LLIANCE-INDEPENDENT

Parmers Altiances Nebraska Independent

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO. 1120 M Street, Lincoln, Neb.

H. S. BOWERS, S. E. C. REWICK,

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 Sufficient, wrought by man's saturale foe; And who that bath a heart would dare prolo Or add a sorrow to a stricken soul That seeks a healing balm to make it whole? My bosom owns the brotherhood of man.

N. I. P. A.



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hem.
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WE call our readers' attention especially this week to a very notable, valuable article contributed by Hon. H. H. Meses of Ohio, an article entitled "Farmers Rights and the Railroads," found on page 8. The writer of it is the author of the standard legal work, "Moses on Mandamus." He is a former resident of Wayne Co. Nebraska, and we learn will return to make his residence here. In politics he has been a Democrat, but he is convinced that the Democracy of Nebraska "is only the left pressed as follows: g of the G. O. P." He is co back here with a will to secure justice for all from the railroads, and through Bro. H. B. Miller of Winside, he makes request that all Populist papers in the our Conference action. It is found on state reprint his article. It is an article of much interest and importance. This Moses will be a great additional intellectual ferce and legal light for our party. O yes, we're growing. The men who leve justice will all be with us in the near future if we keep facing

THE plutocrats are going mad in their blind effort to fasten bonds upon the

THERE are a few Democratic dailies that are epposed to bonds and bondage, and the Atlanta Constitution is one of

THE Atlanta Constitution says, "If the Democratic policy is to be outraged and violated by a bond issue, let genuine | ing a regularly elected, delegated body, Democrate wash their hands of it."

IF Carliele, backed by the Democratic administration and the John Sherman Republicans, fastens bonds on the people, the people will rise in their wrath and fling them from power.

THERE is a voice or two raised among our Populist exchanges to nominate candidates who are not known and known not to be Populists. This seems to us decidedly premature.

THE men who issue and fasten bonds upon the people should be made to wear striped elothes and work on the public streets with a ball and chain attachment to their understanding.

South Carolina liquor law is what is understand or intend that the Umaha platcalled for by the new platform of the Nebraska Parmers Alliance. The South Carolina law provides for a hundred in which this recommendation was imper cent profit, thereby encouraging illicit sales for profit, and making it the financial interest of the state to sell as much as possible. The Alliance de- It is to be remembered that it was part mands that all profit and money temptations be eliminated.

Wn forgot to mention editorially that our friend, Hon. J. M. Devine, of state d antionni fame, has been retained in Washington as office manager of the National Bimetallie Lesgue Headquartere. It is a position he is eminently qualified to fill. Don't let silver eloquence shut off the preaching of greenack legal tender destrine to the leadbimetallists, Brother Devine. Teach the teachers in order that their ar lastruction may be the right,

AN EXPLANATION AND REPARA-TION

The editor of this paper felt compelled in last week's issue to relate what he had reason to believe was a matter of fact, and upon the basis of that supposed fact to severely criticise the writer of the report of the action of our State Conference published in the previous week's issue of the Nonconformist. Through a peculiarly unfortunate misunderstanding a mistake was made, a mistake which no one can be blamed for, but we wish to repair the injury done. We wish to make the complete reparation which truth and justice call for, and have therefore written the following letter, which fully explains the whole matter. The original was last week forwarded to the Nonconformist. LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 17, 1894.

Editors Nonconformist. GENTLEMEN:-I wrote you this morning calling your attention to editorials in our this week's issue criticising the report of our State Conference sent you by Mr. Edgerton. He has since teen here to see me and has convinced me that I was not correctly informed about one important matter, which my writing was based on. Our business manager understood him to say that his report was written before the Conference acted. It happened this way: Another man on the street, having read his report in our office, the report published in your paper, chaffed him about it and said he must have written the matter before it occurred. Mr Edgerton a little later was in our business office reading the "Noncon." and repeated the remark made him; and it so happened that Mr. Griffin, our business manager came in while he was speaking and heard what appeared to be a declaration that he wrote it beforehand, but which was intended to be understood as the words of another. A few moments later in my room I called Mr. Griffin's attention to the untrue report in your paper, and he recalled and repeated Mr. Edgerton's words to me, supposing it to be his statement. Having his own words. as I supposed, Mr. G being a man whose word cannot be doubted. I was compell-

interest of truth and for the cause' sake. The mputation, based on his own acknowledgement, as I supposed, was severe on Mr. Edgerton. The words not having been correctly understood I am very glad to make the amende henorable, to say that he was unfortunately misjudged in the matter of the time when his report was written. He is not the politician we felt compelled to believe. His report was written with a full knowledge of what the Conference did, after it acted, there is no doubt.

but kind feelings for Mr. Edgerton.

Now as to his report of platform ac-tion which I denied having been taken, which I said was untrue, the affirmation regarding our Conference action ex-

"Decided to push next campaign on and retrenchment and reform in state

Mr. Edgerton has brought me today what he considers justifies and substantiates the above statement regarding smaller sheet of paper enclosed, in his own handwriting, as he brought it to It is language which has never seen the light, no paper in this state having printed it, no copy I suppose having been furnished to our own papers even. But you will please compare the original with the report of it sent you. It is part of the report of the committee on organization and plan of campaign, which report, Mr. Edgerton tells me, was unanimously adopted. The part in question reads as follows:

We recommend that in the next campaign We recommend that in the next campaign we confine ourselves to government control of railroads and telegraph lines to the end that the people may derive the best service at the least cest consistent with the interest of all concerned: and to the financial question, which we regard of all questions the most important to the people, and particularly to the free coinage of silver at the ratio of sixteen to one.

I was present at the January 3d session of the Conference. During that session a motion to appoint a committee on platform and resolutions was promptly voted down, after a speaker had pointed out that the Conference (not bechosen for that purpose) had no right or power to take such action. A committee on plan and organization, and s press committee to report on the feasibility of establishing a daily paper were the only committees appointed. and the Conference next morning took no action except to hear and accept their reports. Work on our paper made it necessary for me to leave on an early train, so that I missed the moraing session of the Conference, when these reports were brought in. The next day's dailies reported action of the Thursday morning meeting, but contained not so much as a hint of the foregoing recommendation of what questions we should confine ourselves to, what platform we should stand on and

It is apparent on the face of it that the committee exceeded its authority in bringing in such a recommendation, and the Conference in adopting it. Its own action in refusing to act on the matter proves this. It IT is a mietake to suppose that the proves also that the Conference did not form should be dropped. I appeal to the members of the Conference who voted for the report on plan and organization bedded, if they so understood it and would have the press and people act ac-

cordingly.

Now as to the recommendation itself. of a report whose chief features were plan and organization." These other features drew particular attention. Notice also that the language of the recommendation is very ambiguous. It may be construed to mean much No ope can tell certainly what the man who wrote it meant by ernment control of railroad and telegraph lines to the end that the people may derive the best service at the least cost consistent with the interests of all concerned." It may be construed to mean everything we want, or nothing. Again, "the financial question which we regard of all questions the most im-portant," is understood to mean less or more, free coinage only (see your re-port), or the nationalization of the whole benking business, loans, deposits

and exchange. That the committee as well as the Conference did not understand it to mean simply free coinage of silver seems certain from the separate expression regarding silver.

From these considerations we conclude that, this recommendation going through without discussion (a fact, I am told), each man who voted for it did it without more than momentary consideration, and it meant to each more or less, according to his individual views, by anambiguous power of adapta-Very truly yours, GEORGE HOWARD GIBSON.

Since writing the above letter we have zation report at the conference (the rethe foregoing letter), that they did not tion of all morality." as a committee intend to recommend, or wish it understood that they recommended, that the Omaha platform be Prohibition brother. There has always dropped. A minority of the committee consisting of Porter, Poynter, Gaffin Green and Stewart, fought and pleaded from the belief that they were really for two hours in the committee room the only "God-and-morality party." It to recommend that no questions be was very easy to believe this before the discussed except local, state questions People's party sprang into the politi and the free coinage of silver; but the cal arena; and since then they have majority sat down on the proposition, and stood firmly by our national platform. The idea that we should drop mands, that we care much less than the Omaha platform is absurd, preposterous, impossible. But a few men are foolish enough to think, perhaps, that it "filthy lucre" is all we are after. Mr. ought to be done and can be done, and when delegates are to be chosen to attend our next state convention they will while "Mr. Cibson's object is to better be alive and at work. We shall not the condition of humanity morally, need even to quarrel with them if we physically and financially, the supreme beforehard understand what they want object of the Populist platform is a and are working for. We have room more equal distribution of wealth, or on our platform for all the free silver the improvement of the common people men, free silver and nothing else, but financially." As if the just distributhey would not leave room for anybody | tion of wealth were not a moral matter else if they could have their way.

NOT MANY GREAT ARE CALLED.

ed to act, to write as I did upon the The lawyers, bankers, railroad manatestimony before me. I wrote with much reluctance, never having had any gers and editors who furnish the brains and boodle and run the old party mafelt under compulsion to do it in the chines, look loftily down on the Farmers Alliance, the grangers, the political "hayseeds" and the organized city laborers. They fancy in their egotism that they know vastly more than men who work. At the same time the whole body of Republican and Democratic leaders haven't had a single new political idea in twenty-five years. The men they are despising-and beginning to fear-have passed on beyond them, in the study of social problems, and the old party politicians are so far beneath them in their grasp of economic quescalling them the names that are always and four years ago a prohibition speaker move the world. J. Sterling Morton is a sample of the puffed up, learned ignoramuses, or worse, who rail at and talk superciliously to a class whose philosophy is either beyond their mental grasp or their grade of character. Colleges and universities have a natural tendency toward scientific and economic dogmatism, the limitation of know-it-allism, which supports always the social crust and stratification of society. Changes core never from the class above, the well-to-do, the teachers, the professorially gowned and ecclesias tically endorsed and sent. The movement is from below, where pressure creates warmth and fire. But there are always some few of the learned whose minds remain emancipated and whose broad advancing philosophy supports the providentially-forced movements of humanity. Prof. Jones of Hastings is one of the "hayseeds" whom Sterling Morton despises. The vice-president of the Nebraska Farmers Alliance and a farmer, he is also ranked with and among the foremost educators of this country. Forten years he was at the head of the Normal University of Indiana, and previously held other high positions. He could forget more history, science, economic truth and philsophy than J. Sterling Morton ever knew, and hardly miss it. He is in erudition, mental penetration and philosophic grasp incomparably the superior of Morton.

In this issue of our paper we are pleased and proud to say Prof. Jones gives us the first of a series of articles entitled, "An Outgrown System and Social Needs." Find it on page five. These articles will need careful, thoughtful reading, but mentally grasped they will be of great practical value. We ask all our readers to give to these articles the attention they merit.

government must borrow of the bankers their non-interest bearing paper currongy, currency which costs them but about one cent on the dollar. By swapping their government issue and give them \$45,loan at algh rates to the people; and so the books and bondage can go gathererever. Unless this is stopped soon be a nation of "financiera"

OUR FRIENDS THE PROBIBITIONISTS

The New Republic, organ of the Nebraska Prohibition party, in its last issue, says, "If there is an honest and (and there are many of them) Mr. Gib. road anti-monopolists? son is one of them. But honest and well meaning men are often deceived."

Mr. Frederick thinks the writer deceived in two statements made in his paper recently read before the Independent Press Association, namely, these: that "The platform we stand on is been informed by part of the committee a grander platform than was ever bewhich brought in the plan and organi- fore by any political party conceived and formulated;" and that "The things port containing the recommendation we contend for as Populists are at the which is printed and commented on in base, they constitute the very founda-

"The very foundation of all morality" assertion is what rubs and arouses our been a good deal of self-satisfaction rising up in the breasts of Prohibitionists tried hard to show and believe that sordid motives lie at the base of our dethey whether men are "intelligent, virtuous and temperate." That is to say, F. of his own accord courteously excepts the writer, but declares that and had nothing to do with our moral and physical well-being!

The trouble with our high moral critics is, they do not comprehend any evil except the evil which they have given almost their whole attention to for many years. Until the People's party appeared prohibition was all the Prohibitionists agreed on, and woman suffrage all they quarreled over. They from the first added some economic features to their platforms, more or less crude ideas, fragments of truth; but in no real sense were they a part of their party teaching or principles, for they kept silent about them in the press and rostrum from year's end to year's end. They were incidental, ornamental features, used merely as a setting in which to hold and show up the one great idea, the incomparable, paramount question. tions that they can only mouth at them, More than this, we remember. Three could not talk and a prohibition editor could not write freely on economic questions, so called, without being c iticised and losing caste in the prohibition camp. This is not mere assertion, but experience. It is a more respectable, prudent thing to do now, because, thanks to the Pepulist party, antimonopoly ideas are in the air and pressing upon the attention of all men.

Mr. Frederick declares that "When the People's party was organized there was already a party in existence which demanded reforms almost identical with those now being advocated by the new party."

This is a very great mistake, which we could clearly show if we had space to print and compare our platform dehas a goldbug head and a silver and greenback tail. Prohibition is of course still the dominant, uniting issue everything else, and their political influence upon other questions is nil. prohibition. Now as to their anti-monopoly ideas

and their effect on them. Take the

railroad monopoly, for example. The Prohibition party in Nebraska is a long way in advance of the national party, and stimulated by our teaching has adopted exactly our railroad doctrine and platform demand. But this seems to be a garment put on, not a principle taken in. We are personally acquainted with the Prohibition party leaders in this state and have been for six years and more. We know nearly all of them to be good men, honest men, moral men, judged by the light they have. But we also know that their anti-monopoly principles sit as lightly on them as the aureoles encircling the heads of ancient saints. They never interfere with their movements in the least. The leaders of the party is all the years we were THE government is in need of money; intimately acquainted with them, the but the government, we are told, can no chairman and secretary of their state longer coin its metal or issue non-inter- executive committee, and platform est bearing legal tender paper. The speakers whom we know, applied for, accepted and rode on railroad passes what it has given the bankers. It must just as did the Republican and Demoexchange its interest-bearing bonds for cratic leaders and men of influence. If gold which the banks can purchase with we have done Messra. Scott, Hawley, Bentley, Odell and Smith injustice in teaching of the Populists.

that the railroad managers will carry | where to write or find him.

men over the state without charge whose political influence in the least degree injures them? Is it not absolutely certain that passes are never given to or conscientious man in the People's party accepted by the actual, effective rail-

Do not for a moment suppose we conder prohibitionists who ride on passes guilty as Republicans, Democrats or Populist leaders are or would be with the same monopoly tavors. They have been given to the prohibitionists because the railroad managers consider them harmless people, engaged in a political diversion profitable to the powers that be. They are really preachers of the gospel of prohibition, that is all.

We have not space this week to dis cuss the question of what constitutes the "base of morality," but refer our prohitition friends to some few thoughts on usury given in another column. Much more might have been added on that subject.

THE LIQUOR PLANK OF THE ALLI-ANCE PLATFORM.

One of the recently adopted planks of the Netraska Farmers Alliance platform reads as follows:

We believe the solution of the liquor problem lies in the elimination of the element of profit, and therefere demand that the sale of liquor shall be exclusively carried on by the state at cost through salaried officials in such municipalities as shall apply for such agencies, and that the national government shall regulate the importation, manufacture and transportation of all into alcants so as to protect the states in their exclusive management.

The evils growing out of the present universally conceded to be great. What stitutes its worth as a monetary exreason have we to believe that those evils could be to the largest possible degree removed under the exclusive public conduct of the business, which the Farmers Alliance calls for?

We quote from a very practical and very high authority when we say that, "The love of money is a root of all evils." The business of selling liquor, with all its evil features, is now carried on for money. The desire to obtain money easily, without labor, is what prompts men to engage in it and to provide with it social and gambling and sensual at tractions. Money can be easily obtain ed selling liquor, and the more men push the business by cultivating public drinking customs and by bringing into the saloon sensual, gambling, billpard and card playing allurements, the more money there is in it for them. It to work up customers, to encourage and cultivate bad, dangerous drinking habits and social customs. Something like 200,000 men in America are thus finding it for their personal interest to tempt, endanger and debauch our citizens, and debauched citizens are a political danger as well as a great public burden. The liquor sellers who now find it to their interest and make it their business to play the tempter, to financially prey upon, physically debauch and morally ruin men by alluring them into the coils of the fearful drink habit, must be interfered with. The American saloon must go. But it is growing faster than it is going, in spite of the utmost efforts of political prohibitionists and high license restriction ists. The license fee, statistics show,mands. The national Prohibition party has not had a tendency to limit the business, but rather the contrary effect It has stimulated it, organized it, and made the saloons more attractive. Nonwith them. They widely disagree about partisan state prohibition and local option seem to be making no headway, and the Prohibition party is in the same They never drew a voter to their ranks fix. It is over twenty years old, and by any idea in their platform besides when a party is twenty years old it has got its growth. The state victories which the prohibition idea gained were mostly secured before the liquor business had perfected its organization. And where prohibition for beverage purposes is the law, the profit in illegal selling is so great-greater than under license—that it tempts many to violate the law. And this brings us again to the root of the matter, the money which may now be made in it.

As long as there is a great profit to be obtained selling liquor, the sale of it will be pushed, and no state will be able to rest in peace after outlawing the liquor business. The root of the evil we believe to be the love of money. the opportunity under present liquor laws to make money. Cut off the possibility of making money out of it by providing state agents to sell it at cost, and it will close all saloons, stop all illicit selling, reduce sales to actual or supposed needs, and leave education regarding the misuse of alcoholic liquors to complete its work unhindered,

moved from Omaha to Grand Island ousness. It is the child and multiplier this statement we shall be extremely and opened a law office in company of monopoly privileges and power. It glad to correct the mistake, and as with Samuel P. Brigham. His political makes speculation possible, and by ingovernment endersed paper for gold, publicly re we make the statement, principles have cost him dear in Omaha. and then selling the gold to the govern- Traveling on free transportation has and he is forced to begin life over again. ment, they can make 200 per cent profit not been a thing prohibitionists have as it were. Omaha is a hard place for duction and exchange, it makes it unsafe on the double transaction; and on the felt ashamed of, unless it may be in the reformers of note to thrive in. We sin- for men to be either just or generous. boads they thus buy they can make the last year or two, through the enlight- cerely hope Mr. Edgerton will find his it forces brutality upon us all. It comening influence of the superior moral new surroundings less nostile. He has pels us in business to be supremely selsacrificed much for the people in the fish in order to live; and out of the But think for a moment of the consis- past, and if they have need of his legal struggle and scramble all the evil fruits tency and influence of those who stand talents at any time they should remem- of seifishness are brought forth. It on the platform they do, riding abouton ber him. We make editorial note of his spreads distrust, envy, vanity, eyecrailroad parses. Can it be believed change of residence that all may know phancy, tyranny, hypocrisy, caste and

SILVER AND POPULISTS.

The following article from the Populist Tribune of Montana, one of the silver mining states, suits us exactly, and it is especially worth careful reading by those among us who fancy it wise to drop out of sight or keep in the background our national platform. The national platform is what binds us all together. It unites us beyond the power of local issues or interests to pull us apart. It furnishes our party in every state and section of the country the reason and ground for local existence, and the rational inducements needful to draw anti-money-monopolists of every variety, anti-land-monopolists, anti-monopolists of any and every sort, unto us. This has never been brought out more clearly than this silver state Populist paper shows it. - EDITOR AL-LIANCE-INDEPENDENT.]

Our esteemed contemporary, the Inter Mountain, of the 6th inst., republishes a portion of Senator Peffer's article which appeared in a recent number of the North American Review, concerning money and its uses, and opens its comments upon the same in these words:

The above shows what the Inter Mountain has always contended, viz: that the Populists, outside of the mining states, are not so wuch advocates of silver money as they are of more money. The Populist party is not distinctively a silver party, except in the Rocky Mountains states, and here they are no more friendly to silver than the repub-

The Inter Mountain evidently misconstrues the meaning of Senator Peffer's article. The Kansas populist statesman endeavored to show that it is not the intrinsic value of the article egalized system of liquor selling are out of which money is made that conchange, but that it is the stamp of the government alone upon the materialwhether it be gold, silver or paperthat clothes it with purchasing power. The value of the coin or paper resides in the fiat of the government, for mon ey is simply a written legal decree.

It is true, as the Inter Mountain says, the Populist party is not a distinctively silver money party, but it is the only national political party which favors the free coinage of gold and silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. Neither of the two old parties thus favor it. A Republican or Democrat in Montana cannot consistently train with the Republican or Democratic party of the eastern states, while an eastern Populist stands side by side with the Montana Populist upon the silver question. Different sections of the union breed different kinds of Demis for their private interest, their ocrats and Republicans, each kind or money interest, to tempt men to drink, class antagonizing the other. But the principle enunciated in its national platform, including silver coinage.

The Populists regard the fight between goldbugs and silverites merely as an incident in the grand struggle now going on between those who have and those who have not- a contest the money power is waging against the iaboring masses. They hold that convertible money is not necessary to the existence of our government, and, therefore, contend that an issue of preper money by the government-a legaltender for all debts, public and private -would meet every demand of the business world if never a dollar of gold or silver were coined. Still the Populist party favors silver, not only because the free coinage of the metal would add to the volume of money in circulation, but because the policy of coining gold alone is unwise and unjust to the laboring world, as it lowers wages and all the products of toil by enhancing the purchasing power of the yellow metal.

The suggestion of the Inter Mountain that the Populist party of Montana act with the Republicans at the polls in the interest of silver is somewhat amusing. The record of the Republican party in congress upon the silver question is not assuring to the Populist mind; neither is that of the present Democratic party. The old parties are too shaky upon any given policy-silver or otherwise. The lamb does not go to the wolf for protection, ner the linnet to the hawk for safety. The safety and integrity of the Populist party lie in its non-alliance with either of the old political organizations-in its keeping in the middle of the road. Others may come to the party, but the party, like the mountain go to no Mohammed.-The Populist Tribune, Butte, Montana.

How long will it take the majority to learn that usury, in the broad biblical sense, is the great parent evil, the prolific source of poverty and riches, of suffering and surfetting, of ennui and anxiety, of proud arrogance and degrading dependence? Usury enables one class to enjoy without labor, and forces another class to labor without enjoying. It debases work by enslaving the workers, it discourages strict hon-Hon, J. W. EBGERTON has lately re- esty, and rewards the spirit of covettreducing and spreading uncertainty throughout the whole system of proclass antagonisms. It destroys all