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THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1896.

**State Democratic Platform.**  
We, the democrats of the state of Nebraska, in convention assembled, renew our allegiance to the principles taught by Thomas Jefferson and courageously defended by Andrew Jackson, and demand that the great problems now before the people shall be solved by the application of these principles to present conditions.

We congratulate the democrats of Massachusetts upon the candor and frankness which characterized their platform utterances yesterday. We rejoice that they, no longer quibbling about the ratio or holding out the delusive hope of international co-operation, have at last consented to submit to the people the question, whether the United States shall have monometallism or bimetalism—whether the American people shall deliberately adopt the English system of finance or restore the gold and silver coinage of the country.

The Massachusetts demand for a single gold standard and for the redemption of all government obligations in gold alone presents the paramount issue of the campaign, and we welcome the contest.  
We endorse the language used by Hon. John G. Carlisle in 1878, when he denounced the "conspiracy" to destroy silver as a standard money as "the most gigantic crime of this or any other age," and we agree with him in the declaration then made that "the consummation of such a scheme would ultimately entail more misery upon the human race than all the wars, pestilences and famines that have ever occurred in the history of the world. We are not willing to parties to such a crime, and in order to undo the wrong already done and to prevent a further rise in the purchasing power of the dollar, we favor the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, as such coinage existed prior to 1873, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation, such gold and silver to be a full legal tender for all debts, public and private.

We are opposed to the retirement of the greenback and demand that the secretary of the treasury, instead of taxing the interest-bearing bond for the purchase of gold, shall recognize silver as money of redemption and exercise the right to redeem greenbacks, treasury notes and all other coin obligations in silver when silver is more convenient.

Believing that general laws should not be set aside by private contract, we favor such congressional legislation as will, without interfering with valid contracts in existence, prohibit for the future the making of agreements for the payment of any specific kind of legal tender money.

We are in favor of a tariff for revenue only.  
We are in favor of a constitutional amendment authorizing the collection of an income tax as a part of the federal revenue system.

We are in favor of the election of United States senators by the direct vote of the people.  
We are in favor of a liberal pension policy.

We are in favor of the initiative and referendum system as an aid to securing a government of the people, for the people and by the people.  
The democratic party has ever been the party of religious liberty in the country. It has always been and is now opposed to the union of church and state in any form or under any pretext whatever; it is opposed to the imposition of any religious test for office; it is opposed to all secret political organizations of every kind or character, or any open political organization based upon religious prejudices, as contrary to the spirit and genius of our institutions and thoroughly un-American. It stands by our public school system as a means of popular education and is opposed to any diversion of public school funds to any sectarian purpose but it recognizes the right of parental control and the rights of conscience in the education of children as in accord with the fundamental doctrines of the democratic party, that the largest liberty consistent with the rights of others insures the best government.

ED. CAMPBELL and others of Grover's officials in Iowa are said to be putting in their besticks to keep that state in line for the goldbugs, but they will evidently have an up-hill task of it.

THE democratic bolters in Cass county are such a small force as to excite only ridicule. A "mass" convention of less than fifteen acquiescent participants out of 1,900 democrats in the county gives one a pain to think about.

THE World-Herald has done a good thing by exposing the unfairness of State Auditor Moore in becoming the creature of the alien insurance companies in their warfare against the home mutuals. Mr. Moore must fish or cut bait. He cannot assume that he is higher than the law.

ONE of the good results of the Harvey lecture at Omaha last Friday was an arrangement for a joint debate on the money question between Mr. Rosewater of the Bee and Mr. Bryan of the World-Herald—to come off sometime soon. Rosewater has plenty of pluck—but very poor judgment.

THE gold standard democrats are now making a move to have the national democratic convention postponed till August—in hope of defeating free coinage. It is a vain effort. Though it may be successful in putting off the convention its defeat in that body will only be the more emphatic.

THE mayor in his appointment of chief of police probably forgot one of the first tenets of Jeffersonian democracy. Jefferson laid down three questions as paramount in the appointment of any man to public station, to-wit: Is he honest? Is he competent? Is he faithful to the constitution? The second of these questions would rule out his appointment of chief of police, for every one knows that Mr. Fitzpatrick is not competent to fill a place of that kind which requires a good deal of writing, and he cannot write. There can be no excuse, therefore, for making such an appointment. It is radically undemocratic.

**DEPRESSION IN FARM LANDS.**

"More than one-half the farms of Cass county will change hands through the courts before long," said an extensive farmer to the writer a few days since. Asked why he thought so, he said "because they are mortgaged for more than they are worth, and the notes cannot be renewed. I tell you," he went on to observe, "the farm land in this county has got to come down—twenty to thirty dollars an acre, the way things are running now. All around me are farms the crops from which at the low prices of these times cannot pay the interest on the loans made against them, and, if they are sold a deficiency judgment will occur besides. Only the other day the Heebner farms near Nehawka were sold, and on easy terms they brought only \$20 to \$22 an acre. A few years ago those lands would have brought \$45 under the hammer. That shows pretty well what the trend of prices are. If this continues more than half the present owners of farms in Cass county will soon be homeless. You ask me the cause of all this? I am not deeply versed in financial matters, but I think it is the lack of money in the country, or in the world. The low prices of farm products have their parallel in the low prices of everything else—except money, and money is almost as high as it ever was, and is a good deal harder to get. People may think I'm a crank, but I think if the silver that lies in the mountains west of us could be coined into money it would afford relief, and it's about the only thing that will do it, to my mind."

Such, in substance, were the words and ideas of one of Cass county's successful farmers—George W. Harshman, whom most of the people of the county know. He is fortunately well enough situated to be independent, and he is not a soured dyspeptic or a crank. He is a plain farmer, who has been about the world a good deal in his time, and has the kind of judgment that comes from experience and hard knocks against the corners of the world about him. His judgment is, at least, as good as that of the average man of affairs, and with his fellow farmers it ought to be worth something.

One thing we know, however much we may differ as to the cause and the remedy: The only plans of relief offered are: (by the republicans) first, a higher system of tariff taxes; second, (by the goldbug bankers and their satellites) stop agitation of the silver question.

As to the first, the remedy smacks too much of desire for partisan success to be seriously considered. The effort to enrich a people by taxing them, has long since been found to result only in the enrichment of the manufacturer in whose interest the tax is levied.  
As to second, it is plainly delusive. In 1893, when it was proposed to stop coining silver by repealing the Sherman law, the promise and prophecy was made that the passage of that measure was all that was necessary to bring prosperity at once; but it didn't come. Not only that, but times have been growing tighter all the time. "Stop agitation" has been the shibboleth of tyrants and wrong-doers in every age. It is a mere pretext and sham. Agitation is the only peaceable means of righting wrongs and reforming abuses in this country, and the cry against it simply indicates a weak and defenseless cause.

MORE than five hundred republicans of Omaha have organized and joined a free coinage league, and the number is growing daily. In response to an invitation from this body, W. H. Harvey, the author of Coin's Financial School, delivered an address last evening at the Creighton theater, on bimetalism. The lecture was free, and an immense crowd was out to hear the distinguished advocate of two-metallism. It was a great occasion and a speech to more than match the occasion. Mr. Harvey has a very happy faculty of presenting and analyzing a subject, and before he had spoken half an hour his audience was in complete sympathy with his every utterance. Although he read most of his lecture, that seemed to make no difference with the crowd. It simply went wild over his masterly handling of his subject. The republican silver advocates of Omaha are to be congratulated on their good fortune in obtaining such a rare treat for the people and for the means of education it afforded. Mr. Harvey is a modest, appearing man of a retiring nature; one who does not seek public notoriety for his own gratification, and there is only a bright twinkle of the eye, a quick, nervous movement of the body, a notably erect and manly bearing to indicate the possession of more than an ordinary mind; yet he is a tower of strength to the cause of silver; a very lion in the path of the money power.

THE gold standard democrats in Kentucky think to carry that state by the "mass" convention plan. They should import a few men like Guild, and then they might win.

**Notes of the State Convention.**

Delegate Grimes objects to too much enthusiasm.  
Doc. Dearing as a manager is out of sight. He knows several things besides understanding how to act as secretary.

The speech of Oldham, was what made him delegate at large. He would easily have been beaten but for his many happy hits at the goldbugs.

Judge Robinson of Madison is one of the best appearing men in Nebraska. Tall, lythe, erect, graceful, with an open, benignant yet dignified face, he would command attention in any gathering.

Matthew Gering made the speech of the congressional convention, in which he showed that the present one was the legal and only convention of the democrats of Nebraska, and declared himself for free coinage at 16 to 1.

Cass county was not only honored by the election of a delegate to the national convention, and an assistant secretary, but in the selection of one of its delegates—Matthew Gering—as a member of the committee on resolutions. And the character of the platform reported indicated that the place was no sinecure.

Gov. Stone, of Missouri, who spoke in the evening before a great audience at the Funk, is an orator of rare power, a polished speaker, using just enough of the southern vernacular for one to make sure that he was not born east of the Hudson. His face is fairly modeled after the type of the earliest picture of Lincoln. In form and contour he reminds one very much of the pictures of Uncle Sam. He is a man of much natural grace and dignity, a real old-fashioned gentleman. One does not realize the flight of time when he is talking.

No greater exhibition of unselfish devotion to principles of political action has been made in modern times, at least, than that displayed by Hon. W. J. Bryan when he declined to receive the unanimous endorsement of the late democratic state convention for president. When a resolution was offered tendering him the endorsement of the convention and the unanimous vote of the delegation, it was received with a perfect storm of applause and cheers. But Mr. Bryan arose and, after repeated and continuous effort, was finally heard above the din and calmly stated that he was not in this fight for honors or emoluments, but because he believed it right and for the best interests of the people. When he went to the national convention he preferred to go untrammelled by any expressed preference like this, so that he could make his voice heard in the cause of bimetalism. When the free coinage platform had been adopted by the national convention it would be time enough to talk about candidates, and he had no doubt the right man would be chosen to lead the people to victory. To make this fight a resolution of endorsement would only hamper and hedge him about. He begged that the resolution might be withdrawn—and it was withdrawn. Had he been tempted by the glare of tendered honors he could have gone to Chicago with the best of prospects of a nomination for the highest office on earth, but he would have none of it. As the leader of Nebraska's delegation he has a great opportunity of promoting the cause of free coinage, and in that capacity he can be a tower of strength to the cause. Principles first, office afterwards, is an excellent motto.

It would be hard for the czar of Russia to find a more suppliant set of subjects in his empire than the republican delegates to the late state convention were to the party bosses. With them principles are of very slight importance, but the disposition of the offices was a paramount question. The will of Boss Thurston was law. When he cracked the whip every slave went on his knees. "We pledge ourselves IN ADVANCE to the platform of the forthcoming republican national convention," was one of the resolves offered by the Boss, and the delegates doffed their hats and bent their knees in pliant submission to his dictum. It was a sad spectacle for the sons of revolutionary sires to witness, who but abject slaves to partisanship, forgetful of the first principle of republican government, would meekly submit to be dictated to in that matter? Truly, the republican party is a party of bosses and submissive creatures, whose love of country is swallowed up in the love of spoils. Great is the g. o. p. and Thurston is its prophet. For shame that such creatures could be found in Nebraska!

Now that the free coinage wave is again sweeping over the west again, isn't it about time for the cry to be raised that it must be stopped of the

credit of the west will be ruined? What has become of the Yates crowd of Shylocks who a few years ago were shouting so loudly for Nebraska? Has the gold standard forced them into bankruptcy?

GOV. ALTGELD of Illinois is as fearless in politics as he is in the performance of his executive duties. He has written a letter in reply to the recent speech of Carlisle in Chicago in which he takes the hide off that suppliant tool of the goldgamblers, and hangs it on the fence. Carlisle will never have the gall to come before the public again without explaining his change of heart. A few years ago Gov. Altgeld commuted the death sentences of certain men convicted as boom-throwing anarchists in Chicago, and pardoned one out of prison. Time has shown the wisdom of his act, although he was denounced in unmeasured terms at the time. The anarchists of Chicago have been as completely killed out by the fair treatment of Gov. Altgeld as the anarchists will be by the power of his logic.

THE Chicago Times-Herald's Washington correspondent says President Cleveland believes that he could beat Major McKinley, running on a sound money platform. It is safe to say there are millions of people in this country who don't believe that Mr. Cleveland could beat a "yaller" dog, even with the Ten Commandments, the "Golden Rule" and the Sermon on the Mount embodied in his platform. For three years Mr. Cleveland's ears have been deaf to all sounds save the voice of Wall street and the dulcet tones of wheedling cuckoos. He will hear other and less charming music from now on. The people will speak plainly and unmistakably. If Mc and Grover were the only contestants, McKinley would be safe with five millions of a majority.—EX.

DURING the past few years the republican party has patted the A. P. A. on the back and profited by getting the votes of the order, but they nursed a viper in their bosoms. The A. P. A. is now of the opinion that it is bigger than the republican party and proposes to dictate the nomination for president. The order has declared against McKinley and says it will not support him for president either before or after the nominating convention. This is a serious matter for the republicans and it is a reaping of their reward.—Schuyler Quill.

THE voters of Nebraska should not forget that Boss Thurston's convention at Omaha declared itself "against the free coinage of silver," and that it tabled, by a large majority, the following resolution, offered by W. J. Connel:  
"We declare that both gold and silver should be primary money and recognized as such by the government of the United States, and should be a full legal tender for all debts, both public and private; that the government should not discriminate in favor of gold as against silver and that the mints should be opened upon equal terms to both gold and silver at the ratio now established by law. We oppose the issuing of government bonds in times of peace."

If free silver wins at Chicago it will be sure to win at the polls; for the people are tired of the gold standard. And it won't be six months after free coinage is adopted in the United States until every nation in Europe will be flocking to the double standard. A little of the spirit of '76 in this country is all that is necessary. The goldbugs are a cowardly set if they once get on the run. While greed is their god they will be in a hurry to get under cover when they see their game is up.

THE appointment of Charles A. Miller as councilman for the second ward was a surprise, but it is conceded that it is all right. "Whitey" Miller is a young man of many good qualities and no bad ones, and having taken an interest in city affairs all his life, he is in a position to do much good in the council.

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