20 per cent in the past year. The mention of unpleasant facts of this sort is rather embarrassing to Mr. McLean and his followers.

Mr. MBryan still has confidence. He hopes that the price of wheat will go down again, and then there will be another chance for the silver argument and the calamity cry. At least he predicts that the price will soon go back, and that the demand for free silver will then come again with renewed vigor.

Altgeld, in his speech in Philadelphia, says that railway rates are twice as high in this country as they are in Europe. On the contrary, it is shown by abundant consular evidence that railroad travel in this country is cheaper, more comfortable, and better than anywhere in Europe. Such reckless statements as these can only result to the disadvantage of the speaker when the facts become known.

Those who have doubted the accuracy of reports of increased employment can now have the benefit of official figures. The reports of the New York trades unions show an increase of 34 per cent. In the number of people employed in that city compared with those of one year ago. It is estimated that this rate of increase applied to the country at large would mean about 350,000 additional persons at work in these McKinley times.

Senator Foraker says Ohio sheep have doubled in value in the past few months. That may be more difficult for Mr. Bryan to "explain" than was the advance in wheat, which he says was due to scarcity abroad. The fact is, the theory that the low prices of farm products were due to the treatment of silver never had any foundation, and the general upward march of farm prices while silver was falling shows it to be true.

The great free-coinage prophet, John P. Altgeld, in his speech on Labor Day, was strangely silent on the money question. Last year, according to Altgeld, all that was needed to effect a perfect condition of affairs was to establish free coinage, but even so soon as this he has practically dropped the silver issue and is now holding forth on government ownership of telegraphs, railroads and other things. Without going into the question at all of the merits of these questions, the people will be liable to doubt the desirability of any measure advocated by such a champion as Altgeld, who, it thus appears, is liable to let go of his subject at any time to take up some other idea.

The free-traders contend that the consumer pays the protective duty. Why should foreigners object to it, then, and threaten retaliation and all that sort of thing? The following statement by the Daily Argus, of Bradford, Eng., is significant: "There is not a weaver for the American market in this district who could not offer his or her own experience showing that he or she contributed by the docking of weekly earnings to pay the duty America imposes."

How do the friends of silver account for the fact that there was an advance of 6 1/2 per cent. in values during the months of July and August, while silver was rapidly falling? Silver in New York was worth 61 cents per ounce on July 1 and on September 1 was worth 51 cents per ounce, a fall of 16 per cent. Yet Bradstreet's index table of the prices of 100 staple raw and manufactured articles show an average advance of 6 1/2 per cent. in their value during the two months.

It may be that the advance in wheat is due to shortage abroad, but how about cotton, wool, barley, tobacco, corn, oats, and meats of all kinds? They have advanced, too, and yet silver has fallen.

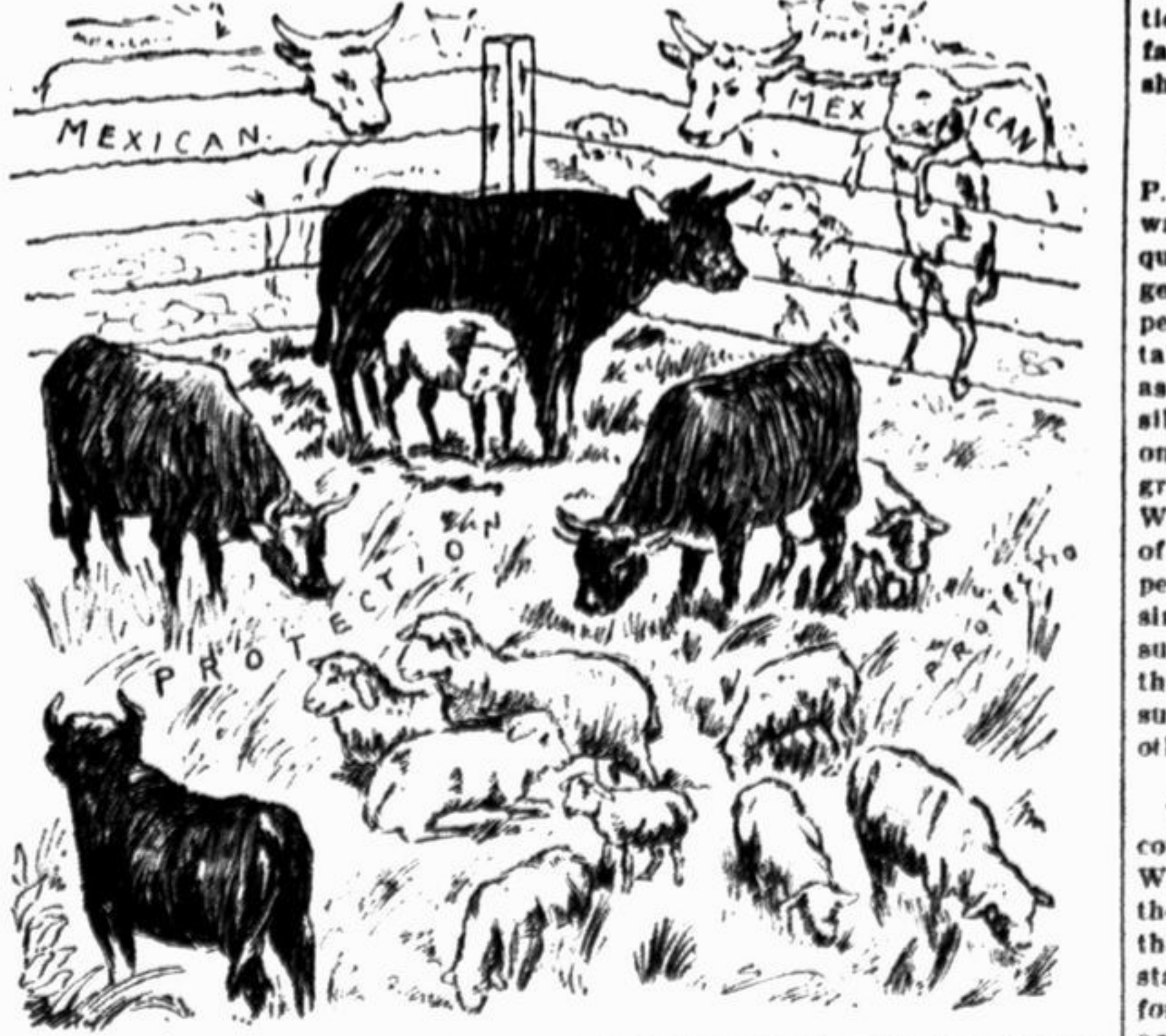
The calamity shouters are not referring to the fact that official reports of the New York trades unions show an increase of 34 per cent. in the number of people employed.

Bryan Democracy is being assailed at every point by sound-money Democrats. The late action of the Ohio sound-money men will tend still further to decrease the McLean vote in that state.

Silver fell 16 cents an ounce in the year from September 1, 1898, to September 1, 1897. At that rate it will be worth just 3 cents an ounce by the time the campaign of 1899 opens.

The Ohio Democratic platform is having difficulty in finding it.

KEEPING OUT THE FOREIGN LIVE STOCK.



with the Republicans, thus leaving that party in control of the Senate, with the aid of the vice-president's vote.

Thirty-one seats in the Senate are to be filled between now and March 4, 1899. Eleven of these are now filled by Republicans, fifteen by silver Democrats, two by Populists, two by silver Republicans and one by a sound-money Democrat. It is conceded that the Republicans will elect Senators from Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota; the Democrats in Virginia, Florida, South Carolina, Texas and probably Missouri and Tennessee and the silverites in Nevada, Montana and Utah. With the Ohio Republicans successful this fall the Republican party is practically sure of 41 votes in the Senate in the last half of McKinley's term and the silver Democrats 25. There is reason to believe that the Republicans may be successful in sending members of their own party from Maryland, West Virginia, Indiana, Wisconsin, North Dakota, California, New York and New Jersey to succeed Democrats now holding seats from these states. Should this happen it would give the party an easy control of the Senate. Should they only win in one-half these states they would be able to control the Senate with the vote of the vice-president.

It will be seen, then, that there is good reason for the intense interest with which the Ohio election of this fall is being watched. Upon it alone may depend the control of the Senate between this time and March 4, 1899, while upon Ohio, Maryland and a few other close states will depend the control after March 4, 1899, to the end of President McKinley's term.

Therefore, all eyes are on Ohio as to her possible control of the Senate during the next eighteen months, and

glish, Canadian and Chinese laborers attempting to locate in the United States, and every effort made to do so in contravention of our immigration laws—should be promptly checked. The American labor market should be supplied by American wage-earners. There are more than enough of them to supply all demands at present.

Effect of Discriminating Duty.

A 10 per cent. discriminatory duty imposed by Great Britain against United States wheat and corn would soon bring the latter to their senses.—The Canadian Manufacturer.

We are rather inclined to believe that "a 10 per cent. discriminatory duty imposed by Great Britain against United States wheat and corn" would have the effect of bringing the people of Great Britain to their senses by showing them, directly and conclusively, the benefit of a policy of Protection to British agricultural interests.

A Grumble from Scotland.

The people of these (British) islands, who admit the surplus produce of the United States free, will not be disposed to grumble over-much at the barriers by which American legislators seek to exclude our manufacturers.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

Why, then, so much grumbling on the part of the Scotch manufacturers because we propose to establish industries for the manufacture of our own fax goods, burlaps, bags, bagging, etc.?

The End of Bryan.

To-day Bryan couldn't poll half as many votes as he did in November.—Minneapolis "Journal."

Glad to hear it. And let us take care that he doesn't poll a dozen votes in 1899. Kill him at the Democratic convention.