

# The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Doubtless Kuropatkin is willing to endorse Sherman's definition of war.

Thorough organization means efficient work. Let democrats push the work of organization.

Kuropatkin's boasts have been laid away alongside the g. o. p. promises to reform the tariff.

"The courts of Chicago are choked," asserts the Record-Herald. But even that is better than being gagged.

The "work of congress" consisted largely of spending money, which by most people is not accounted toil.

Has the president the moral courage necessary to sustain him in a fight to the finish against organized greed?

Being the "son of his father" does not guarantee his ability to deal in figures with the real facts behind them.

Having read the beef trust investigation report all the trust magnates are just aching to be investigated by Mr. Garfield.

The assertion that Mr. Garfield's report is unsatisfactory is not quite correct. It is entirely satisfactory to the beef trust.

Wars are, at least, great educators. Those who fight them learn that the men who finance them get by far the best of the bargain.

The next viceroy of India will be fortunate in having the Durbar and the Roosevelt inaugural as samples of gorgeous splendor to pattern after.

President Roosevelt refuses to submit to the senate the "agreements" he is about to arrange with certain mountain lions and other wild beasts.

"We demand justice," asserts the head legal advisor of the beef trust. But the trust's frantic efforts to avoid it do not dovetail with the lawyer's assertion.

Mr. Garfield has discovered that the people will eat tough beef sold by the trust much more cheerfully than they will swallow the tough report presented by him.

The Vanderbilt railroad is to pay its new president \$150,000 a year, so it is said. What for? Not for managing the railroad property, surely; but doubtless for seeing to it that the road's "special interests" are carefully looked after at Washington and capitals of the various states through which the road runs.

The Colorado republicans, by seating the lieutenant governor, have virtually declared that Adams was elected but that the republicans wanted the office in spite of that fact. If Peabody was elected he was entitled to the office; if, as even republicans concede, he did not defeat Adams, then Adams was entitled to the seat.

And now the railroad lawyers say that congress has no constitutional right to regulate the

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railroads. This is interesting. Our forefathers will fall in the public estimation if it turns out that they were really working in the interest of the corporations instead of the people when they prepared the constitution.

Mr. Garfield will not find the real facts about the Standard Oil trust at "26 Broadway." That is where the real facts are most carefully prepared and suppressed.

Booker Washington advises negro young men not to take \$5 buggy rides on a \$6 a week salary. But there is really no color line to be drawn on advice of that sort.

A woman, declared to be dead by two physicians, is restored with salt by a third. The successful doctor might try his salt remedy on the rate bill that died in the senate.

The Swayne impeachment case permitted the reverend senators to dodge a lot of work, that they wanted an excuse for dodging. The judge is entitled now to a senatorial vote of thanks.

"The president wants a canal commission that will do things!" exclaims an esteemed contemporary. It would be a welcome relief from the commissions that have been "doing the people."

According to the logic of the republicans of Colorado, a party has the right to substitute a new candidate after the election, if the returns show that an unpopular man was nominated.

Archeologists have discovered Chaldean love letters 2,200 years old. They will create a stir, however, only when they discover the letters of some Chaldean senator with the familiar postscript, "Burn this letter."

Lyman J. Gage is said to be angry because no republican arose in congress to defend the New York customs house deal. Mr. Gage is asking too much of his republican friends. Even they must balk at doing some things.

It does not require unusually keen eyesight to see that the chief opposition to public control of the railroads comes from the eminent gentlemen who are personally interested in perpetuating railroad control of the public.

The Sioux City Journal says that "Commissioner Garfield's good faith will not be questioned." Of course not. Commissioner Garfield's good faith is not the question. But what about the ease with which he is bamboozled?

If the ship building trust—or its successor, another trust—gets the job of building the two new battleships, there will be something doing. A navy is made to float in water, and that trust is trying to supply water to float a navy.

Has the president the courage necessary to carry on a reform movement against the corporations which now control the republican party? The answer to the question will determine the place the president will occupy in history.

Mr. Rockefeller has just given one hundred thousand dollars to the Congregational board of missions. Now if the board will use the money in an effort to show Mr. Rockefeller that, as a trust magnate, he is guilty of more wrongdoing to his fellows than any other heathen known to the public the donation will be well spent.

Hon. J. T. Hefflin of Alabama, one of the new members of congress, is likely to make his name familiar to the reading public. He is a democrat who believes in democratic principles and who is not afraid to fight for them. The party needs just such exponents and The Commoner presents its compliments and best wishes to the new member.

The republican national committee has appointed Congressman Babcock as the Wisconsin member in the place of Mr. Payne. The fact that this was done in spite of the action of the republican state committee, which recommended a La-Follette man, shows how the republican national committee stands on the question of reform and gives some intimation of the struggle which the republican party has before it. To be a reform party the republican party would have to have an entirely new organization. Will the president undertake the fight or will he fall in with the plutocratic element of his party?

The Commoner takes great pleasure in noting the prosperity of the Dubuque Telegraph-Herald, one of the staunchest democratic daily newspapers in the country. The Telegraph-Herald has just installed a mammoth new press, capable of printing 24,000 24-page papers an hour, with color attachments and other modern improvements. The "jubilee number" consisted of forty pages and was a delight to the eye as well as to the intelligence. The Telegraph-Herald is deserving of its success, and it is now in better position than ever to spread the doctrines and principles of democracy.

Speaker Hill of the Missouri house of representatives forged the key that opened the deadlock in the senatorial contest. On the morning of the last day of the Missouri's Long Deadlock session he announced that he would vote for the election of a democrat on the last ballot rather than see the legislature adjourn without electing a senator. He further announced that five other republicans would join him. On the last ballot Kerens threw his support to Major Warner and elected him. The defeat of both Kerens and Neidringhaus makes Missouri a subject for congratulations, and the election of Major Warner relieves Missouri republicans of a vast amount of odium that threatened.

Ex-Senator Francis Marion Cockrell has every right to feel proud of the unwavering support given him by the democratic minority of the Missouri legislature. No honest man will deny that had it been left to the voters of Missouri Senator Cockrell would have been re-elected by a rousing majority, or that his defeat before the legislature was brought about by a political fluke. The democratic members voted solidly for Senator Cockrell from start to finish, and in this way testified both to their loyalty as democrats and their confidence in the man who has represented Missouri in the senate with credit to himself and honor to his state for nearly a generation.

The death of Fred W. Faulkes, editor of the Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Evening Gazette, removes from the field of journalism an able and interesting character, and deprives Iowa of a man who has performed signal service in the interests of that magnificent commonwealth. Under his editorship the Gazette grew from humble beginnings to a commanding place in the journalistic field, and its editorial columns have always stood for high ideals and democratic principles. The people lost an able champion when Mr. Faulkes died, and his death deprived Mr. Bryan of a warm personal friend whose friendship was appreciated and whose memory will be cherished.

Alva Adams emerges from the Colorado gubernatorial embroglio a much bigger man than he was six months ago. He has demonstrated his patriotism and his love for law and order. The scheme by which he was deprived of the governorship was conceived in iniquity, and it required remarkable self-control on the part of Mr. Adams to submit to the injustice thrust upon him. If it were possible, Governor Peabody, who became a part of the unjust compact to deprive Mr. Adams of his seat, has lowered himself in the estimation of right-minded men. Mr. Adams can well afford to wait for the future to vindicate him, but the men responsible for the injustice may well worry over what that same future will bring to them.

The man who advances a righteous cause or a good principle may be ridiculed for a time, but he can afford to wait for the vindication that is sure to come. The same is true of political parties. Thousands of men and newspapers are now rejoicing because the state of Kansas has established a "sub-treasury" for oil, and a majority of these are men and newspapers that denounced in terms of bitterness and ridicule the men who, fifteen years ago, were advocating a "sub-treasury" for grain. It requires a very elastic imagination to conceive a difference in principle between storing oil by the state and storing grain by the state. The old time populists of Kansas are now enjoying their turn, and no one need doubt that they are taking full advantage of the opportunity.