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THE ALLIANCE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN
NEBRASKA
STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

VOL. I.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 21, 1889.

NO. 10.

Editorial Notes and Clippings.

Clubbing Rates.
To those of our readers who might wish to take a Daily newspaper—one whose opinions are its own, fearless and outspoken, we would say that we have made arrangements with the publishers of the Daily Call, of this city, whereby we can furnish their Daily and THE ALLIANCE at \$6 per year. OF THE ALLIANCE and Weekly Call, one year for \$1.50. The weekly Call is a 6 col. quarto well filled with good family reading. This is an excellent chance to get two papers for nearly the price of one. Sample copies of Daily or Weekly Call will be sent upon application.

THIS TIME IT IS YOU.
Your subscription has expired, and unless renewed within the next fifteen days, your name will be removed from our books and the paper discontinued. We trust you will feel it your duty to send us your subscription card and continue with us. Should be marked with a blue cross IT MEANS YOU.

A letter from Bro. Root of Omaha, one from Bro. Stebbins of North Platte, one from Bro. Petersen of Big Springs, and one from Illinois are crowded out this week. They will appear in our next.

We learn that at the coming meeting of the Alliance, of Adams county that measures will be adopted looking to a thorough organization of the county. The field is ripe, and an old time awakening is looked for.

The Farmers Alliance is a practical organization for the farmers and MEAN BUSINESS. It invites all farmers who have not as yet become members to thoroughly investigate and study its principles. Write to the state secretary, J. M. Thompson, Lincoln, for all information, who will cheerfully respond.

RETRIBUTION has at last overtaken ex-Judge David S. Terry, the notorious bully who killed Senator Broderick in a duel thirty years ago, and has so long terrorized the Pacific coast. There is little doubt but that the prompt action of Marshall Nagle, who was guarding Justice Field, prevented the desperado, and his equally notorious wife, Sarah Althea Hill, from adding another victim to his list of innocent men whom he has murdered. No blame can be attached to the marshal as he was acting under orders from Attorney General Miller and if an inquest must be held it is better that Terry should be the subject than another innocent man should be sacrificed, to this murderer Terry's insatiable hate.

Among the many aspirants for congressional honors in the second district, made vacant by the death of Congressman Laird, we note the following: Hon. N. V. Harlan, John M. Franse, Judge Post and Captain Scott of York county; Ex-governor Dawes, Judge Morris and George H. Hastings of Saline county; John Jansen, of Fillmore county; Judge Norval, of Seward county; Smith Caldwell, of Nuckolls county; J. B. Pinsmore, of Clay county; Gen. C. J. Diiworth, H. Bostwick, E. N. Crane and F. P. Olmstead, of Adams county; Secretary of State Laws; Judge Gaslin and McKinney, of Webster county. There are a large number of back precincts to hear from yet before this list is complete.

NEBRASKA'S corn crop is receiving a large share of free advertising and there is perhaps no doubt it will be the greatest yield ever grown in the State. But sometimes in these wicked days of trusts and combines, it does not look like good policy to keep the outside world so well posted in regard to how or what the farmers are doing for fear of a combine against them when selling day comes. In all other branches of industry and trade there is always more or less secrecy as to stock on hand and cost of production. But in the case of the farmer, he is figured up and down and out sometimes on his own reports, every newspaper heralds his business the amount of corn he raises his hogs and his cattle are numbered and there is no doubt that all the information is used to his disadvantage by combines against him on market day, so that sometimes we think the farmer and newspaper tell many things about the crops that should be kept a profound secret or as much so as possible for the farmers benefit and profit.

And now comes the wily politician and the capitalistic press of the country and tells us that the indebtedness of the country being in excess of the money in circulation is insignificant.

That one dollar is capable of liquidating thousands of dollars of debts. As an illustration they cite us to the twelve men who were sitting around a table, all owing each other a dollar. The man at the head of the table takes out a dollar and passes it to the person next to him to whom he owes it. He passes it to the next whom he owes, and so on around the table the dollar goes, coming back to the man who started it and TWELVE DOLLARS OF DEBTS PAID WITH A SINGLE DOLLAR. Well, that might do as an illustration of the powers of the "Almighty Dollar" but it will not pass muster under the exigencies of the present. If all the millions of indebtedness of the people were to each other—if farmer A held a mortgage on farmer B's farm, and farmer B on farmer C's farm and so on, the amount of farmer B's mortgage paid to farmer A, if corresponding with the amount held against A by B, and paid to B by A and so on, a million of mortgages could be lifted with \$500. But this is not the case, as every school boy in Nebraska knows. This great mountain of mortgaged indebtedness is held by the great monied centers of this country and Europe, and if farmer A by some lucky combination of circumstances is able to pay off the mortgage on his farm, away it floats to the money center, and this class being the creditor class, owing nobody else, STAYS THERE unless borrowed out.

So, under these circumstances, how can the great debtor class of this country ever hope to get out from under the galling yoke of debt when there is not sufficient money in circulation to pay their debts. There is only one way—the inevitable under our present system—and that is to turn over all they have got to the creditor class and be a mere chattel.

WILL THE SHYLOCK LOOSEN HIS GRIP.
The money power of the nation is becoming so arrogant and dictatorial that party leaders are becoming alarmed. They see a sentiment rapidly rising against any further encroachments of this power, which, if not heeded, will wreck their parties. On the other hand, the money power has had its sway so long that it, too, is a menacing danger to the party that dares to ignore its demands. Therefore, a crisis is approaching. A compromise must either be effected or a political revolution is imminent. Which will it be? This money power has been stealthily working for the past twenty-five years to bring about the condition of things where we find ourselves today. Will they consent to lay aside the sickle when the harvest is ripe? This is the question. They may consent to congress doing something temporary for the relief of the people in order to ward off for the time being the pending crisis, but as for interfering with the system which they have for so long been gradually bringing about, they will NEVER consent to that. Without a complete eradication of this system the people cannot for once hope for relief of a permanent character. Just so long as a few national bankers control the money of the nation, just so long will the indebtedness of the people exceed the amount of money in circulation, and the fruits of their industry—their homes—pass into the hands of an idle aristocracy. Therefore, be not deceived if something should be done by the coming congress for our relief outside of interfering with the millionaire and paper system, the national bank act, as it will only be a sup, a morsel to quiet us. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

The money gods of Wall street were a secret skulking foe in the rear while our soldiers were fighting the enemy in front. They got an "exception" clause placed in the honest dollar of Abraham Lincoln, and made it dishonest—only worth 43 cents, in this depreciated money the soldier was paid. He sold it to these Moorish pirates for the 43 cents, who in turn, invested it in government bonds at face value. With these bonds they established the robber system called national banks. With this system they control the money of the nation, contracting and expanding it at will for speculative purposes. They want to do a little extra at contraction now and want the government to help them, so they again make a stab

at the soldier by objecting to the liberal policy of Corporal Tanner in the allowing of these veterans claims. At their first fire the machinery of the government backed them up, and Dr. Carpenter, the liberal examiner of the pension department, Tanner's main support, falls. A warning to Tanner to be careful how he trifles with the powers that be and controls the policy of the government—Wall street. It would never do to allow a liberal payment of the soldiers claims as millions of dollars would be put in circulation and thus interfere with a system of free robbery. But the soldier has at last discovered this masked battery which has been firing into him from the rear ever since the guns of Sumpter shook the Continent, and if we discern things correctly, there is "blood in the moon." In their grapplings with this well fortified band of freebooters they will have the undivided support of the people of the nation.

While at Hastings, this week, we had the pleasure of meeting with Bro. H. B. McGaw, a former secretary of the County Alliance of Adams county. We found that our worthy brother had not lost a bit of his old time enthusiasm, in fact had taken on an extra head of steam, and was forging ahead at a rate as never before. He is sanguine that by a careful and consistent course from now on, the success of the Alliance is assured. We mention Bro. McGaw as an index to the fact that the old guard still lives.

THIS TIME IT IS YOU.
In another column will be found a short paragraph with the above head over it. It is our intention to make THE ALLIANCE the best farm journal in the state, and in order to do this we must have your hearty support. At present our expenses are heavy and our income small, but we hope by a diligent effort on our own part, and a little push once in a while from those who are interested in this great reform movement, to be able in the near future to increase our office force and enlarge the paper. Now it each and every one of our subscribers will send us the name of a neighbor accompanied with the price of subscription we shall in a very short time be able to do this. In regard to the paragraph spoken of above, we would say that this is done not only to protect ourselves but also you, as we are aware that people are getting tired of having papers thrust upon them without their consent. We therefore take this method of letting you know when your subscription expires. We hope, however, that we shall not be obliged to discontinue sending the paper to any of our present subscribers on this account, for if hard work will do it we shall make it one that you cannot afford to be without.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.
(Under this head we solicit short articles from the people upon any and all subjects of interest. We cannot undertake to be responsible however for any matter appearing under this head—the design being to allow the greatest freedom to writers whereby they can discuss, and thus take an interest in the great questions of the day which are so materially affecting the people. Write plain but never mind your spelling, grammar, or anything of that sort, we'll attend to that. Sign what you choose to your articles, but send us your name always.)

MASON CITY, Aug. 16.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—In reading Bro. Mechem's letter in No. 8 I feel like saying a word in regard to the papers we read. The Alliances of Algernon township have resolved not to support any paper that will not work for our interest. The two papers in Mason City, viz: The Transcript and the Advocate, one a Democratic and one a republican paper, were requested to publish the memorial to congress, which was published in No. 1 of THE ALLIANCE. They first agreed to publish it, but afterward changed their minds, and now will not publish it. Now, brother farmers, this goes to prove that both old parties are trying to keep us ignorant on financial questions. They think we don't need to know anything only how to raise grain and live hard. If the papers of this country had done their duty we would have heard of the Farmers' Alliance sooner. As it is, it is right in our midst before we hear of it.

ELWOOD, Aug. 14.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—Yes, I am willing to give your paper a trial, and here is one dollar for subscription. According to my way of thinking, every farmer who is a lover of truth, and especially those who are members of the Alliance, if they are not willing to give their support to such papers as yours they are not very reliable members. It is a fact that

many of us farmers are really too smart for any use, so that it is a hard matter for anybody to learn us anything. But it ought not to make any difference, we ought to stand by the truth, we ought to protect the truth, because it is an article that is very scarce in this world. It can be found in your paper, but in few others; yes in few others. The sample copies you have sent me are divided out among neighbors, and if you feel like sending me more I shall be glad to distribute them. I am not a member of the Alliance, but I know my duty is to join them if I ever get a chance, although I have heard so-called smart farmers claim that we have got no business to buck against rings, trusts, railroad corporations, or any kind of public grabbers and pickpockets, and why not? Because they have got the money, you know.

**Yours very truly,
JOHN P. ANDERSON.**

HANSEN, NEB., 1889.
EDITOR ALLIANCE.—It seems queer that it takes a great many people so long to see their situation. I see by quite a number who write to the ALLIANCE that they still think that the Alliance should take to one or the other of the old "parties." I suppose it is because we have trained in the old "parties" so long that it has become second nature with some of us. The old "parties" were all right for the purpose which brought them into existence, but they have passed their days of usefulness and seem to simply strive to retain some fat office and legislate to their own and corporation benefit, ignoring the people who placed them there to represent them. Brother farmers we have no use for any party, all we need is simply to perfect our organization, then after that is accomplished, select men from among ourselves to represent our interests and elect them to do business for the farmer and laboring class of our state instead of railroads and monopolies. I would ask, how can we ever expect to reap any benefit so long as we send some lawyer, doctor or professional man to represent us? Again, how can we expect any help from a few of our own class when the majority is professional, it would be like playing a "sheep among wolves" and expect the sheep to win the game. Some will say the farmer is not educated and their occupation is different, and they would sell out just as quick as any one. God knows we might send the poorest one among us to the legislature and they could not do any worse than some we have there, as it is the farmers and laborers are looked upon as a class but a little above the brutes, all we are fit for is to toil and support the whole business. Our business men seem to be very good men and take an interest in the farmer as long as there is no move among us to better our condition, when that is done it is a different thing, as I will show by one little transaction which transpired at this place. There was formed over a year ago a corporation of Alliance farmers, to do a general business at Hansen, Neb., in due time a store was started, as is customary the whole trade is represented by runners, in May a runner came and took an order from the farmers store, in due time the manager of the store received this reply.

OMAHA, NEB., May 11, '89.
FARMERS ALLIANCE, HANSEN, NEB.
GENTLEMEN:
We have your order to our Mr. Verphol and regret that we cannot fill same as it would interfere seriously with our other trade in Adams county, were we to sell to you.

**Truly yours,
PAXTON & GALLACHER.**
Now you can see the "hand writing on the wall" very plain, the merchants of Adams county have refused to patronize the Omaha house if they sold to the Alliance. They might as well say to the farmers, you have no right to do anything but farm and come to us with your produce and we will fix the price for you, and then charge you what we please for our goods. They seem to lose sight of the fact that the prosperity of the farmer and laborer means prosperity to all branches of business. Now brother farmers let us take more interest in perfecting our organization, talk to your neighbor who does not belong and show him that we need him and he needs us, do not let your local Alliances go down, if there is only a dozen of you stick together and wait until we are organized, then in due time we will receive information from the proper source. We can all work together and accomplish our purpose and see if we cannot get together a legislature that will treat us with respect if nothing more, and not do as our late senators did: Resolve that the Alliance misrepresents facts and have no right to open our mouths.

**Xours sincerely,
L. S. ORCUTT.**

PHILLIPS, NEB., Aug. 13.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—I enclose order for one year's subscription to your valuable paper. I send you a short communication from the Phillips Farmers' Alliance Business Association, incorporated with \$15,000 capital. It is our aim to transact a general business such as we may profitably handle. The prime object is to ship our produce and thereby receive all that the railroads leave us, which, by the way, is not a great deal. We have about 150 members composed from three Alliances, Munroe Center, Prairie Center and the St. Joe Farmers' Alliance. We commenced business Aug. 5th. Since starting the monophs have been paying closer for grain than they ever have before. I think their aim is to detract from the farmers move, thereby holding out the impression that our institution is a failure. With regard to prices it may have its effect with some, but the majority will not be deceived by such a move for well they know that if we allow them to hold sway they will soon put down prices to the old basis, and the same with regard to weights. They promise to make it interesting for us, yet we know from their actions that they are already sick. They desire to sell their buildings at actual cost, thereby showing that they are aware the move is not portentous of good to them. We hope to see the time soon come when farmers everywhere will own buildings through which to ship our produce. We think it would be grand work for our state officers and state paper to promulgate such a move throughout the state and United States.

**E. H. BALL,
Sec. and Agt. F. A. B. A., Phillips, Neb.**

NELSON, NEB., Aug. 13.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—The sample copies sent me I read over with great pleasure to hear of a great many of the thick headed farmers and other working men are beginning to feel the shoe pinch, so they are now partly opening their eyes before the storm cloud bursts to entomb them in the worst despotism ever known. The farmers and producers convention recently held at Huron, Dakota, had the right ring with it. You have thoughtfully said Dakota's wise example is well worthy of imitation by the Alliances all over the country. Yes, and I should say by every man and woman who have the interest and welfare of their country at heart. I greatly admire the manhood in passing the following resolution:

Resolved, That we will not support any paper that is not in sympathy with the Alliance movement and will not give it its friendly support. This is the principle I have advocated and upheld for years. Drop all the lying, shamming, capitalistic papers, patronize alone those papers fighting your battles, then you send an entering wedge to the downfall of both the corrupt old parties.

JOHN H. HUNT.
SPANNUTH PR., LINCOLN CO. NEB.,
AUG. 12th, 89.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—Your paper is a welcome weekly visitor to our home and we hope it will continue to visit, not only to us but many more. Our community is new as yet and we are all new and poor homesteaders, but with the help of providence and the ALLIANCE we hope to gain an earthy and educational wealth in the future.

It is high time that the farmers of this state unite and see that laws are made to benefit them and the laboring classes. If things should keep on going the way they have been for the last twenty years, there would soon be no class in this country but millionaires and paupers.

Now a few words to the members of the Alliances throughout the state. We are now approaching the time when caucuses for the conventions to be held, and the ward politicians are laying their bait to catch the "horny handed granger" to send the delegate to the convention who will favor their schemes, it is at this caucus that we farmers ought to be present and see that the right man is sent to the county convention, and the foundation to a pure government is formed; but nine times out of ten the men that ought to see to the caucus will stay at home and afterwards kick himself, for the man he wanted to go to the convention did not go, and the ward politician got his man to represent him in the convention. Now brother farmers see that good and faithful men be sent to the conventions, and the corner stone to a pure

government is laid.
Some of our members are in favor of a third party. Let us try the old party once more and see that good men are put up for office, as both old parties have very good principles if they do not get into the hands of shylocks politically; if we cannot purify them in the way described we will and must form a third party.
C. F. PREITAUER.
GANDY, NEB., Aug. 3.—EDITOR ALLIANCE.—Enclosed please find draft for two dollars, subscriptions for the paper. The farmers of Logan county and vicinity are waking up to the needs of the hour. And well they might, for I do not think there is a more oppressed people in the state of Nebraska than in this county. Scarcely a quarter section proved up on to this date but what some eastern corporation has a death grip on it to the occupant (cannot call him an owner for he is not), and the railroads, grain and stock merchants, the same death hold on the products of the soil. For Heaven's sake what is the outlook? Anything but encouraging. But the workers of this great state have made a move all along the line, the clouds of darkness are breaking, and so will monopoly if every farmer and mechanic will put his shoulder to the wheel and push to the final. It certainly is encouraging to see how the farmers and mechanics are taking hold of this mighty work in this part of the field, and ere long we hope to send you a report of such a work here that our foes cannot gainsay or treat it lightly.
Yours heart and soul for the right.
CHAS. S. WELLS, Sr.
Chaplain of Alliance 468.

Sullivan Changes His Mind.
Suppose John L. Sullivan should change his mind from his present pugilistic way of thinking and swear by all power of Heaven and earth that under no circumstances could he be induced to lay his hands on any mortal man, (quite a change) and he had \$1,000 in each pocket, and would meet in a lonely spot one of his old acquaintances who knew of both of these circumstances, and said friend was somewhat ahead of his friends in the line of coaxing money out of people. Now you may imagine the following dialogue:

"John, I want your money."
"You can't have it."
"I will have it."
"No, you won't."
"You can't help yourself, because you will not fight nor lay hands on me, although you could whip as many such men as I as could get around you."
"You shall not," says John, but Mr. Thief walks up and takes the money out of John's pocket. All the time John is growling about such treatment, and the thief goes into another pocket, and John says it is naughty, but thief does not stop until John's pockets are all cleaned out and he is a beggar. Now the thief will laugh at John for his foolishness and his weakness. And yet, this thief was a very small man, but he took advantage of the foolishness and silliness of John, who could have defended himself and his property if he had but made a slight effort.

Now, gentle readers, let us make an application. John L. is the many thousand farmers of these great United States, all standing aloof from each other and opposing any and all organizations of the farmer on the ground that they can't do anything by uniting, and the little thief is the many trusts, pools, combines and corporations that are organized to fish the farmer and then laugh when the farmer says it is naughty to steal.
Now for application No. 2:
John L. is the man who does not believe in secret societies. The thief does believe in any and all things that will give him money that he does not earn, regardless of from whom it comes. John will not organize under any circumstances, but the thief does organize and the result is the same as it always is, the anti-secret man has his enemies for his counsel, for his friends, and the fact that he does not believe in discriminating keeps him still in the clutches of this very class all the time.

J. Y. M. S.
NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.
Subscribers not receiving their paper regularly will please report the fact promptly to us.

Superstitions About Eggs.
"To hang an egg on Ascension Day in the roof of a house," said Reginald Scott, in 1854, "preserve the same from all harts." Probably this was written with an eye to the "hurts" arising from witchcraft, with which eggs are supposed to possess certain mysterious powers. In north Germany, if you have a desire to see the ladies of the broomstick on May Day, their festival, you must take an egg laid on Maundy Thursday and stand where two roads meet; or else you must go to church on Good Friday, but come out before the blessing. It was formerly quite an article of domestic belief that the shells must be broken after eating; eggs laid on the witch should sail out to sea in them; or as Sir Thomas Browne declared, lest they "should draw or prick their names therein, and venificiously mischief" the person who had partaken of the egg. North Germans, ignoring this side of the question, say: "Break the shells or you will get the ague," and Netherlanders advise you to secure yourselves against the attacks of this disagreeable visitor by eating on Easter Day a couple of eggs which were laid on Good Friday. Scotch fishes, who may be reckoned among the most superstitious of folks, believe that contrary winds and much vexation of spirit will result of having eggs on board with them, while in the west of England it is considered very unlucky to bring birds' eggs into the house, although they may be hung up with impunity on the outside. Mr. George, in his "Folklore of the Northeast of Scotland," gives us some curious particulars concerning chickens and the best method of securing a satisfactory brood. The hen, it seems, should be set on an odd number of eggs, or the chances are that most, if not all, will be added—a mournful prospect for the hen wife; also, they must be placed under the mother bird at the sunset, or the chickens will be blind. If the woman who performs this office carries the eggs wrapped up in her chemise the result will be hen birds; if she wears a man's hat, cocks. Furthermore, it is well for her to repeat a story charm, "At in the cock's A'oot thaegethik." There are many farmer's wives, even in the present day, who would never dream of allowing eggs to be brought into the house or taken out after dark, this being extremely unwise. Captain Bede mentions the case of a farmer's wife in Rutland who received a sitting of ducks' eggs from a neighbor at nine o'clock at night. "I cannot imagine how she could have been so foolish," said the good woman, much distressed; and her visitor, upon inquiry, was told that ducks' eggs brought into a house after sunset would never be hatched. A Lincolnshire superstition declares that if eggs are carried over running water they will be useless for setting purposes; while in Aberdeenshire it is an idea prevalent among the country folks that should it thunder a short time before chickens are hatched they will die in the shell. The same wiseacre may be credited with the notion that the year the farmer's good wife presents him with an addition to his family is a bad season for the poultry yard. "Bairns and chickens," say they, "dinna thrive in ae year," the probable explanation being that the good wife, taken up with the care of her bairn, has less time to attend to the rearing of the chickens. Besides the divination practiced with the white of an egg, which certainly appears of a vague and unsatisfactory character, another species of fortune-telling with eggs is in vogue in Northumberland on the eve of St. Agnes. A maiden desirous of knowing what her future lord is like is enjoined to boil an egg, after having spent the whole day fasting and in silence, then to extract the yolk, fill the cavity with salt and eat the whole, in the time she should be highly unpalatable supper finished, the heroic maid must walk backward, uttering the invocation to the saint:

"Sweet St. Agnes, work thy fast,
Or I ever be to marry man
Or man to marry me,
I hope this night to see."

If all necessary rites and ceremonies have been duly performed, the girl may confidently count upon seeing her future husband in her dreams—dreams which we would presume, as our Yankee friends say, would bear a strong resemblance to nightmare.—EX.

The West Point Jacket.
It is said that the main reason for the movement to change the uniform of the men in the first class at West Point is that they change their systems with the present gray jackets. These jackets are almost to a certain tightness in the first place, and since they don't wear out as fast as the cadets grow they naturally get tighter and tighter each few months. The women have taught the boys to be very proud of the slim waists that distinguish the corps, so that each fellow hangs on to his jacket as long as he can. It is said that one day when a cadet fell into the water his commanding officer ordered him to take off his jacket and bring it. The youth did so and displayed himself, nothing but an undershirt, with cuffs and collars pinned to it. An investigation followed and showed that whereas, most of the bigger boys had been compelled to discard their shirts, there were even some who had to cut away the lower halves of their undershirts in order to button their jackets around their waists. This will not surprise soldiers. In every country there are weak regiments that achieve good looks more or less in the same way. There are even tales of the sort about some of the duties in our Seventh.—New York Sun.

It Was Largely Force of Habit.
"Papa," said the fair girl with a touch of sadness in her tones, "I have received a note from William saying you kicked him as he left the house last night."
"Yes," replied papa, "I have always since your expenses, and I footed this bill merely to be consistent."—Drake's Magazine.

"How did you like the sermon today?"
"Well, it was such a good discourse that I slept through the whole of it."—Boston Globe.