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LINCOLN, NEB., SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1894.

THE republican candidate for congress in the Fifth district, W. E. Andrews, has allowed himself to be influenced by populist clamor on the silver question. Otherwise he is a rock-ribbed republican. He is a good man and a strong candidate. So far as the silver question is concerned he will learn.

TOM MAJORS, who in the absence of Governor Crouse, was acting governor, had an opportunity to demonstrate his capacity for government in the recent disturbances at South Omaha; and it is due to the lieutenant governor to say that he proved himself to be equal to the emergency. He was fair and firm without being a demagogue or a tryant.

THERE is a "breaking of home ties" now going on in this state infinitely more pathetic than the incident represented in the painting that provoked so much emotional consideration at the World's fair. In certain portions of Nebraska where poor settlers purchased a hundred and sixty acres of land and set up their household gods in a sod house or a rude shanty, mortgaging their all to get money enough to put in a crop, and year by year continuing the struggle for life—for existence, in an arid region never intended by nature for farming under ordinary conditions, a total crop failure has severed the strand of hope, and starvation staring them in the face cries, "Move on." Stakes are pulled up, the remnant of housekeeping paraphernalia is piled into a dilapidated wagon, and with the horses' heads turned toward the east, from whence the travelers came but a few years since, good-bye is said to the place where vain effort tried to establish a home. Disappointed, jaded, poorer than when they came, they begin to search for a new halting place, or push on to the parental fireside which they left with so much courage. The years wasted, with no anchoring they can call "home," enthusiasm gone, forced to begin the battle all over again or else ground down to a condition from which rescue is impossible, their lot is indeed a sad one, well calculated to stir the sympathy of the more fortunate. This yielding to adversity and breaking up of what it was hoped would be a comfortable, happy home, may be seen daily in a number of counties in Nebraska, where this year's crop failure has taught the final lesson, to wit; that the land must be irrigated or used for grazing.

THE democratic party in its handling of the tariff question has given the country an exhibition of its incapacity that will not soon be forgotten. It has frequently been said that the democratic party is not in any sense constructive; that it opposes and seeks to tear down, but that it does not originate or construct. The last twelve months have furnished the strongest possible illustration of this. Against a measure, the workings of which brought to this country

the greatest prosperity it has ever known, and which embodies in the most effective form the great and enduring principle of republicanism, there were leveled for many long and weary months, the tiny shafts of a picayunish policy of demolition. Democratic efforts to undo the McKinley law were guided by no patriotic policy. Tariff schedules were shaped by no hand of statesmanship. Back of the attack on the republican measure there was a desire to overthrow the work of the republican party; but there was also fear and discord and local selfishness and incompetence. The end is what was expected from the very beginning of the tariff struggle. The bill is an example of democratic cowardice and inability. It is a miserable compromise and makeshift, an attempt on the part of the democratic party to meet the demands of the protectionists, free traders and those who believe in a tariff for revenue only; and, consequently, it does not fulfill the promise of the national democratic platform, or satisfy any wing of the democratic party. The tariff bill in the democratic congress may be likened to the witches' cauldron in the dark cave in Macbeth. Democrats gathered around the bill, like the witches around the pot, and threw on protection, free trade, rebate, bounty and piled up inconsistencies, while from the oppressed country came the angry murmur of "double toil and trouble." If the witches emptied into the cauldron fillet of fenny snake, eye of newt and toe of frog, wool of bat and tongue of dog; adder's fork and blind worm's sting, lizard's leg and owlet's wing, the democrats were not a whit behind them in loading onto the tariff measure a mountain of absurdities; and the whole is quite as picturesque as the witches' brew.

If Feargus O'Connor and Ernest Jones were alive today they would feel a thrill of gratification at the announcement by Sir William Vernon Harcourt that the Roseberry ministry will next session introduce a bill providing for salaries for members of the house of commons. This was one of the six planks in the platform of principles of a party of half a century ago of which O'Connor and Jones were among the leaders. The declaration was called the people's charter, and the members of the party favoring it were known as Chartists. The crusade in which they were engaged started in 1838 and lasted ten or twelve years. The other planks in their charter were manhood suffrage, vote by ballot, abolition of the property qualification for members of Parliament, annual Parliaments and equal electoral districts. Practically speaking, every one of the six reforms demanded by the Chartists of 1838-50 have been granted except payment for members of Parliament. The abolition of the property qualification for members was brought about in 1858, and the ballot was introduced in 1872. In 1867 the basis of the franchise was broadened to such an extent that 1,000,000 new voters were created, and this was supplemented by the act of 1884, which added nearly 3,000 to the electorate. This has made the number of electors in the United Kingdom about one to every six and one-third of the population, while it is in the neighborhood of one to five in the United States. Thus a close approach to manhood suffrage has been obtained. In 1885 a redistribution of seats in Parliament occurred, which has gone a long way toward bringing about equal electoral districts. The only demands of the Chartists still ungranted are annual Parliaments and salaries for members, and nobody asks for the former any more. The movement to secure pay for members of Parliament will, of course, encounter strong opposition, as every other reform in England and most other countries does. It has no chance at the outset to run the gauntlet of the House of Lords. But that body in time will be forced to accept it, as it has been so many other measures which it hated and which it started out to obstruct. A great party will push the project and what is called the democratic spirit has grown so strong in the British Islands that it is sure to be indorsed in the House of Commons. Before this sentiment the notion that honor is sufficient compensation for membership in Parliament and that a salary would vulgarize and degrade the office will have to give way. This theory has lost its force since the great electoral reforms of 1832, 1867 and 1880 made the House of Commons representative of the whole people and not merely of the aristocratic and wealthy element, as before. To many of the present members of that body, service without pay is a serious embarrassment and hardship, and the proper thing to do is to provide a stated salary for all members, after the example of France and the United States.