

# THE FRONTIER.

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THE FRONTIER PRINTING COMPANY  
KING & CRONIN, EDITORS.

## WHERE ARE THE DEMOCRATS.

There are populists with horny fists  
And a fine collection of mental twists;  
Queer old birds as ever flew, flapping about  
With a great to-do.

Flapping blindly about like bats:  
There are rows and rows of various cranks.  
With a faucet loose in their cerebral tanks;  
Long are the lists of the lams and lents,  
But where are the democrats?

Protection robs, while the Star-Eyed sobs  
And her beautiful head with anguish bows:  
Culminators culminate, and most atrociously  
Closely legislate.

Sawdust statesmen talk through their hats  
They pant and puff in the ocean of guff.  
They dazzle the eye with the spray of their bluffs;  
All sorts you see, and mostly N. G.,  
But where are the democrats?

The tariff tax they keep on our backs,  
And new communal burdens in packs:  
They load us down and they do us wrong,  
They use the constitution for mints:  
The platform they eat, and insert their feet  
In their mouths as a pleasing additional treat  
A mostly lot they are, God wot,  
But where are the democrats?

We view with awe these materials raw,  
Of statesmanship this political slaw:  
This salad of slops, with a garnish of pops,  
And a pungent odor of ancient cats:  
This unspeakable mix of politics,  
This savory mess of fraud and mix.  
There is cold and hot served up in the pot,  
But where are the democrats?

—[New York Sun.]

## AN OPEN LETTER.

The following letter, published in the Ewing Democrat, almost explains itself. Its author, D. G. Roll, is one of the independent supervisors who had the temerity to vote against the tax list steal, and for so doing was roundly abused by the Ewing Advocate, which paper, it seems, had formed a combination with Kautzman. This letter is written by a straight populist and is an indication of how the better element of the party is taking the rank work of their officers:

To the People's Advocate—I cannot see the reason for the tirade you set up against me in your issue of February 16, unless it is to cover up a low down, measly steal on the part of some of the independents of this county. I cannot see why one or two years ago you favored letting the county printing to the lowest bidder and this year to the highest bidder, unless it is for the little bit of pitiful patronage you told certain parties in O'Neill you expected to receive as a rake off. If you had the bright "business qualities" you boast of you could exist without upholding any such low down stealing on the part of any party, for the pitiful sum you will receive.

Now if we, as independents, cannot practice what we preached before we came into power in this county, let us step down and say that we are no better than either of the old parties, and not justify stealing by saying they did the same. Do not stand up and eulogize a man to the sky who voted to rob Holt county of \$1,200 and put in the hands of parties whom it is plain to be seen are only working for the spoils, as they say "to the victor belongs the spoils," and by their acts say "we are going to have them if we jump over platform and everything honorable to obtain them." Now do not praise these men too highly. You had better remind them that they were under oath as well as bonds to work for the interest of Holt county and not for the masters of any political party. Do not be so foolish as to commence a howl until you have something to bark at. Do not try to berate a man's "business qualities" until you possess the "business qualities" to make an honest living without working for boodle. Yours for reform but not for boodle. D. G. ROLL.

WHOSOEVER THE FRONTIER takes occasion to criticize Kautzman takes occasion to defend. If we were to attack the devil the result would be the same. The Jew would be compelled to hasten to the rescue as a matter of self-defense.

THE supreme court has held the state depository law unconstitutional, in so far as it touches the permanent school fund, which the court holds cannot be deposited under the act. The court holds that a bank deposit is in fact and law nothing but a loan.

EVERY democratic member of the house who would consent to express an opinion has said in substance: "It is not such a tariff bill as I wanted." It is certainly not such a bill as any republican wanted, therefore Mr. Cleveland is the only man who really wants such a bill.

It seems from investigations made by the Mexican government that some rich Americans have been heavily investing in paper titles to Mexican land. A gang of American shazgers are systematically working the scheme. They don't own a foot of land but they have sold millions of acres.

Last Saturday's World-Herald gives editorial space to a communication, signed "A William V. Allen Man," advocating fusion between populists and democrats next fall. As a scheme to catch the offices it might be a success, but as the action of the democratic party, once respected for at least prima facie patriotism, it would be an everlasting disgrace. The independents have made records in congress and different counties in the state and they are of such a nature as to make a statesman of every man who advocates giving them parquette seats in the theatre of oblivion where they may be appropriately entertained by the shades of other false prophets of other false gods.

Boyd county towns are very anxious to secure telephone connections with the outside world via O'Neill. While the line would be a source of great convenience to the citizens of Boyd, we rather doubt that with a competing daily mail it would command patronage sufficient to prove a remunerative investment for stock-holders.

By observing closely the language used by Mr. Roll in his open letter to the Ewing Advocate, it will be noticed that the independent papers have thus early in their glorious summer of prosperity begun imitating other wicked publishers, inasmuch as they have combined to "rob" the tax payers on the tax list work. Mr. Roll says it is a steal and that the purloiners are not even making an attempt to live up to the platform upon which they were elected; that they are in it for the money and not for the good of their country, all of which verifies statements heretofore made by this paper and aside from that conclusively demonstrates that great minds will occasionally get into the same rut.

THE decision of the secretary of the interior in regard to the Boyd county school lands may be good law but it does not contain a particle of justice. It means simply that hundreds of innocent purchasers will lose their improvements, purchase price and homes. THE FRONTIER is of the opinion that Mr. Humphrey was in very poor business when he contested this matter in the first place. The state could afford to lose this land, especially after it had been indemnified, but these settlers are mostly poor men struggling to build a home for their families on those fertile prairies and can ill afford to have their two years of hard and faithful labor confiscated by the government. The department is to blame for all this, too. It has allowed them to file, heard and determined contests and in some cases accepted proof. This decision should be tested in the courts anyway. It is a rank injustice.

WE are told that a very knowing pedagogue and a male grandmother, much disturbed on account of the great hue and cry that is being raised over the last tax list steal, are assiduously circulating the statement among the uninformed that the work has never been done at a less rate than for which the contract was let this year. We desire to contradict this statement and call the promulgators of the falsehood to a show down. It has invariably been let to the lowest bidder, and furthermore printed or written notice has always been given the publishers and none were denied the right to bid. The Ledger published it one year for 2 and 3, the Graphic for something like the same amount, and THE FRONTIER also published it once or twice for figures as low or lower. Two years ago the Sun did the work and got the best rate that has ever been paid, but the contract was let by the independents and to the lowest bidder. The total amount for the work, however, was less than was received by the Jew last year; and was less than he will receive this year.

THE FRONTIER'S criticism of the action of the independent board in regard to county printing has set the populist organs' tongues to wagging like bell clappers, and while they make as much noise, the vibrations lack the charming sweetness of chiming bells, but at the same time are endowed with fully as much reason. The burden of their song is that the law does not authorize the board to advertise for bids or to let the contract for less than legal rates. In this we agree fully with our inconsistent brethren and refer our readers to the files of THE FRONTIER to prove that in times ago we have taken and maintained the same position; and we also refer our readers to the populist organs to prove that at those times they accused us of being thieves and hoodlers and the independents used that argument against Joe Hunter in the last senatorial fight and promised if they might be elected the work would be more cheaply performed and the county would save thousands of dollars. But now that these reformers are in the saddle they repudiate those promises and display a proficiency in dishonesty that was never approached by republicans.

The Jew seeks to excuse himself by charging that THE FRONTIER, Graphic and Ledger combined have in a series of years taken from the county in overcharges about \$700. We are neither censor nor guardian for the Graphic and Ledger and have nothing whatsoever to say in regard to their bills, or ours for that matter, but are willing to admit the truthfulness of the charge for the sake of argument; and in that connection we will ask how the Jew finds any defense in proving that three papers stole \$700 in a number of years when he himself has taken \$2,700 in two years? It will be remembered that last year he got \$1,500 for the tax list when it could have been done for \$300.

We have not commented upon this matter in attempt to prove that he has received too much money for his services but to show the inconsistency of his party. We claim that they should live up to their promises and if we did wrong in charging a fair price for our work, now that they have the opportunity they should set a good example, keep their campaign pledges and save to

the tax payer every cent that is possible. They may quote law from Dan to Bersheba but they will find it a difficult task to convince the public that when they pay \$2,000 for work that McArthur offered to do for \$300 they have not in reality for partisan purposes stolen the difference. While the law does not expressly state that they may advertise for bids for this work, it has been the custom and custom eventually and invariably makes a law of its own. The supreme court has held that when once the board does advertise it is bound to accept and consider bids submitted.

This printing business and similar methods practiced by republicans furnished the independent party with pseudo-cause for existence and with the promise to control these seemingly exorbitant charges a plurality of voters have entrusted the county's business to their incompetent hands, and now we find them doing the same identical things, on a larger scale, for which they censured others and attempting to justify themselves in the eyes of their fellows by declaring that the other fellows set the example.

But time employed in discussing this question further is utterly wasted. There is but one point to it: A reform board has paid a reform editor \$2,000 for work that could have been done for \$300.

## INDEPENDENT STEALS.

At every meeting of the board of supervisors they steal from the county \$186, by charging for the day before the board meets and the day after it adjourns.

By awarding the printing of the tax list to the Independent they have stolen over \$1,500 from the people of the county.

By employing more help in the treasurer's office than is necessary and more than was employed under a republican administration, they are wrongfully spending the people's money.

By employing more help in the clerk's office than is necessary and more than was employed under a republican administration, they are robbing the tax payers.

By allowing the sheriff two deputies when he should do all of the work himself, they are heaping additional burdens upon the public.

By recklessly plunging the county into ill-advised and losing litigation that are increasing taxes.

Employing John Morrow for a year at \$2.50 per day as assistant expert, which was clearly a violation of our statute.

By calling a grand jury last fall they heaped thousands of dollars of additional debt upon the county, and the benefits derived were absolutely nothing.

Being the plurality party they are responsible for the continuance of the supervisor system, which costs the county over \$50,000 more every year than that of the commissioner.

Before election Joss Mullen promised that all the help he would ask would be one deputy and one clerk. Therefore, all the help he employs above that number is a steal, according to the words of his own mouth.

Awarding the contract for publishing the proceedings to both the Sun and the Independent is a steal that will amount to considerable.

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