

the pushing forward of Mr. Manderson is a part of the scheme to take Nebraska out of the McKinley column." In the same article the News insinuates that Mr. Manderson's supposed candidacy is in the interest of the Burlington road, remarking: "The News has it from undoubted political authority that the Burlington has been looking with suspicious eye upon Senator Thurston's taking the reins into his own hands and controlling the delegation to the national convention, believing it to be a move on the part of the Union Pacific, with which the senator has until recently been closely allied, to regain its old position as a political dictator. Therefore it is that ex-Senator Manderson, the general attorney of the Burlington, has him brought forward to lead the opposition of the Thurston dynasty." This is plausible enough, but it is an injustice to Mr. Manderson to attribute to him a political purpose palpably corrupt. There is a class of people in this state, and the News is a representative of this class, who believe, or affect to believe, that a railway corporation is run chiefly for the purpose of corrupting politics. These people unhesitatingly stigmatize every person who may be connected in any capacity with a railway company. The railroads have not had a sweet and wholesome influence on politics in this state, it is true. They have often controlled legislatures and state officers, and stood between the people and their rights. But they are not wholly bad. Nothing is. There are honest and honorable men in the railway service. And the managements are not entirely given over to corrupting politics. Mr. Manderson has never been accused of being anybody's tool, and those who are acquainted with that gentleman will not believe that his much talked about candidacy is nothing more nor less than a political scheme of the Burlington. Besides, the railway company of which Mr. Manderson is attorney, is not particularly interested in the presidency or in national politics. The Union Pacific has interests that can be protected at Washington. The Burlington is concerned almost solely with governors, members of the state board of equalization, and legislators.

There is one thing Governor Holcomb ought to do. He should peremptorily discharge Bill Dech and J. B. Jones.

Col. Harwood in his scintillating paper, the Herald, is somewhat enthusiastic in his praise of republicans. A subscriber writing to The Courier calls attention to the fact and asks: "Do you think Col. Harwood is getting ready to flop back to the republican party?" Now flopping is hardly an appropriate word to use in connection with a gentleman of Col. Harwood's dignity and size. No one would speak of Col. Harwood as taking a hop, skip and a jump, or dancing a highland fling, and it is just as inapt to speak of him as flopping. Col. Harwood might recede from democracy and reassert his allegiance to the republican party; but as for "flopping," never!

If the Honorable Julius Sterling Morton should become a candidate for the democratic nomination for president he would undoubtedly make his campaign on the garden seed issue. There have been several secretaries of agriculture, including the honest farmer, the late Jerry Rusk, but it remained for Mr. Morton to discover the potency of garden seed in the promotion of notoriety. Mr. Morton is a farmer himself, but he is down in seeds. They are altogether out of date.

James Whitehead, of Callaway, has accepted the position of agent for the state board of public lands and buildings at the penitentiary. The board

might have searched a long time and not found a better man than Mr. Whitehead. The new appointee was one of the prominent members of the legislature of seven years ago, and there was a number of clever men in that session. Mr. Whitehead lived in a sod house, out in Custer county, and he came to the legislature direct from the fields. He was a plain man, and at first he didn't attract much attention. After awhile he found his feet and spoke for five or ten minutes, what about I do not now recall. From that moment he became a leading member and speaker of the house. There was a particular charm about Whitehead's speaking. He has a pleasant voice and he had a way of clothing his sentiment in a fashion almost classic. He was forcible, and often eloquent. Moreover he was nearly always on the right side. He inspired everybody with confidence in his integrity. Afterwards Mr. Whitehead held a government appointment in a western land office, and was a candidate for congress.

Tim Sedgewick, of the York Times, has made something of an impression by his demand for bigger men for public office in this state. It is possible that there will be a general desire on the part of delegates in this year's republican state convention to select for the office of governor a man who has moral and mental fitness for the office. There is a prospect that the small men will be passed by for a properly proportioned candidate. It is a good sign when such a sentiment asserts itself early in the campaign.

When, for instance a man like Jack McColl, who is a good citizen, presents himself as a candidate, delegates may ask to know his special qualifications for the office to which he aspires; and if the replies are not satisfactory it is altogether probable that he will be passed by for some other aspirant who is able to measure up to the gubernatorial requirements. McColl is a straightforward, honest man. There are thousands of straightforward, honest men in this state whom nobody would think of pushing as a candidate for governor. This year is a good time to put forth an extra effort and get a big man for the big office.

In politics you can never tell what is going to happen. Love may be uncertain, but politics is ——— uncertain. You may scratch a saint and uncover a Tartar. There may be any kind of a development. Now when Mr. Lawlor was nominated for councilman I doubt if any one suspected that behind the suavity of this gentleman there lurked an enthusiasm for morality absolutely irrepressible when once aroused. Then boys who thronged the polls and used guasion on recalcitrant voters to the end that Lawlor might occupy a seat in the council, little thought that the object of their solicitude would one day, and in the near future, take rank with Anothony Comstock and Col. Alexander Hogeland and Brer Wolfenbarger and Byron Beall, and be known to fame as a Social Reformer and the Promoter of Purity and General Protector of Little Boys. Once already in these columns Councilman Lawlor has been called great. He is more than that. He is good, and when a councilman is good the fact is worthy of mention. The Honorable William Lawlor ought to run for president. First this good councilman introduced and pushed through his curfew ordinance. Then he brings out an ordinance to prevent little boys from smoking cigarettes. When this is a law he will introduce a measure to prevent children under the age of twelve from chewing gum.

The Philadelphia Ledger innocently remarked the other day that "the fire

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