

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. Consolidation of the Farmers Alliance and Nebraska Independent. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO. 1120 M Street, Lincoln, Neb.

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SUBSCRIPTION ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

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"If any man must fall for me to rise, Then seek I not to climb. Another's pain I choose not for my good. A golden chain, A robe of honor, is too good a prize To tempt my hasty hand to do a wrong Unto a fellow man. This life hath woe Sufficent, wrought by man's atantic fee; And who that hath a heart would dare prolong Or add a sorrow to a troubled soul That seeks a healing balm to make it whole? My bosom owns the brotherhood of man."

N. I. P. A.



Publishers Announcement. The subscription price of the ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT is \$1.00 per year, invariably in advance. Agents in soliciting subscriptions should be very careful that all names are correctly spelled and proper postage given. Blanks for return subscriptions, return envelopes, etc. can be had on application to this office. ALWAYS sign your name. No matter how often you write us do not neglect this important matter. Every week we receive letters with incomplete addresses or without signatures and it is sometimes difficult to locate them. CHANGE OF ADDRESS. Subscribers wishing to change their postoffice address must always give their former as well as their present address when change will be promptly made. Address all letters and make all remittances payable to THE ALLIANCE-PUB. CO., Lincoln, Neb.

We call attention of all Alliance men in Nebraska to the authorized report of the Alliance State Executive Committee, containing corrected a copy of the resolutions and report of all action taken at the recent annual meeting at Hastings. No other copy of the proceedings will be printed, and every secretary of local Alliances should secure a copy for preservation. We make earnest request that a club be secured, gathered up at once, in each local Alliance for THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. One of the Alliances in Saunders county sent us in a club of 20 names, yearly subscribers last week, and it promises more soon. Will not other Alliances do as well? We shall print all Alliance news, and the successful prosecution of Alliance work depends much on circulating this paper. A good many hands went up at Hastings promising to push the circulation of this paper, with others. We hope they are not forgetting that pledge.

The very full, lengthy report of the Alliance meeting this week crowded out our Washington letter and news matter, state and national, which we wished to print. Next week we shall discuss editorially the liquor plank of the Alliance platform. This is a full number of the paper in most features. Look it over carefully, everybody, and induce others to subscribe for the paper.

In Mexico, which freely coins all her silver, the general industrial condition was never better or more promising, and the credit of the country was never higher.

DAVID A. WELLS, writing in the January Forum, from what figures are at hand estimates that the aggregate loss produced by the panic and period of business paralysis already exceeds a thousand million of dollars.

JOHN SHERMAN made a speech in the Senate in May 1870 in which he declared the income tax to be "the most just and equitable tax that is now levied in the United States of America, without exception." Keep this in mind and see whether he goes back on his record when the Bryan income tax act is debated and voted on in the Senate.

The Pall Mall Gazette of London, reviewing the trade of Great Britain, says: "General trade has been worse than in 1892. Last year ended with an enormous loss of imports and of exports; but as 1893 draws to a close, 1892 seems brighter when compared with the present gloom over the country's industries." Usury—rents, interest, not profit—is the periodical cause of it.

AT the present time according to official returns just issued by the government authorities "there are no less than half a million people out of work in London alone; and inasmuch as the relief departments, both public and private, are totally inadequate to meet so great a demand upon their resources, the situation has become very critical, and a source of great apprehension alike to the authorities and to the well-to-do citizens."

A REPORTER WHO WAS NOT A PROPHET.

The Nonconformist owes the Populists of Nebraska a correction of the serious misrepresentation of us given in its news columns last week.

We did not do or decide to do at Hastings what its Nebraska correspondent said we did. We are not as a body, the kind of people which its report of our Conference proceedings indicates. We are Populists of the whole-hearted, out-and-out, opposed to monopoly-of-every-sort, Omaha-platform variety. We stand on the national platform solidly, squarely, conscientiously, proudly, and will not allow the principal part of it nor any part of its principles to be knocked from under us. It is an egregious conceit and blunder for any man, it matters not who he may be, to suppose he can speak for us and say anything less or different. We have no political bias to direct us, no ring of politicians who can report our proceedings beforehand. Yet that seems to have been attempted, was attempted.

The Nebraska Populists who attended the recent Conference, as well as tens of thousands who were unable to be present, have read or will read with amazement the Nonconformist report of what we decided to do. The part surprising, and untrue, is this, viz: "Decided to push next campaign on free coinage of silver, railroad control and retrenchment and reform in state government."

In the first place the Conference was not a delegated body. Those attending it were not regularly chosen and sent there to frame a new platform for the party. The object of the Conference, as shown in the language of the call, was to consult regarding means and machinery "to more effectually push forward this educational work," the work of disseminating the ideas and principles of our national and state platforms. There was an effort made by a few men under the leadership of Lawyer Greene of Kearney to cut us loose from distinctively Populistic principles and send us to sea on what we should call a mere splinter of the money question; and a motion was made and seconded that a committee on platform be appointed. But Prof. Hyatt of Custer county, we think it was, in a one minute speech made it so clear to all minds that the Conference had no authority or right to do this, that the motion was almost unanimously voted down. The Conference had no authority to make a new platform, neither did it have the disposition, if we were able to judge from appearances and all that was said.

It would seem that Mr. Greene came to the three state meetings, the mass meeting of the State Alliance, Independent Press Association and State Conference, with the great missionary purpose in his heart to induce us to cut off the "carbuncles" and "excesses" of our platform, to drop "side issues;" and he was sure if we would be thus advised by him he could lead our hosts to victory. He addressed all three bodies; was the one man not a newspaper man whom Mr. Edgerton as president invited to address the Press meeting; and he spoke with all the eloquence and superficial reasoning for which he is noted. In the Press meeting his proposal that our papers simply advocate a five hundred million dollar increase of the currency, silver and greenbacks, that we call that the great practicable remedy and drop the teaching of all else as being impracticable at present, called forth instant interrupting objections and resolute criticisms from quite a number of editors present. In the Conference he talked more in definitely, but in the same line; but no one speaking supported him, and Judge Lynn of Hastings, following him, called him down and protested against his talk about dropping "side issues," and his advice to campaign speakers that they leave out every thing but the "great, cardinal, money question."

This is the history of it all. We have given it, because it was necessary after the false report published in the Nonconformist. Their report of our action was written, as the writer of it has admitted in our business office, before the Conference met or acted. The strings were pulled, but the machine didn't go off, as expected—for the simple reason that it wasn't an old party machine.

Almost every man in our party carries settled opinions and a free intelligence under his own hat. They are nearly all as independent thinkers as Editor Dundas of The Granger, who, in his last issue, says:

As a kind of side remark the W. G. [Wandering Gentle] will say that W. L. Greene, as an illogical and superficial defender of the people is entitled to all the cakes on the platter. His advice to the members of the reform press association at Hastings savored of one idealism and smacked of sycophancy. The idea of a man supposed to have ordinary intelligence standing before a body of editors of reform papers and counseling them to hold to the one cardinal principle—a greater volume of money—was a sight to make the gods weep and the average editor swear.

One more thing in The Nonconformist report conveys a wrong impression, we believe. Mr. Edgerton, reporting the action of the State Farmers Alliance, says: "The usual monetary plank, barring the sub-treasury plan, was adopted."

The essential part of the sub-treasury plan, United States banks of issue and for deposit, which, it may be inferred,

will also loan money at cost to the people, are called for. See plank in our complete report of the Alliance proceedings in this issue. If we have incorrectly interpreted the meaning of this plank the delegates to the State Alliance meeting will please correct us.

We know the Nonconformist editors are wholly without fault in printing the report sent them; but it must not pass uncorrected, that the Nebraska Populists have discarded or dropped all of the national platform except the free coinage of silver plank. Tell the truth for the encouragement of our people in other States, that the Nebraska Populists stand firmly and proudly on the whole grand platform of our national party. We have not retreated a single inch, and are going to win this year with the Omaha banner flying.

MORTON'S LETTER TO THE ALLIANCE SECRETARY.

To the Secretary of the Nebraska Farmers Alliance:

MY DEAR MADAM:—Very sincerely, I hasten to thank you for your very genial and most agreeable communication of January 6, conveying this delicious confection of tears, trappe, to-wit: Resolved, That we feel deeply humiliated by having the leading industry of the nation so grossly misrepresented in the national department of agriculture by a man whose mind is too narrow to grasp the dignity of his position. And when Secretary Morton attempts to insult the great body of producers before and industrial congress, he deserves our profound pity for his ignorance, if it be ignorance, and our unmeasured condemnation if he knew better. In either case the administration, which will insist in retaining him in the high position to which he has been appointed, willfully insults the industry which pays 80 per cent of the taxes, and creates the balance of trade in our favor with the nations of the world.

Resolved, That the secretary of this meeting be and is hereby instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to President Cleveland and Secretary Morton.

Be kind enough to convey to the members of the Nebraska Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union the assurance of my sincere and earnest interest in their material welfare and further intellectual and moral development.

Demonstrating the intensity of that interest, I have the keen satisfaction of sending you by express, this day, 100 copies of the denounced speeches for distribution among the members of your organization, and to subscribe myself. Very Respectfully Yours, J. STERLING MORTON, Sec.

The foregoing bit of facetiousness, and intended sarcasm, does the writer but little credit. Our Nebraska member of the demo-republican cabinet has been roosting too high, and will have to come down from his perch. Instead of making due and ample apologies for his open insult to farmers, and farm organizations, in his Chicago speech, he is spending his time, and using his official position to frank his replies to his insulted constituents, containing additional insults. The above reply, to the resolutions passed at the late State Alliance meeting, condemning Mr. Morton's utterances, at Chicago, and addressed to the Secretary of the State Alliance, is typical of the man. There is a good deal of flip and "trappe" to it but nothing of that dignity that so much becomes a man in Mr. Morton's position. When Mr. Morton attacks farm and labor organizations, as he certainly has done, he should remember that the very position he so pompously fills was the creation of farm organizations. The office was created at their demand, but not filled as it is now at their petition. Come down Sterling and roost on the lower limbs a little while and if you should chance to fall the fall would not be so disastrous.

The farmers of Nebraska would be glad to know that you really were interested "in their material and their further moral development;" but your language is weak compared with your acts in convincing them of your sincerity. Your letter to the lady secretary is neither dignified nor sincere, and was only aimed to be sarcastic and smart. Come down, Sterling, come down and breathe the atmosphere for a short time of the common people whom you are supposed to represent.

The difference in the committee is on the same old tiresome line, with the east on one side and the west and south on the other. It does seem almost impossible to get democrats together on any national issue except the tariff, and even upon that there are dissenters who do not want their pet "industries" choked off from their power of plunder. Yet there is some comfort in the fact that republicans are about as badly divided as democrats.—Lincoln Herald.

The Democrats all agree beautifully before being elected. They will stand together in harmony on any platform that will run them into office. The first thing they did as a party after being elected was to call an extra session of Congress, and notwithstanding their promise to the people not to discriminate against silver, they closed the mints in its face. The head and of the Democratic dog is in Wall Street, and whenever the head part dictates, the southern and western tail of the beast promptly wags. The western and southern ends have no mind of their own to cut loose at all, holding that it is better to be part of an official cur, beaten and kicked by a lordly master, than to serve and belong to a party of the people.

AFTER THIS MANNER PRAY YE

As a foreigner who has enjoyed in its most terrible shapes in many lands, who has visited the famine-stricken districts of China and India, who has probed to their lowest depths the squalid misery of Italian and Polish towns and cities, and spent some time in studying the condition of the hungry Egyptian fellahs, I think I may be regarded as speaking from experience when I assert that there is no land so highly favored by Providence, and where there is comparatively so little misery, so small cause for discontent and so much reason for courage and perseverance, as the United States.

Here is the old familiar blasphemy repeated, attributing to Providence the condition of the defrauded, suffering poor. According to the teaching of this preacher of content, a writer in the New York Tribune, the poor of America should pray after this manner:

O Lord, our Father, we are the great sinners. We deserve nothing from thy hand. We are thy disinherited, unworthy, unloved, illegitimate children, having no title or right to the earth or any of its forces. We know there is not room enough even in this broad land for us and thy dear, favored offspring, the landlords, capitalists and money mongers; but we are thankful that Thou hast mercifully kept us alive and allowed us to be less miserable than Thou hast the poor millions in other lands. They usually work less and starve sooner. Thou bringest upon them the swift famine and the pestilence, but permittest us to miserably live and labor, or successfully beg. We humbly thank Thee that Thou dost cause Thy favored children to take pity on us and give us work part of the time, on terms of net profit to themselves and bare subsistence for us. Thou didst design in Thy elect providence that they should live without labor in luxury upon the profits of our energies, and that we should bear double burdens of toil and live in lifelong need. And it was planned so to be in order that we might appreciate their goodness and Thine. They are more than righteous, even as Thou art. They are not in justice compelled to give us either work or alms. Their charity is in the nature of free grace, and bringing to us undeserved salvation we grovel in the dust before them and look to them for life.

God bless the rich, who save us from destruction. Increase their profits from our labor, so that they may give us more labor. Send Edward Atkinson to all the poor to teach them how to live on less than a dollar a week, so that competition may bring down our wages to the lowest possible scale of living, in order that our employers may have extra profits to—if they choose—build soup houses for the out-of-work, and endow chairs in colleges for the Atkinson kind of economists.

And, O Lord, help us to realize that while Thou carest for the sparrows and all the birds of heaven, and dost clothe the grass of the field with beauty, our bodies were given us only that through them Thou mightst afflict and purify our souls. Lead us therefore into temptation; put our bodies to the unresting rack of torturing poverty; keep us in constant lack and fear, so that we may become perfectly meek and patient, and be ready to die. For Dives' sake. Amen.

A LEADING DEMOCRAT NOT A DEMOCRAT.

The economic writer of most prominence in the Democratic party, David A. Wells, writing in the January Forum considers the great danger of our country to lie in the "experiment for which there is no precedent," namely, "entrusting the selection of legislators and the determination of the policy of the Federal and State governments, through universal suffrage, to the masses, who have little faith in or knowledge of economic principles, and who do not recognize that hardly a method can be proposed for the material advancement of mankind which has not been somewhere and at some time practically tried, and that the resulting experiences are worth studying."

Do you seize the idea, reader? This great Democrat (?) wants to restrict the franchise to the intelligent (?) few who agree with him on the money question. The masses who oppose usury and who will vote the Populist ticket, should be disfranchised, for they make of the ballot a dangerous weapon. They presume to differ with David A. Wells, and to vote as they please.

The present ruling class "has reason to fear," says Wells, "the enactment of laws which tend to impair and make unstable the standard of value in the making of its exchanges; which provide for discriminating taxation; which sanction the imposition of taxes for private rather than for public purposes; which authorize the issue of fiat money and impair contracts and the security of property by investing it with legal tender attributes; and which favor an income tax with inequalitarian features that under a free government should never be thought of except under the exigency of war, and that can never be equitably enforced except under a despotism."

This implied doctrine of the great teacher of the Democratic plutocrat party, that safety lies only in a restriction of suffrage to the classes, is a doctrine very interesting to the masses. It is a revival of Toryism, "the divine right of kings idea," the old belief that

only a few can know enough to rule, and that the rest were made to be ruled and to serve their rulers.

But Mr. Wells himself sees difficulties in the way of returning to a government by the few. There are so many college graduates, men of alleged intelligence and teachers of political economy, who do not agree with him, and there doesn't seem to be any possible way to educate them up to his ideas and principles. Really, the only safe thing in sight to do, is to pass the scepter over to David, and shout, "Long live the king."

THE MOUTH AND UTTERANCES OF THE PLUTOCRATS.

A writer in the New York Tribune tries to make the poor in America contented with their condition by describing the alleged worse condition of the poor in Europe. He says:

Here any one who is honestly anxious and ready to work and to turn his hand to anything, no matter what, provided it is an honest means of livelihood, can earn his daily bread, and, generally speaking, that of his wife and children. Of course there are times of intermission, when work may temporarily cease, when a man may be out of a job. But it is not for long—at the most only for a week or so [an infamous lie.—Editor ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT]; and if during that time there is any need of bread in the house or fuel in the bin, why, there are many charitable institutions and organizations only too ready to supply the needy [Ugh!—Ed. A.I.] particularly in such deserving cases.

In Europe, on the other hand, there are thousands, nay, millions, of good, honest, industrious workmen, many of them skilled artisans, who are both ready and eager to work—to work without any limitation as to hours or scale of pay, and whose one object in life is to provide food and raiment for their little ones—and yet who cannot find anything to do, and who are obliged to stand by idly watching their children fade away from sheer want, which they are unable to combat, save by theft, robbery and crime. This is an alternative which no one is called upon to face in the United States.

This anonymous falsifier of American conditions then goes on to tell of Egyptian fellahs who to his personal knowledge have been driven by hunger to dig up cattle which died of disease and which had been buried several days, and they were so eager for the black putrid flesh they ate it raw. And the poor of Egypt use for fuel cakes of chopped straw mixed with manure, which cakes they are sometimes forced to eat. He says the poor in Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Russia seldom taste meat from year's end to year's end. In France charity prevents the degree of distress found in other European countries, he informs us, and there is nothing humiliating about it. This is the way this "Ex-Attache" closes up his sermon on content:

It would be well if those who may be regarded as having the ear of the public—such as, for instance, newspaper writers, the clergy and platform speakers—would seize every available opportunity to endeavor to instill courage and perseverance into the drooping spirits of those who are affected by the mere passing depression by demonstrating to them how infinitely better is their lot than that of the poor in the Old World, whose cloud is without any of that silver lining which is so conspicuous a feature of every temporary gloom that overshadows this great and glorious country.

We have had our souls burn within us before, and have relieved ourselves in words of righteous indignation. But language fails us this time. If we were sitting on the legal bench today we should feel called upon in justice to pass a life sentence of American poverty on this loathsome parasite of power that would make him sweat with horror. No meaner man ever lived, none in instincts more brutal and devilish, than the slick sycophant who penned the paragraphs above quoted. The last proposition, that the writers, the clergy and the platform speakers preach content, is refined, unadulterated inhumanity. It is cold, calculating cussedness, which only the utterly selfish and heartless are capable of.

THE Cosmopolitan for January is like the previous six months issues, a marvel of cheapness and excellence. While unlike other magazines in its contents and editorial plan, it is fully the equal of any in the high character of its literature and illustrative art. Wit and wisdom, science and literature, song and story, philosophy and philanthropy, the curious and the profound, are here brought together for the entertainment and instruction of all sorts of people. Remember, we send this great and most popular magazine and our paper a full year to new subscribers for \$2.00. Howell's "Letters of an Altruistic Traveler" running in the magazine are more than worth the price of it. To old subscribers we have to make the price of both \$2.25.

A NUMBER of the county treasurers have dropped in to see us, this week being the week they account with the state treasurer and turn over funds. E. Greathouse of Hyannis, treasurer of Grant Co., incidentally stated to us that he turned over \$1,600 interest money saved to the State in his sparsely settled county by that good honest law passed by our party requiring county treasurers to turn over interest on bank deposits of county funds to the states instead of privately pocketing it as the Republicans and Democrats have always done.

THE CAUSE OF THE PANIC.

PONCA, Neb., Jan. 8, 1894. GEORGE HOWARD GIBSON, DEAR SIR:—I notice that in your letter to the Bee of December 23d, on the currency question, you say that "The panic and the succeeding stagnation and suffering was caused directly by the refusal of the banks to lend the money which is needed to keep the wheels of commerce and industry moving." I am an independent, but have been unable to see the matter in that light. I saw the parties who furnish the banks with their working capital, from lack of confidence, withdraw their money from the banks until there was none in any of their vaults. From May till September there were very few certificates of deposit which came due that were not presented for payment and the cash demanded, and very few banks issued a single new certificate. Demands were made on the banks which they could not meet because they could not collect what they had loaned out, nor would any one trust them with money. Now it seems to me that you are wrong, but I would be glad to know the truth. Would like to hear from you on this one point. Respectfully yours, B. W. WOOD.

We are glad Brother Wood (publisher of the Ponca Gazette) has written asking for more light on the to many mysterious, cause of the panic of '93 and the consequent business paralysis. It is exceedingly important that we get at the truth in this matter; and the truth is within reach. In an editorial entitled "The Spirit of Party," in our Dec. 21st issue, we stated the cause of the panic, and gave facts which, we think, make the matter plain; but Mr. Wood must have overlooked that article, or the part of it bearing upon the panic question.

What Mr. Wood observed between May and September was not the cause of the panic, but the effect of that cause. The ball which started the human pins (weak business houses and banks) to falling against and over each other, was set rolling in April by the American Bankers' Association, by a concerted action of the strong bankers in the great business centers, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and other large cities, an action agreed upon as the first thing necessary to bring about the closing of the mints against silver.

From the cold-blooded, selfish standpoint of the Shylock class this was greatly to be desired, because, as a necessary consequence, prices of all products would fall and the value of every debt and dollar would be enhanced. It would also increase their power in commanding terms of usury in future. The entire creditor class ranged itself naturally against silver coinage. How to stop it, with the people's will against them, was the question. But prior to the last week in April the gold monopolists, the leading bankers, the shrewd "financiers," had perfected their plan. Carlisle, the traitor, went to New York to confer with them, and on the 29th of April the New York and Chicago papers, which had just previously stated that the punishment of the South and West was about to begin, printed the following:

President Cleveland's advisers have told him that the only way to induce the western and southwestern senators and congressmen to consent to a repeal of the Sherman law is to demonstrate to their constituents that they are losing money every day that this law is in operation. The missionary work in that direction has been started by a number of the bankers in the solid communities of the East. They are daily refusing credits to the South, southwest and West.

This is the exact language of the New York Sun, date above mentioned, and it was this action of the bankers at the great business centers, by a concerted plan refusing credit to the great West, southwest and South, which toppled over the financially weak, which began the complicated smash, and this, chiming in with the great cry they had raised of danger, spread the panic fear to everyone. They prophesied financial evil, and then produced it to order. "President Cleveland's advisers," referred to by the Sun, were the Associated Bankers who met in conference with Carlisle in New York on the day or the day before the above quoted paragraph was printed. One of the speakers at the conference stated that the bankers of Chicago had already begun the credit-refusing, money-locking-up, "missionary work" Secretary Carlisle, it was reported, emphatically declared (to please the bankers) that there was to be heroic treatment all the way through; and he predicted that as a result of this heroic treatment the adherents of silver in the house and senate would be ready by the time congress convened to repeal the Sherman law. The prediction was based on the certainty that all the bankers, boards of trade and moneyed men, who own everywhere the political machines and furnish the funds to run them, would with one voice demand of their national legislators the repeal of the silver coinage act. A circular letter was also sent out by the executive officers of the American Bankers' Association to all the bankers of the country a little time before the special session of congress, calling on each of them in their own interest to bring all possible influence to bear on their respective national lawmakers to secure the repeal of the silver coinage act. And it was done.

This is the history of the conception and causation forces of the panic and its most cruel consequences. The great bankers planned it, and took the necessary steps, refusing credits and creating danger, to bring it on. Of course with credit refused the financially weak went