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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, JANUARY 12, 1896.

Rosewater, with characteristic malignance, has attacked the university, and arrayed himself in opposition to the request of the board of regents for a reasonable appropriation by the legislature. His warfare is characteristic. Not content with a decent opposition, he has resorted to misrepresentation and bald lie, and as might have been expected, he indulges in an incidental abuse of the city of Lincoln. Rosewater is a public nuisance, and it is to be regretted that in this "free" country we are forced to tolerate such arrant scoundrels.

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The state university has never had the encouragement it deserves from the legislature. The average member of the legislature puts the university in the same class with the penitentiary and insane asylums, and persists in believing that it is run on much the same lines as these other institutions. Very few members ever take the trouble to make a personal investigation, and acquaint themselves with the work accomplished, and appeals from the university have in the years past been given the most scant consideration. As a matter of fact only a few thousand dollars have been appropriated by the legislature during the existence of the university. The buildings have all been erected and all operating expenses have been paid with the special university fund. Owing to the hard times the revenues from this fund are now considerably decreased, in the face of a greater need on the part of the university than has ever before existed. There has never been anything like the present demand for admission, and the chancellor finds it impossible with the resources at his command to take care of all those who would partake of the privileges of the university. The appropriation asked for is entirely reasonable, and if legislators would cut off useless employes and exercise a decent economy in legislature expenses generally, enough money could be saved in this way to more than answer the university's requirements.

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Recently men who contributed to Lincoln's growth and greatness have passed away. The land marks of the early days are one by one disappearing. Today Lincoln is like a forest that has been burned down—the second growth being relieved at very rare intervals by some tall tree that stands as a reminder of the pioneer days. These latter are now few in number, and when the wind blows they bend and tremble.

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Six years ago it is doubtful if a pair of skates could have been purchased. There was no skating. This winter skating is the most popular sport. Since the first of the year the lake has every drawn hundreds of skaters, men, women and children, and latterly the sport has been indulged in by moonlight. There are many places where the devotees of this hearty recreation can glide over glassy surfaces, and the new sport this winter, assisted by the propitious weather has taken a strong hold on the people.

## MR. BRYAN AND PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS.

Congressman Bryan has written a flippant article on "Republican Presidential Timber." He thinks Tom Reed easily leads in the race. Possibly in the city of Washington, D. C., Mr. Reed may appear to be in the lead; but throughout the country, and particularly in the west, there is no evidence of an overpowering sentiment for Reed.

Mr. Bryan makes the altogether unwarranted statement that "the A. P. A. organization, which wields considerable influence within the republican party, will probably favor Mr. Harrison."

The congressman thinks McKinley stock has been steadily falling for some time. "There is but one thing," he says, "which can restore Mr. McKinley's political fortunes, namely, the elevation of the tariff question into the position of supreme importance during the campaign of 1896." A great many well informed people are of the opinion that Mr. McKinley's political fortunes are now close to flood tide, and to them any talk about a restoration of McKinley's power appears ridiculous. But is there any reason to suppose that the tariff will not be the issue in '96 as it has been in all recent presidential contests? Indeed, after the campaign of '92, and the particularly disastrous results that have followed, there is every reason to believe that the tariff will easily be the chief issue. A trial of a so-called tariff for revenue only has been followed by an unparalleled industrial and commercial depression and the government has been reduced to the direst financial straits—forced into bankruptcy in fact. If all this doesn't make the tariff the supreme issue in '96, and raise McKinley far above all other republican presidential aspirants, it will be more than passing strange.

Foraker, Allison, Lincoln and Morton are mentioned as "dark horses." Mr. Bryan makes the following somewhat truthful statement concerning the first named of these dark horses: "Foraker has an advantage in that he carries his pyrotechnics with him, and can get up a greater variety of entertainment on short notice than any other republican statesman above, or for that matter, under the ground." Foraker and Bryan are a good deal alike in some respects.

Mr. Bryan concludes his article as follows: "The silver wedge is being driven deeper and deeper into the g. o. p., and sooner or later one of the elements must rebel. It will doubtless be the silver element, because a large majority of those who are in control of the party organization are wedded to the gold standard, and those who long for the gold and silver coinage of the constitution will continually be driven out of the republican organization. Whether the split will come in the convention of '96 will depend upon the rapidity with which the republican silver sentiment grows."

Mr. Bryan's opportunities for observation may be unusual, or he may be suffering from a hallucination. If the silver wedge is being driven deeper and deeper into the g. o. p. that fact has escaped the notice of the leaders of the party. A consideration of recent political events will convince anyone not a hypochondriac like Mr. Bryan that whatever of free silver sentiment there was in the republican party has declined with great rapidity in the last two years. The last general election told the story of declining free silver sentiment and the advance of sound money principles. In Nebraska this was particularly noticeable. Let Mr. Bryan explain Judge Strode's tremendous plurality, for instance.

## AN ENERGETIC WOMAN.

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