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Fewer Than 30,000 Direct the Wealth of This Country

By JOHN W. KERN.

Senator From Indiana

THE great financiers and so called captains of industry AFFECT GREAT DREAD OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, and the market prices of stocks and bonds and food-stuffs which are controlled by them go up or down as the utterances of the chief servants of the people appear to be favorable or unfavorable to the enforcement of law.

But the people will object and will continue to object to CONSTANT, OPEN AND IMPUDENT DEFIANCE OF THE LAWS enacted by them for the government of the republic.

THEY HAVE SEEN THE WEALTH OF THE COUNTRY, PRIMARILY EARNED BY THE INDUSTRY AND SELF DENIAL OF THE PEOPLE, ABSORBED BY THESE UNLAWFUL COMBINATIONS WITH SUCH RAPIDITY THAT MORE THAN ONE-HALF OF ALL THE MONEY EARNED BY THE PEOPLE DURING THE FIRST CENTURY AND A QUARTER OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE IS NOW POSSESSED BY LESS THAN THIRTY THOUSAND MEN.

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A FAMOUS FENCER

Master at Arms Jean Louis Was a Wizard With the Sword.

GREATEST DUEL ON RECORD.

In Front of an Army This Napoleonic Wonder Faced Thirteen Italian Sword Experts and Spitted Them in Succession Without a Rest.

To give an idea of what a brave man can do if he knows fencing thoroughly and but keeps cool and collected in danger we will relate a historical duel. So extraordinary is this combat that it would be held a romance had it not been witnessed by a whole army. The hero is Jean Louis, one of the great masters of the sword of the beginning of last century, and the duel happened in Madrid in 1813. He was the master at arms of the Thirty-second regiment of French Infantry. The First regiment, composed entirely of Italians, formed part of the same brigade.

Regimental esprit de corps and rivalries of nationality caused constant quarrels, when swords were often whipped out or bullets exchanged. After a small battle between the two factions of the brigade had occurred in the streets of Madrid, in which over 200 French and Italian soldiers had taken part, the officers of the two regiments, in a council of war assembled, decided to give such breaches of order a great blow and to re-establish discipline. They declared that the masters at arms of the two regiments involved should take up the quarrel and fight it out.

Imagine a whole army in battle array on one of the large plains that surround Madrid. In the center a large ring is left open for the contestants. This spot is raised above the plain so that not one of the spectators of this tragic scene—gayly dressed officers, soldiers in line, Spaniards, excited as never a bullfight excited them—will miss one phase of the contest. It is before 10,000 men that the honor of an army is about to be avenged in the blood of thirty brave men.

The drum is heard. Two men, naked to the waist, step in the ring. The first is tall and strong. His black eyes roll disdainfully upon the gaping crowd. He is Giacomo Ferrari, the celebrated Italian. The second, tall, also handsome and with muscles like steel, stands modestly awaiting the word of command. His name is Jean Louis. The seconds take their places on either side of their principals. A deathlike silence ensues.

"On guard!" The two masters cross swords. Giacomo Ferrari lunges repeatedly at Jean Louis, but in vain. His every thrust is met by a parry. He makes up his mind to bide his chance and caresses and teases his opponent's blade. Jean Louis, calm and watchful, lends himself to the play, when, quicker than lightning, the Italian jumps aside with a loud yell and makes a terrible lunge at Jean Louis, a Florentine trick often successful. But with extraordinary rapidity Jean Louis has parried and responds quickly in the shoulder.

"It is nothing," cries Giacomo, "a mere scratch." And they again fall on guard. Almost directly he is hit in the breast. This time the sword of Jean Louis, who is now attacking, penetrates deeply. Giacomo's face becomes livid, his sword drops from his hand, and he falls heavily on the turf. He is dead.

Jean Louis is already in position. He wipes his reeking blade; then, with the point of his sword on the ground, he calmly awaits the next man.

The best fencer of the First regiment has just been carried away a corpse, but the day is not yet over. Fourteen adversaries are there, impatient to measure swords with the conqueror, burning to avenge the master they had deemed invincible.

Jean Louis hardly has two minutes' rest. He is ready. A new adversary stands before him. A sinister click of swords is heard, a lunge, a parry, a riposte and then a cry, a sigh, and all is over. A second body is before Jean Louis.

A third adversary advances. They want Jean Louis to rest. "I am not tired," he answers, with a smile.

The signal is given. The Italian is as tall as the one who lies there a corpse covered by a military cloak. He has closely watched Jean Louis' play and thinks he has guessed the secret of his victories. He multiplies his feints and tricks; then, all at once, bounding like a tiger on his prey, he gives his opponent a terrible thrust in the lower line. But Jean Louis' sword has parried and is now deep within his opponent's breast.

What need we to relate any more? Ten new adversaries followed him, and the ten fell before Jean Louis amid the excited yells and roars of an army.

At the request of the Thirty-second regiment's colonel, who thought the lesson sufficient, Jean Louis after much pressing consented to stop the combat, and he shook hands with the two survivors, applauded by 10,000 men.

From that day fights ceased between French and Italian soldiers.

This wonderful and gigantic combat might be held a fable were not all the facts above stated still found in the archives of the ministry of war.—Lippincott's.

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Putting on the Price.
 A London woman well known in society opened a curiosity shop. One day a friend came in and left an umbrella which had cost 50 shillings. He returned to find the handle of it in the window labeled, "Antique Venetian silver umbrella mounting, 10 guineas."
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 He—Do you think marriages are made in heaven? She—I don't know. Perhaps they are, but I'd be satisfied with one made in—oh, that is, of course, I wasn't thinking what—oh, Charlie, do you really mean it?—Chicago Record-Herald.

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"I put in a bathroom, have hot and cold water in the kitchen and laundry and you see what a strong pressure I have in this house."
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