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UNDER THE ARTISTIC CHARGE OF - - JOS. KEPPLER
BUSINESS-MANAGER - - - - - A. SCHWARZMANN
EDITOR - - - - - H. C. BUNNER

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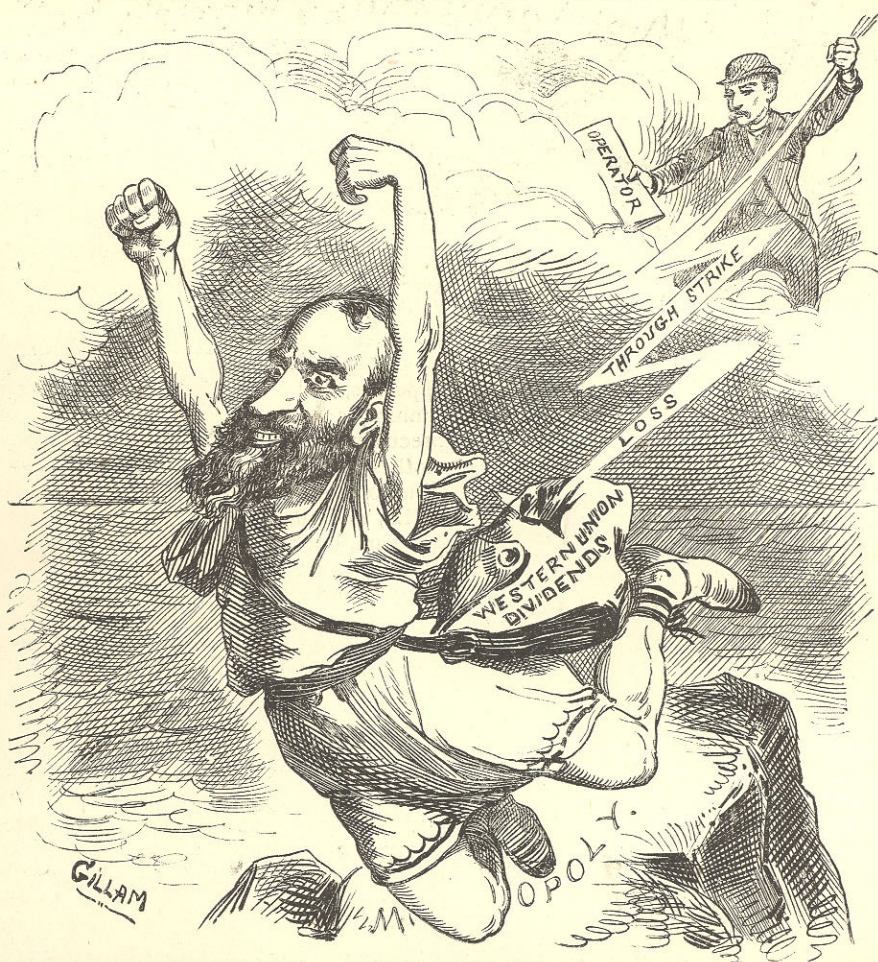
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CARTOONS AND COMMENTS.

Maybe we have heard enough about the Tewksbury investigation, and maybe we haven't. Why is it that such inquiries are always so unsatisfactory? There is generally a majority report, which says that everything is so lovely that it couldn't possibly be better. Then there is a minority report, which states that everything is so bad that by no possible means could it be worse. In this case the latter style of report is inspired in the Tewksbury investigation by Governor Butler and those who believe in him—the former is the work of those who have the same affection for Ben as the Devil is said to cherish for holy water.

Why should this be so? Facts cannot be controverted by the mere report of the larger section of a committee, and yet this is what is sought to be done with a whitewashing brush applied by the delicate hands of Massachusetts Republicans. But it won't do. The whitewash is too thin. It seems to have consistency enough when looked at in the bucket; but it has no more effect than if so much water had been thrown over the tablet on which is indelibly graven the truth about Tewksbury. Truth about Tewksbury has a flowing alliterative sound, perhaps, because there is such an unusual amount of truth about the Tewksbury as known to the public.

ANOTHER "MODERN INSTANCE."



THIS AJAX, WHO THOUGHT THAT IN THE SECURITY OF HIS ROCK HE COULD DEFY THE LIGHTNING, GOT STRUCK IN THE POCKET—HIS ONLY VITAL PART.

Millions of people in the United States only know of it in connection with an almshouse. And what an almshouse! An establishment that would put a well-regulated sewer to the blush, to say nothing of a neglected pig-sty. It is not so much the tanning of human skin and other cheerful little arrangements that came out in the evidence, but the utterly heartless and shameful treatment of the poor wretches who had to make it their home. General Butler, as an enthusiastic advocate, may have overstated his case in order to make his point. His methods may not have been strictly those that are looked for in a Governor, but we don't think that the Tewksbury investigation will injure his reputation in any way.

When the feudal system was making things pleasant for those who had wealth and power, there existed a custom which entitled a workingman who thought himself aggrieved by a noble to issue a challenge to single combat. As, however, the challenger was only allowed to use as weapons the tools of his trade, and the challenged rejoiced in defensive armor and the best offensive weapons, the injured party seldom, if ever, obtained any other satisfaction than a speedy death and a quick exit from the troubles of this world. The nobles naturally looked upon these little affairs very much in the same way that our E. C. the London *Punch's* great hulking miner accepted the ineffective assaults of his diminutive wife, when he remarked: "It pleases she and doesn't hurt me."

Monopoly in this country is in very much the same position as were the feudal nobles. Their weapons are their wealth, and their armor is their charters. Against these the tools of trade are almost as powerless as they were centuries ago. The rich can live on their accumulations, but the poor must have the price of

their daily labor or die. Occasionally monopolists are caught in a tight place by a combination of their employees; but this good fortune is only rarely obtained, and is even then generally bitterly paid for afterward, when the pressing need of the employee is passed, or when the combination that gained its point has either ceased to be properly organized, or has been neglected by those whom it benefitted. The natural remedy for the oppression of labor seems to lie in the co-operative system; but, singularly enough, this does not appear to thrive as well in this republican country as it does in monarchical England. How co-operative associations of workingmen can be more effectively organized and managed is, we believe, the most important social problem of the day, and each passing hour demands more and more imperatively a solution.

PLEASE EXCUSE DELAY!

Much Esteemed Public and No Less Respected News-dealers:

We are very sorry for it; but we don't see how it can be helped. Our press-room is not made of rubber, and we have room for no more presses. And those we have are busy now, and will be busy all through August, printing

PUCK ON WHEELS,
which, by the way, is, as usual—but no matter—we are whispering elsewhere about

PUCK ON WHEELS.
But when we have finished printing

PUCK ON WHEELS,
we shall issue still another edition of

PICKINGS FROM PUCK.

which seems to have settled down as the great permanent success of modern comic literature, excelled by none, and equaled only by Webster's Dictionary.

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