

Watchman. What of the Night?
EDITOR ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:—
 Another battle has been fought. Search has been made for the dead, but lo and behold, no dead can be found. And after carefully examining the supposed wounded, we find none are hurt, only stunned by the explosion of two guns at once. After the smoke has blown away every man is found to his gun, ready for another fight. "Truth crushed to earth will not down." As for this, Dawson county, the unexpected took place. The Democrats voted almost solid the Republican ticket. This we did not expect as most of them talked otherwise during the campaign. Just about enough voted the Democratic ticket so as to keep their lightning rod up for government patronage should Cleveland take a notion to change postmasters. The most of them look as though they had been killing sheep or robbing somebody's hen roost.

To use the words of a Republican, "They had hard work to keep the Democrats in line. But lots of money did it, and if we can hold them in line one more election the Independents will be dead."

How are the mighty fallen! The same condition prevailed largely all over the state. Had the Democrats stuck to their party we would have had an easy victory. But it proves that there can be but one goldbug party in the state or nation. It also proves there can be but one party for the people. The object lesson given to us by the eastern Shylocks and the panic through which we are just passing seems insufficient to bring the voters to their senses; it will take another twist of the vice before the masses can see where relief lies. To suppose that relief can come by pursuing the same course or following the same channel that has brought about the present condition, is to me the height of folly. I feel more convinced than ever before of the correctness of our plea, and that relief from the grasp of the money power can only be had by the masses getting together in the Populist party and carrying it to success. I am in no way depressed by our seeming defeat. It cannot be expected that we are yet strong enough to overthrow the two old parties when they combine against us. But by keeping up the fight and by pressing our claims before the people I am satisfied that the better element of people will soon see that their own and the nation's interests can be secured only by their voting for the principles of the reform party.

The vote of the Democratic party has so dwindled down in the last two elections that it can hardly be said that they occupy a place in the politics of the state. Two years ago they had a plurality; but now they only poll about one-half as much as the Independents. And yet you hear the cry "The Independents are dead." No, no, they are not dead, nor dying, but are alive forevermore, until oppression is driven from our land and this country shall be the land of the free as well as the home of the brave. How a Democrat can lick the hand that has smitten him all these years, is a spectacle that would almost make angels weep; yet we find them doing so by the thousands.

Can it be possible that they are so charmed by the siren song of their old political enemies, that they are led on to their own destruction? I am led to believe that they will yet see their fate before it is too late, and break the spell and come in out of the wet, ere they are stuck in the quagmire of monometallism.

I want to say to the friends of reform, close up the ranks, buckle on your armor anew; press the battle to the very gates of the enemies of free government. Let it never be said that the American people are unable to legislate in their own behalf without first consulting the old country.

Can it be possible that we have lost our patriotism and love for our own country and have to cringe and submit to England's wishes ere we can pass laws for and in behalf of our own people?

Perish the thought. Dumb as the ass that would suggest, and palsied as the hand that would write such a thing.

The enthusiasm manifested over the victory in the late election is like the glory of Nero fiddling while Rome burned. Some people seem unable to comprehend that the same losses that affect others affect themselves. Men and in rage unable to furnish themselves or their families with sufficient clothing or bread, laboring hard early and late, selling the product of their labor for less than the cost of production because of a false system of finance, yelling themselves hoarse over the success of a principle that is undermining the very basis of our civil government.

To me such are more to be pitied than blamed, led on by a blind partisanship to their own ruin. I say to my friends deal with such gently. Lead them to the light, instruct them in the right, and ere this republic is destroyed as predicted by Abraham Lincoln, enough may be brought to realize the danger staring us in the face and join us in the great army that are fighting for the salvation of this country from the Shylocks of this and the old country. I cannot but think we are passing through the darkest period this

government ever saw. Even more dangerous than during the late civil war. They may call me a crank or a calamity howler, but before me I can see nothing but dark clouds arising that lead the coming storm. I pray God to avert the struggle and give us access to the hearts of the people that they may turn from their party idols to serve the interest of our common country. In order that we may the more quickly succeed in combining all elements that are opposed to the machinations of the money power, I am in favor of dropping everything that is not of direct vital interest, and concentrate our whole effort upon the question of finance. For to my mind if we had a proper financial system established in this country the other questions that we contend for would measurably regulate themselves. Take the tariff, for instance. Give me money enough and I can easily pay my share of the tariff. But if I have no money it matters little to me whether the tariff is high or low, I could not pay it. I think the subtreasury plan would sink into insignificance if the finance question was settled right. Let us adopt as our battle cry "Free coinage of silver at 16 to 1; our money issued only by the government, and all such money a legal tender for all debts, and the destruction of all monopolies and combinations that work against the interest of the masses." When these are settled we can give attention to other things as they may appear and dispose of them in the light of future developments. J. H. DARNER, Cozad, Neb.

MEETING OF REFORM PRESS
Hastings, January 2nd—All Reform Editors Invited.

The Nebraska Independent Press Association will hold its third annual meeting at the Hotel Bostwick, Hastings, Neb., on Tuesday, January 2d, at 10 a. m. All members are especially requested to be present, as the meeting will be of the greatest importance of any yet held in the history of the association. All reform editors in Nebraska, whether members or not, are cordially invited to be at this meeting and to join with us. This can be done with much benefit and little or no cost to themselves. The State Alliance, State Central Committee, and the great Reform Conference will meet in Hastings on January 2nd and 3d, so that there will be enough outside of the press meeting to interest and instruct any reform editor who may wish to attend.

An interesting program, consisting of the best talent in the movement in Nebraska, will be prepared; and it is probable that a national speaker will be secured for the occasion.

Remember this is open to all. Every populist newspaper man in the state is urgently requested to be present. Many editors outside of the association will be invited to participate in the program.

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ganize as we should; and above all things else the press should be so organized, for it must be in the van of every fight; and on its concert of action or lack of concert; on its vigor or lack of vigor, largely depends the result of the battle.

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J. A. EDGERTON,
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John F. Mefferd has withdrawn from the management of the subscription department of this paper, to go into other business. His advertisement may found in another column.

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Notice.
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