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# THE ALLIANCE.

OFFICIAL ORGAN  
NEBRASKA  
STATE FARMERS' ALLIANCE

VOL. I.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28, 1889.

NO. 11.

## Editorial Notes and Clippings.

**THIS TIME IT'S YOU.**  
Your subscription has expired, and unless renewed within the next fifteen days, it will be discontinued. If you wish to continue your subscription, please send us the amount in advance. We will send you a new copy of the paper, and you will receive it as usual. Should this paragraph be marked with a blue cross it means you.

In making one millionaire we make ten thousand paupers. They are made out of the blood and tears of men. Can we afford these luxuries?

The government loans money to the rich for nothing and refuses to loan it to the poor at a good rate of interest. Have the o. p. organs got brains enough to see this?

God made the earth and gave it to all men. Yet a comparatively few have seized upon it, and made laws so that their brothers cannot get to it, unless they pay them rent.

The great coke strike is ended with a victory for the men, with an advance of 12 per cent. This was brought about by a conference of labor leaders, which lasted all day, with three large coke firms.

Try this on some unsuspecting friend. There was a carpenter who made a cupboard door; it proved too big. He cut it and unfortunately he cut it too little. He thereupon cut it again and made it go beautifully. How was this?

To break down the barriers of ignorance, educate; to secure solidarity, co-operate; to spread the gospel of humanity, agitate; and, as a preliminary step toward the accomplishment of all these things, organize.

A speculator never produces a single thing. He is a man that lives and accumulates the earnings of others. He is a leech sucking the earnings of the farmer or laborer as the leech sucks the blood of its victims. The land speculator is one of the most damnable of the whole lot. He plunders them all.

The New York Times publishes the names of a cluster of millionaires sixty-three in number, living in New York City between Dobbs Ferry and Tarrytown, a distance of only six miles. If it is true that for every millionaire we have 10,000 paupers, then those sixty-three persons have forced on society 630,000 souls that must be either fed by charity or arrested as vagrants.

The indications now point to the fact that the State Fair this year will be more attractive than ever, as the managers have been untiring in their efforts to excel all former exhibitions. As it is the last year of the term of five years for which the fair was let to Lincoln, our city will see to it that it is both profitable and attractive. The trades display is now assured and will be an immense affair. Everything in connection with the fair will be on a grander scale than ever.

Do we not meet people every week who are constantly borrowing trouble and making mountains out of molehills? It is not so much work that kills and breaks down people, as it is worry, fretting and borrowing trouble. Why not let the future take care of itself and wisely improve the present? By doing so we can avoid many wrinkles and gray hairs, and keep younger and brighter. The bad will all come soon enough. Let us patiently wait for the good.—Farmers Voice.

It is a fact worth thinking about in all its bearings that over 22,000,000 acres of the soil of these United States are owned by citizens of European countries. This vast acreage owned by the aliens is equal to nine States of the size of Massachusetts. The alien English landlords in Ireland, who are properly charged with responsibility for nine-tenths of the miseries and oppressions endured by the Irish people, do not own half as many acres as alien Europeans own in this country. It is time Congress did something decisive in the way of legislating the large alien land syndicate off American soil.

**Job Printing For Alliances.**  
We are prepared to do any and all kinds of printing for Alliances. Letter and note heads, envelopes, cards, by-laws, circulars, handbills, etc. Send in your orders and we will do the work at prices as reasonable as it can be done.

## ON THE WING.

The Alliance Editor At Large Among the Water Melons and Green Corn of Adams County.

The Condition of the Farmers—The Progress of the Farmers' Alliance—The Burial of Congressman Laird at Hastings not in Accordance With His Last Known Request.

Other Items of Note, Etc.

A recent trip through this county (Adams) found a wilderness of ripening corn fields on all sides, and the country dotted as far as the eye could see, with stacks of grain and straw piles marking the path of the thresher. The outlook for the corn crop is simply prodigious. Wheat, oats, and flax, etc., about the average crop. Potatoes and garden truck afflicted with that chronic complaint "over-production," and are a drug on the market. One thing sure, good dame Nature is bound to see to it that her Adams county children shall not starve.

Wherever I went I was met with the question, "What are we going to do? We have good crops, everything in abundance, but to sell it all at present prices will not even pay interest, to say nothing of principal. The merchants, too, are now beginning to feel the heavy hand that has so long been holding the farmer in its iron grip, reaching out after them, and are beginning to shut down on credit. If we undertake to pay the interest on our indebtedness our entire crop won't do it, and what then are we to live on?" These are the serious questions that are now confronting the farmer, and like the ghost of some fiend from beyond the great gulch, is haunting and tormenting him day and night, making life amidst the bounteous blessings of nature, one of blight and sorrow. One farmer, in whose breast there still lingered a faint glimmer of hope, said, "Maybe if there should be a failure of crops some other place in a year or so, it might bring relief." Ah, my friend, I said, suppose that failure should be here. Things are all sadly wrong when some must die that others may live.

The Sub-Alliances of the county will meet at Juniata the 31st inst., and organize a County Alliance. At this meeting measures will be adopted for a thorough organization of the county. The field is ripening—all that is needed is the reapers. I think it would be a good plan for the State Alliance to commission all good men in a county, organizers, and give them unlimited jurisdiction, no matter if some counties could furnish a dozen such men. The more the better.

The burial of Congressman Laird at Hastings was not at all in accordance with the wishes of his Juniata friends, or his last known request. Mr. Laird is the last of his family, who all lie buried in a lot which he had spared no time and expense in fixing up in the Juniata cemetery. During his last visit to the graves of the family, about two or three months ago, he again repeated his oft expressed request that there is where he wished to lie when he too should have passed from off the great stage of life. That there should be any dispute or question about the matter arose was a thought never entertained by his friends in Juniata. Imagine their surprise and chagrin when the people of Hastings ignored them and went ahead with the burial ceremonies and buried Mr. Laird at Hastings. With a true sense of propriety the people of Juniata silently bore this piece of effrontery on the part of Hastings, but the wound is deep and cannot heal in a day.

I find THE ALLIANCE well received wherever I go and all anxious to help push it along. A visit to the home of Mr. S. M. Davis found that staunch old veteran of equal rights thoroughly in the harness and pulling hard. After a good old-fashioned Pennsylvania Dutch dinner prepared by Mrs. Davis—who is certainly no amateur in the art—we, in company with Mr. Davis, visited the brethren of the Shiloh Alliance, and without an exception, they all added their names to the long roll of THE ALLIANCE and bid us a hearty God speed in the work.

The next day after our visit with the brethren of Shiloh Alliance we

"took in" the picnic and the larger part of the grub of Liberty Sunday School, held at the grove on the farm of Bro. I. B. Rants. Here we met President J. B. Brown, J. M. Robinson, Francis Phillips and other veterans of the Liberty Alliance and put in the day in good social chat. The ladies of Liberty have a knack of preparing good things for special occasions of this kind that is hard to duplicate, we thought to ourself as we sat down upon the grass and prepared for the onslaught. What they thought of us we can only conjecture. However, our conscience is clear—we did our best to stem the rising tide of "over-production." Bro's A. Whitmore and Wm. Eberline, hearing we were at large, also looked us up and added their names to THE ALLIANCE's roll of honor.

Yes, am having a most enjoyable time among the friends of Adams county and am in no haste to leave their hospitality. A.

## 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.

VENANGO, NEB., Aug. 24.—The following resolutions were passed at a recent meeting of the Perkins Co. Farmers' Alliance:

Whereas, The homesteaders are most in number of any order of citizens in the western counties of the state, and be their patronage to a great extent support the western newspapers of their respective counties, and

Whereas, It having come to our notice that certain newspapers are charging the exorbitant price of \$10 for publishing final proof notices, which heretofore has been done for \$5. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Pioneer Alliance No. 590, of Harrison precinct, Perkins county, Neb., do hereby denounce and refuse to support any papers that charge more than \$5 for publishing such notices.

BY ORDER OF ALLIANCE.

BIG SPRINGS, NEB., Aug. 22.—EDITOR ALLIANCE:—I hereby send you a few lines. If you have room for it in the columns of your paper, if not, there is room in your waste basket I suppose.

There has been something the matter with our government, our farmers, our laborers, and our finances for a good while, and it is about time that some of these matters were looked into and examined a little to find out whether we are drifting. If money power, monopoly and trusts are going to continue to oppress the majority of farmers and laborers of this country there is certainly a disease lingering in the system of our government. Business is dull, farmers' homes are sold out under the hammer, the laborer is working for a miserable pittance, if they are employed at all. In some places they are even starving. A few hope that things will change when it takes a notion some day, and that it is of no use to have an Alliance. But there it is that you are mistaken. Our only hope is in organizing and seeing that we get such men to represent our homes and our interest in the legislature and congress, who will work for the interests of the many as well as they know how regardless of politics. Some one may ask, how can we ever freeze these giant trusts out of existence who control so many hundreds of millions of dollars? It is an evil that ought to be dealt with only one way. Give the old world a chance to compete with our own manufacturers by taking the duty off all necessities of life for a short time and every trust would vanish. It would not injure our farmers nor workingmen a particle, as our manufacturers are able to compete with the world in most things, and will never allow any foreign article to be sold in our country as they can easily undersell anybody. By taking the tariff off from all the necessities of life it would simply make cheap goods and the trusts could not control the market any longer. Put a high tariff duty on all luxury such as silk, diamonds, jewelry, and such articles not needed only by the rich. I feel sure that we would see good

times if tariff was reduced, giving us cheap goods which will give us a greater sale, and a greater sale gives a greater production; a greater production gives us a greater demand for laborers, and no one need lay idle nor starve, and the consequence will be that good times are coming. The next thing is, let our government issue money direct to the people and make away with the national banks, and tax all unimproved land equal with the improved and thus make the speculator dispose of his millions of acres of land or put it to some use. Also town lots the same way. It looks well to see some have the courage to show how your assessors in Lincoln shirk their duty and saddle the burden on the poor and let the rich go without paying their share of the taxes.

Wishing your paper success I will close my already long letter.

PETER F. PETERSEN.

MR. EDITOR:—I would like to enlist your paper in a cause which has much the largest bottom of any one industry in the land, and yet it is pushed aside as of little consequence—the great American cereal corn is to have no show in the Paris Exposition. \$25,000 appropriated to show its machinery, its fabrics and its great manufacturing interests and its great commercial advertisements, but not one cent to bring to the notice and interest of the people of France and other foreign countries in the use and value as a food for both man and animal of the king of all products, American corn. When \$25,000 of the appropriation was asked for the purpose of putting up ovens and other appliances for cooking, distributing and instructing how to prepare that best of all products for food, American corn, it was refused, and for the want of this knowledge in foreign country to open up the way for its commercial value as human food, the farmers are compelled to burn this great American king for fuel or feed it to stock.

It was the National Farmers' Alliance that formulated and demanded a department of agriculture with a portfolio as a cabinet officer. Now, as one man let us demand that the cabinet officer do something besides talk partisan politics. It will be remembered that the iron willed Jackson when a boy, and all through life, lived largely upon corn, and that the great Lincoln laid the foundation of that physical strength which in after years carried that mighty brain so clear, honest and true, was built of North Carolina corn and finished with corn from Illinois, and it cannot be denied as a philological fact, that if we as a people would consume less roller mill flour, and more corn meal from youth up, we would avoid that terrible and national calamity, dyspepsia and indigestion and all its consequences—doctor bills, despondency and suicide—in many cases traceable direct. Let us as producers demand a proper share of that appropriation for the instruction of the French people of the Exposition at Paris of the various uses and shapes for food of the great American product, corn.

Now, Mr. Editor, will you help to blow this horn until its value is known everywhere.

ALLEN ROOT.

CAMBRIDGE, NEB., Aug. 24. EDITOR ALLIANCE:—I wonder if it ever came to the mind of your readers what nice things vested rights and the rights and the rights of property are? During the war the government used its vested right to seize poor men and stand them up before rebel musketry to catch rebel bullets, to save the life of the nation. The poor fellow had no vested rights to stay at home to save his own life and protect his wife and children. But when the government called for the rich mens dollars to save the nations life Uncle Sam was told "dollars have vested rights, and you cannot draft them, but, if you will give us 24 per cent per annum for their use during the war, we will call them from their hiding places for you for we feel patriotic any way." Uncle Sam knew no remedy. Vested property rights must be respected and protected if the nation dies in consequence.

So Uncle Sam walked away muttering: "We might as well die at the hands of one band of traitors as another." So the yellow boys—the representatives of the nations wealth—slunk away and hid, and were not seen again in public for 18 years. They only came out then to pilfer, deceive and rob the people, and this has been carried on till nearly all

the agricultural land of the country is under mortgage.

Two years ago this fall the deeded land of this (Furnas) county was nineteen twentieths or 95 per cent under mortgage—less four quarter sections—and the conditions are now nearly the same. Farm products are so low that one-third of the average crop will not pay the taxes, insurance and mortgage interest. A farm worth \$1,500 is mortgaged for \$500 giving the money lender one third interest in the farm should more money contraction come upon us and the farm depreciate in value one-third, would the shylocks \$500 be lessened in value? Oh no, the law of vested property rights says he has one-half interest in the farm now. Should contraction of money continue and land values still decrease with all other things, and the farmer in consequence not be able to pay up, the law of property says shylock may bid in the farm at mortgage sale for what he pleases to give, and take judgement for enough more to meet his demands and pay costs. Now shylock has it all and demands still more. But where are the farmers vested rights. He worked for years to make the home, but it is gone. What then becomes of his vested rights. Oh they were vested in the moonshine, and when the sun shined down on his HIS home, the moon shined with it and he is thrown out a pauper tramp with a judgement on his back. The poor can beg.

C. J. MECHAN.

MR. EDITOR:—Just received through the kindness of THE ALLIANCE a copy of the proceedings of the National Alliance held at Des Moines, Iowa. It is gratifying to a Nebraskan to see by the report that Allen Root, Nebraska's practical farmer and old wheel horse greenbacker, made the most comprehensive and practical speech in the convention. Next comes J. Burrows also an old Nebraskan. Thirdly comes H. L. Loucks, of Dakota. Fourth and last, and to no purpose but confusion and evasion, comes Gov. Larrabee, and some literary gentlemen from Iowa.

Gov. Larrabee has condescended to meet with the farmers of the country because they are organizing for self preservation. If they did not move to help themselves he would not notice them. He tells them that they are organizing, they are a fine intelligent people, that they are scattered a good deal and have not sense enough to organize efficiently, but they can make their racket and some political party will probably help them. He tells them that if they did have sense enough to organize efficiently it would create war and revolution, and it is a good thing they are fools—and they cheer him. He tells them that he is sorry about railroad stocks being watered, and he is sorry because President Adams is sorry. President Adams was made president of the U. P. road expressly for the purpose of selling watered stocks to the poor idiots "down east," they would so much rather buy watered stocks of Adams than any one else, he was a brother in the church. Now Adams is sorry the stocks are watered. Larrabee is sorry. The fools in Iowa are sorry. They are all a sorry lot of knaves and fools.

Gen. James B. Weaver spent five years of his early manhood in fighting bloody battles for the preservation of a people's government. When the war was over Gen'l Weaver turned aside from the emoluments and pleasures that awaited his able and gifted life in the service of republican corruption, and chose privation, hardship and toil in the interests of a common country, as he warned the people of Iowa of impending danger that now coils its cold and slimy fold around their homes and families as the serpent folds its victim in its coils. A quarter of a century has passed, and Gen. Weaver, aged and weary, penniless and toil worn, retires to a pauper's home in Oklahoma, a monument of admonition to all patriots who are foolish enough to love and serve their country warning them that as far as the people of Iowa are concerned Christ died to redeem humanity so Weaver spent his life's labor for the people of Iowa, and they turn from him as devils turn from holy water and rush like hogs into the maltroom of their destruction.

Does Larrabee tell the people that the republican party by class legislation stole their commercial blood from its circulation in the channels of trade and commerce where it was an essential part of their body politic as their arterial blood of their body physical, that it put a mortgage on every man's farm in the shape of a bonded debt, that said party created a monied aristocracy to loan that commercial blood so stolen back to the people to pay interest on said mortgage. That in consequence of such class legislation republican aristocracy destroyed the property of the farmer to one half its value, while the debt remained undiminished, that the continuous working of this system causes a continuous de-

preciation of property while interest and debt are even on the increase? Oh no! That is republicanism, and Larrabee is a republican. He tells the people of Iowa that their farms have depreciated in value \$100,000,000, their cattle \$15,000,000, but he does not tell them that interest and money debts do not depreciate. He does not tell them that republican aristocracy is the viper that is gnawing at their hearts. He tells them that they are slaves, incapable of organizing for self government, but that probably their masters will do something for them.

Republican aristocracy is a hideous monster. It has stolen the crimson tide as it flowed from the dying soldier's heart as he gave up his life to purchase for the black man political liberty, and forged it in chains of golden interest to bind that soldier's wife and babes in financial slavery. It has stolen the vine and fig tree of peace and plenty from the cottage of the lowly and planted in their place the cold, dark, damned shadows of want and poverty. It has driven the mother into oblivion, the father to a vagabond life, the sons to prison and the daughters to prostitution. It has invaded the temples of God and torn from their holy altars the emblems of peace, love and charity, and supplanted upon them the skull and cross bones of usury and piracy. It sits enthroned in the legislative and judgment hall. Peace and plenty, home and happiness, love virtue and morality perish beneath its influence as Heavens sweetest flowers perish in the flame of hell.

And where is the remedy? Gov. Larrabee tells you you are a lot of disgruntled pups following along behind your master's cart whining your discontent, and if you whine loud enough your master will probably do something for you. Yes, your master will do something for you; he will empty his slop bucket on you, that is what he will do for you. Oh, ye degenerated pups of men that were once brave and free, have you sipped at the pap of liberty so long that you turn your bloated frame from the mother that gave you birth, to seek a tyrant's power?

Republican supremacy means republican aristocracy. Republican aristocracy means our vice president's "Imperialism" planted upon the ashes of this republic. In the great changes that work a coming revolution "the fittest" may "survive," but it will not be republican aristocracy. "The fittest survivor" in that case will be a "survivor" that is "it."

But notwithstanding the fools in Iowa, we do not believe Vice-President Morton's "Imperialism" will usurp the Affinity seeking affinity produces life, and that subtle element which we may define as spirit, seeks affinity in a nobler and better sphere. It has borne mankind from a low and humble origin, and it still bears him onward and upward toward perfect bliss, and its highest conception of mortality is, peaceful, plentiful, virtuous, happy homes, and entire liberty. Let us survive. L. STEBBINS.

SIDNEY, Ill., Aug. 22.—EDITOR ALLIANCE:—I have received three copies of your paper. Thanks—quite readable. I read Mr. Burrows' speech—read it also in the Farmers Voice. I think that Mr. Burrows understands the situation. In the first part he makes some complaints that I think he is justifiable in. If THE ALLIANCE will allow me space I will in few words give cause and remedy for each of several troubles that Mr. Burrows speaks of. First, quoting him by the paragraph, he says, "More frequent failures." That is caused by banks of issue and contraction. A remedy: Full legal tender paper declaratory money, issued by the government in volume that it would loan far no more than three per cent, then the borrower could have a profit as well as the lender. Mr. Burrows continues, "Idle labor all over the country, with a corresponding increase of tramp." That is caused not only by dear and scarce money, but by too much foreign immigration and too much imported goods that we ought to produce at home to give employment to labor. Dear and scarce money leads us to desire cheap free trade goods, but before we get our wages we wish there was a little protection for labor. A remedy: Tax, restrict, or shut off foreign immigration. Mr. B. says, "A million idle men competing for work at starvation wages." That is caused in part, of course, by the scarcity of money to pay with, but the greatest cause is, too many surplus laborers coming from the old country. And another branch of the cause is, too much money goes for imported goods of the kind that should be produced in the United

States. Remedy: Shut off foreign labor and adjust the tariff so as to MAKE it pay to produce at home all that our facilities will allow, and thus give employment to the "million tramps." Mr. B. says, "The continued shrinkage of values." The man that is born in the year 1839, if he should live until 9999, will not live long enough to see the end of "shrinking values if money is still controlled by national banks, banks of issue. It is to the banker's interest to have it so. They will occasionally let up a little—turn the screw back, as it were—to encourage people to go in debt—borrow their money—their backs goes the screw—c-l-i-c-k. Why should 60,000,000 people be kept in bondage to 3,000 bankers—individual responsibility—instead of the whole peoples responsibility through their representatives in Congress reclaim its prerogative; to issue the money and "declare the value thereof" according to their sworn duty. It seems superfluous to state the remedy for our financial trouble any plainer than I have. Why don't all the mortgaged assessed farmers and laborers rally and see to their interest, ignore all old party lines and vote together 4,000,000 strong, and elect a Congress of honest men—and turn the rascals out—that will honor the U. S. Supreme Courts' decision that was rendered March 3, '44—"the strong point in this constitution is that the government prerogative be restored, that bankers may not contract and retire their money—if they hide away their money the interest stops—Congress should determine the volume. The seat of the disease is the money power of the world. We all know its character, and should build upon the authority of all the people, a structure that will give the greatest good to the greatest number. W. T. ELDRIDGE.

**THE HAMILTON COUNTY ALLIANCE.**  
AURORA, Aug. 23.—This city was taken possession of today by the members of the Farmers' Alliance. About five hundred members of the organization in this county came bright and early this morning, and made the largest parade our streets have seen in many a day. Few here had any idea of their strength, and were surprised at the fine showing made this morning. It is thought that the Alliance will take a hand in politics this fall, and possibly put a ticket in the field. If this is done the outcome will be hard to predict, as the republicans and democrats have tickets out and the fight will be hotly contested. This afternoon J. Burrows, president of the National Alliance, addressed the farmers in the court house square, and, judging from the vociferous applause given him, gave great satisfaction. Altogether it was a gala day for Aurora. B. M. N.

**ALLIANCE MEETING.**  
The Alliances of Adams county are requested to meet at Juniata, Aug. 31 for the purpose of organizing a County Alliance. It is very essential that this meeting be well attended. Let every farmer in the county attend if possible. A. C. TOMPKINS, Organizer.

**NOTICE EXECUTIVE BOARD.**  
A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Nebraska State Farmers' Alliance will be held at the office of THE ALLIANCE, in Lincoln, on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 1889, at 1 p. m. By order of J. BURROWS, Chm. J. M. THOMPSON, Sec.

**Coal For The Alliance.**  
August and September is the best time to figure on the winter's coal supply. We quote the following prices: Pittsburg, Kansas, good article soft coal, \$1.85 per ton. Mulberry, \$1.75 per ton. In lots of 12 tons or over f. o. b. at mines. Orders should be sent to the state agent right away stating number of cars wanted and time of shipment. Need not be paid for until received at your station.

The Alliances desiring groceries at jobbers rates should send money with the order. To meet the objection of not knowing how much to remit we will commence your list at the beginning and fill it entire, or until the money is exhausted. In ordering lumber, make out bill stating kind and quality, price of same bill in your home market, so that in case we could not save you money we would not fill your order. We quote good 3 in. wagons at \$51, 3 1/2 inch. \$53, 3 3/4 inch \$54. Address all orders to Allen Root, State Agent, Omaha, Neb.