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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, FEBRUARY 9, 1894.

Rev. Luther P. Ludden appears just now to be without honor, either in his own country or abroad. Perhaps he has not done all that he might have done, but much of the abuse that has been heaped upon him is unmerited. The people who are so quick to complain and abuse, do not appreciate the difficulties of Mr. Ludden's position. The most efficient man that ever lived could not distribute relief supplies on a large scale such as Mr. Ludden has done without making some mistakes, and nobody could do this work and escape criticism. We believe Mr. Ludden has honestly tried to do the best he could, and we admire the manly way in which he has stood up under the fusillade of spite and spleen.

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The legislature is well on its second month now and barring the passage of the relief measure, it has accomplished nothing. Just now there is a good deal of talk about regulating stock yards charges, and it is said that the stock yards companies will have to come to the terms dictated by certain influential members. Bill Paxton stands ready to hand over the necessary amount, and when the end of the session comes it will be found that there is no radical anti-stock yards legislation on the books. What with Bill Paxton and the representatives of the telephone, telegraph and insurance companies, etc., to bleed, some of the members will take home several dollars more than their salary.

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The senate is, as usual, utterly regardless of public opinion. It continues in its shameless waste of public money through the employment of an army of useless employes. There are thirty-three senators and ninety-eight employes—three employes for each senator. The senate is a fraud. The whole legislature is a humbug.

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The *State Journal* boasts of its complete reports of the proceedings of the legislature. Why doesn't it say something about the lobbyists, the members of the powerful third house? Why doesn't it tell about the smooth bribe givers and corruptionists, the oily and fat pursed scoundrels that shadow the legislator, and "influence" legislation? There are plenty of them in the city all the time, and there is nothing very secret about their operations. Why does the *Journal* omit all mention of these most important persons? The *World-Herald* is the only paper that pretends to tell the truth about the legislature. Its reports are worth reading. Metcalfe knows everything that is going on, and when he gets down to telling the plain truth, the home office doesn't blue-pencil him.

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"How Shall the Rich Escape," by Dr. Frank S. Billings, of pathological fame, formerly connected with the state university in this city, and probably the biggest intellectual crank in the country, is a compilation of heterodoxy. No book we have ever seen is so full of unorthodox views—the established order doesn't suit him in any

particular. Everything from political parties to the marriage relation is attacked. Here is an extract: "The highest possible evolution of man is such a degree of sexual control that there shall be no relation between the sexes and the production of children shall cease. Who cares an iota whether humanity continues or not. The question is that it lives at as little misery as possible." Startling as this statement is it is not surprising coming from Billings. Something has gone to his head. Much learning has made him mad. God, he says, is a fetich, and christianity is crumbling to pieces. Jesus was an anarchist and communist. He combats the idea of the equality of man. Dr. Billings finds morality in a strange place, viz.: "in the business law of self protection." He says: "Individuals owe nothing to the state." He says there may be virtue in suicide, and he upholds foeticide and infanticide, under many circumstances. He attacks our form of government. The book is thoroughly Billingsque. It will probably fall flat.

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Louie Meyer was conveyed to the insane asylum the other day. Two years ago Lincoln had two great financiers. Now one is in the pen at Sioux Falls and the other is in the asylum.

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The trouble in this town seems to be that everybody wants to have a charity dispensing bureau of his own and have somebody else furnish the stuff. There isn't too much charity in Lincoln, but there are too many people puttering away as charity dispensers.

## GOOD WORDS FOR McALLISTER.

New York papers have begun to discuss Ward McAllister's successor. "Nemo," the social authority on the *Vanderbilt* paper, the *Mail and Express*, says: "Mr. McAllister will have no successor. The Patriarchs may and doubtless will elect a secretary in his stead, but I doubt that anybody can fill the place which he occupied in our social life. Nobody that I know possesses the requisite qualities or enthusiasm for the work in which he took so much pride to successfully carry it on. I do not now allude especially to the Patriarchs' balls, which may yet move forward for sometime of their own momentum; the outside part, if I may call it so, wherein lay his particular strength—that place in the public eye as the organizer and leader of social gayety which he filled so interestingly and so picturesquely will, I fear, long remain vacant. And this is in the nature of things. There is not now so great a need of talent like his, as there was when he first took up his labors; society is already well marshalled and arrayed for the perpetuation of its existence and depends for guidance but little upon individual effort to keep it going along the right path. That this is so is largely due to him—more so, perhaps, that it is agreeable for us to admit. That is his legacy, and it cannot be taken away from its beneficiaries."

"Nemo" also discusses Mr. McAllister from another and very interesting standpoint—his incorruptibility. He says: "It was in the nature of things that anybody undertaking to do what Mr. McAllister has done should expect to be attacked. He who stood guard over the doorway through which entrance might most easily be gained to the sacred precincts of society necessarily made many enemies among the large and rapidly growing class composed of those who think that because they have money they ought to have admittance everywhere. No means were spared, as I happen to know, by many of these gentry to obtain concessions which Mr. McAllister felt constrained from a sense of duty to refuse; nor was there hesitation on the part of some to resort to bribery where other means had failed. To all such Mr. McAllister opposed a relentless and unbending disapprobation, which no cajolery could influence, and which left nothing to be done by the offender save to quietly subside. He was charged by many with being unduly liberal in taking up "new" people, but I happen to have had actual proof that none got in through his means who did not first show good reasons for their admittance. You would be amazed to know how many people sought his advice from day to day and year to year—how multifarious were the agencies brought to bear to enlist his influence, in view of which it is marvelous that he in such matters rarely erred. The good done by his service to the general body of society is incalculable. By exercising that eternal vigilance which in society is the price not of liberty but of exclusiveness, he kept the lists free from the elements which hemmed it in on all sides, and which never ceased to menace it with the power of overwhelming numbers."