

THE WEALTH MAKERS.

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"If any man must fall for me to rise, then I will not 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. To suffer a fellow man. This life has too Suffered, wrought by man's selfish love; And who that hath a heart would dare prolong Or add a sorrow to a stricken soul? That seeks a healing balm to make it whole? My bosom owns the brotherhood of man."

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WHEN will "civilization" become civilized?

WHEN will the church regain faith in Christ and follow him?

It is now Maxwell and the people, or Norval and the railroads.

The Populists and Republicans of Mississippi have fused. Goodbye Populists.

EDWARD BELLAMY has nearly ready for the press a work "understood to be a Socialistic exposition of civilization."

MACMILLAN & Co., announce the publication of The American Historical Review, a new quarterly review, to be devoted entirely to history.

Now for a pull a l together to elect the Populists candidates. Less growing and more labor to elect representatives of the people, is what is needed.

Who ever heard of a Republican court failing to endorse Republican officials? The Churchill-Russell A. P. A. board in Omaha was of course sustained.

The decision of the supreme court in the case of Clark vs. The Cambridge and Arapahoe Irrigation and Improvement company places obstacles in the way of irrigating from streams which are over twenty feet wide.

Low prices, damaged crops, a succession of misfortunes and injustices that are great and widespread, are threatening us with a social convulsion which cannot be controlled by the powers that be. Thousands of families in this part of Nebraska are in desperate financial straits. What is to be done, is their cry.

Why does God permit men to starve? He can't help himself, and at the same time teach therace that His law may not be trampled on. He has placed us here not to fight, not to selfishly struggle. If we persist in biting and devouring one another, instead of loving and serving one another, no power can save us from evil. We shall suffer until we learn to obey.

The "each for himself" struggle is becoming too hard on the great mass of the people. With all free land taken, with all machinery in the hands of capitalists, with all the circulating medium controlled by the banks, with over half the people landless and dependent and a crushing weight of interest upon a large...

"THE QUESTION OF INTEREST"

Under the above title an esteemed contemporary, who declares itself "for the Omaha platform and free silver," tells us what "the economists have forever settled."

"The economists." Who are "the" economists? Is Mr. Tibbles acquainted with their writings to any considerable extent? If so, and he admits what they say to be the truth, the word that ends all controversy, the law and gospel of nature and commercial reason, why, then, does he contradictorily profess himself a believer in the Omaha platform? Perhaps in articulating his creed our friend declares himself "for the Omaha platform and FREE SILVER"—the first part ritual, the last part spirit and truth, with emphasis.

For our part we never say we are for the Omaha platform and one plank of it. But to go back to "the economists." "They say," so Mr. T. tells us, that "to destroy interest altogether" would be "certain to destroy civilization." Ah! here we have it: civilization rests not on labor and justice, but on interest obligations. The banks are the basis of all we have that lifts us above barbarism! Cut off the interest support, say "the economists" (Mr. Tibbles), and that the government shall loan the people their own credit (greenbacks) at cost, as the Omaha platform requires, the platform which Mr. T. ties to (?), and civilization would be destroyed.

Great and good Shylocks, deliver us. Save us from the folly and ignorance of everything in the Omaha platform, except free silver. For it is plain to see that we must no more ignorantly interfere with what we have been calling money land and transportation monopoly, because interest, rent and dividends are practically the same thing, and constitute civilization's basis. Some of "the economists" will let us have silver, and that, therefore, is the only safe thing to ask for. Free silver, we know from experience, would not reduce interest collections, therefore civilization would not be endangered by it.

"They say [the economists] the first result of abolishing interest would be such a contraction of the circulation of money as the world has never seen. There would remain no motive to keep money in circulation, and every man would lock up and hoard his money. He would not take the risk of a loan when there was no profit in doing it."

Now we were simple enough to believe that the people would want a safe place to deposit their money and that the government postal savings banks, called for in the Omaha platform, would receive all money not in use and keep every dollar earned in circulation. Have "the economists" and yourself, Mr. T., given the proposed postal savings banks plan your distinguished savings and found it necessary to discard it? It will greatly grieve us if you have so "forever settled" it.

"The second result would be the immediate closing of almost every eleemosynary institution in the union not supported by direct taxation, such as hospitals, schools, colleges, universities, homes for the aged, etc., and all the people thus educated or provided for would become homeless and homeless, either dying of starvation, or filling the poor houses to overflowing, for those institutions are all more or less endowed and their income derived from money invested in mines, manufactures, railroads, county, state or national bonds upon which they receive interest.

"To this vast class thus made paupers there would have to be added very many thousands more, such as the aged who had by hard work and a frugal life accumulated enough, which by investing it in some interest bearing security are just able to live. Then there are the many thousands of widows and orphans whose father or husband provided for them before his death, by investing his little all in some mine or manufactory or other security and they receive enough interest on the investment to keep the wolf from the door. They too, in countless thousands, would have to wend their way to the poor house. The economists say that the result of the abolishment of interest is too horrible to contemplate. Civilization would be crushed by it. This makes us weep. In advocating money at cost we never stopped to consider the preeminent rights of the eleemosynaries, who live on interest, or that indirect taxes of the same amount are less a burden on labor than direct taxes. And to think, in our haste to get the crushing interest burdens off the backs of the working class, we were on the point of tumbling down and destroying our colleges, theological seminaries, hospitals, homes for the aged, etc., "and all the people thus educated or provided for would become homeless and homeless," we are told, "either dying of starvation, or filling the poor houses to overflowing." Think of all this vast army of students, the brightest scholars of every community, "either dying of starvation" or crowded into the county houses with the sick, disabled and imbecile! Then, "to the vast class thus made paupers must be added "the aged" and "the widows and orphans" whose deceased relatives have fastened them upon the backs of the workers. But in addition to "this vast class" thus added to, we might as well figure in, in addition to the aged, widows and orphans, all others who draw fair interest incomes, whether it be five or twenty-one or more per cent, because if interest is right for one it is right for all. Do not commiserate the workers who must live and bear up this fearful load of three thousand million dollars each year; they are used to it. Think only of the vast class on their backs who, sitting there, hold up civilization. And agree with "the economists"

being forced to get down "is too horrible to contemplate."

In all seriousness the economists, so-called, have settled nothing regarding interest, and very little else, for that matter. Political economy as it has been taught has been termed the "grab-all" science. It has been assumed that "he may take who has the power, and he may keep who can." "The economists," have not recognized that production and distribution are moral questions and must be regulated not by might, but by equity and human need. "The "grab-all" game of the present is not scientific, is not economical. It is brutal and devilish. The search for himself struggle is horribly wasteful too. Political economy when understood will be seen to be applied Christianity, or moral law in action.

"Usury bringeth the treasure of a realm into few hands," said Lord Bacon. And by usury he meant what we now call interest, not an unlawful rate. Interest-taking destroys the balance of commercial forces and so periodically brings about glutted markets and falling prices, which Mr. Tibbles considers the great evil. But in skimming over the surface of things he has not yet seen and comprehended this fact. He therefore knows practically nothing about the money question.

Interest measures the money monopoly tribute. Rent measures the land monopoly tribute. Dividends, or divided profits, measure the capital monopoly tribute. The rate of interest always just about equals the rate of tribute forced from renters of land or capital. Through these three tribute channels wealth is drawn away from its producers and concentrated in the hands of the monopolist class, a class whose power thus steadily increases. He who measures the money monopoly and thus defends interest, is pitifully ignorant, or morally culpable. Glittering or stupid generalities are worth nothing. The beating of the tom toms over anything and everything said to be "socialism" is not an evidence of wisdom. The burden of interest, rent and dividends has got to be cut down, or there can be provided no relief for the people. This music must be faced.

HAVE WE LEARNED ANYTHING

The candidate for the Populist party for judge of the Supreme court, Hon. Samuel Maxwell, should be easily elected. Why? Because the state has been brought very low by old party legislation, and scores of thousands of old party voters whose noses have been brought to the grindstones are beginning to feel that something has got to be done. It is not two or three partial crop failures that has brought us into our present fix. It is extortionate railroad freights for one thing. It is a \$17,000,000 yearly stream of interest money that has left us, for another thing. It is too high taxes for another thing. It is all these combined, and in addition the falling prices caused by the money being drained away, which makes the farmers and merchants and mechanics here so distressingly poor and hard up.

The Populist party is the only party that proposes to reduce the drain of monopolies. It is the only hope of the people. To vote for either of the old parties is to vote for the continuance of present conditions, conditions that grow worse year by year. It is the strangest thing in the world that men will continue so long voting against their interests, for the agents of the classes that rob them. But it does seem that the man of any independent thought at all, needs no more poverty and hard times than we now have to open his eyes and arouse him to action.

In Judge Maxwell the people have a tried and true friend and a man of preeminent ability. He has no equal upon the bench in Nebraska, and everybody knows it. He has a reputation for ability and incorruptible integrity which cannot fail to bring him the support of thousands of good Republicans and Democrats, and should be easily elected by a handsome majority.

Mrs. Ella W. Peattie, our first candidate for Regent of the State University, is also a citizen of very superior talents, and is known throughout the state and very highly respected by the people of all parties. She is a woman of liberal education, a journalist, author and lecturer, a student of the social questions, an intense lover of truth and justice, and without doubt will poll more than the party vote. The women of the state regardless of party should feel personally interested in helping to secure the election of the first member of their sex to the important office for which she is a candidate.

Prof. James H. Bayston of Red Willow, our second candidate for Regent, is an educator of note, a strong man against whom nothing can be said.

Altogether the Populists of Nebraska have reason to be proud of their candidates. Voters this year should come to us without being sought and argued with.

SECRETARY CARLISE says: "The large sum spent in Europe this summer by traveling Americans has been another drain on our finances. It has been estimated that over 100,000 American tourists have gone abroad this year, and that the aggregate of their expenditures is nearly if not quite \$100,000,000."

IS COMPETITION ANTIQUATED

Prof. J. B. Clark of Columbia College in his monograph on "The Philosophy of Wealth" has a chapter entitled "The Ethics of Trade," in which he declares: "Competition without ethical restraints is a monster as completely antiquated as the saurians of which the geologists tell us."

"Moral influences have for their particular and legitimate function to suppress the remnants of natural ferocity which show themselves in the economic dealings of man with man. . . . The boatman who bargains with a sinking man virtually says to him, 'I now refuse to rescue you, but will change my mind if you will give me a certain sum. . . . It is the position of the highwayman; and the same is true of those who utilize financial exigencies in the same way.'"

Yes, but to what extent do moral influences restrain competition or selfishness in business? It may be better in Wall Street than it is in Nebraska, but might in business passes as right here. "Business is business" out here, and we are inclined to think it is everywhere equally ruled by selfishness. The boatman illustration is rather extreme, but we venture the judgment that nine hundred and ninety-nine business transactions in every one thousand are selfish, are controlled by struggle, by preponderating might or legal advantage. We affirm, therefore, that prices and wages are not fixed by moral considerations, but by need and greed. Deny this who can.

The business world is a barbarous world, a world that is not penetrated by the moral forces and that has nothing to do with Christianity, the real, practical self-sacrificing sort. But it must accept its forgotten, long-buried teachings. It is the work of the church to separate itself from the self-seeking mammon worshippers and go to preaching what is right, what is the law which must govern men in the everyday work and business relations of life.

WHAT THEN AILS PRIORS

See how it is in England. We quote below from the Boston Herald: "The threatened failure of the regular crops in England has led to the extreme measure of asking Parliament for relief. It is anticipated that the farmers cannot go through the coming winter without help. Lord Salisbury is asked to devise measures of relief that shall be adequate to the distress, and it is a case where the party in power is under the necessity of doing something, and does not know what it is wise to suggest. It is plain that the government cannot enter into the relief of British agriculture to any great extent without seriously conflicting with other interests. The power of remedial legislation is greatly limited, and even if it could afford temporary relief, it could not remove the foreign competition which is the curse of the British farmers in good times. The situation is exceptionally depressing, and threatens to become worse. All the products of the farm can be supplied at cheaper rates from foreign sources than they can be raised in England, and from this outlook the situation is almost hopeless. Even if the crops were up to a high average the farmers could scarcely make a living, and when they are destroyed, to use the language of Lord Winchester, they "contemplate the coming winter with feelings of absolute dismay."

The Springfield Republican also says upon the same subject: "American agriculture is certainly in a no worse state of depression than the English industry. The case is cited of the recent sale of 639 acres of land in England, with farm-houses, stables, home-stead and seven cottages, for \$28,500. This property a dozen years or more ago was valued at \$100,000, and only four years ago was mortgaged for \$70,000. We have had a good many cases of this sort, particularly in New England, but none representing so violent a shrinkage as this."

Time was when the world-wide suffering caused by monopoly of land and capital, and competition between the workers would have been endured, to actual starvation, without a murmur. But it is not so now. The spread of a knowledge of man's inalienable rights and of the injustice of rent, interest and monopoly profits makes it dangerous to keep on the pressure. An explosion may occur. The British farmers are all renters. The American farmers are fast becoming renters.

THE EQUALITY OF MAN

"He declared the eternal principles of truth, justice and equality of man," said Bishop Newman last Sunday, referring to Christ. "The equality of man." How must this be understood? "All men are created equal," says the Declaration of Independence. But in only one way can this be true. We are equally the children of God, equal in our divine inheritance, equal because of being each a child of God. All things were designed for each of us who by obedience will receive them. "All things are yours, and ye are Christ's and Christ's is Gods."

But the law of unity, love, united interests, is not accepted. "Each for himself" is received as the supreme wisdom, and in consequence the world is full of evil. The strong command the weak. The smart oppress the simple. The obligations of brotherhood are in all commercial acts disregarded. The little ones, who should be loved and protected, are beaten in trade, are traded out of all their inalienable rights, and so are made a great disinherited class. Under the form of freedom inequitable contracts are forced upon them which make them treadmill drudges and their condition as dependents hopeless.

WHEN will the nation wake up and call for justice that will give us peace and prosperity?

The lesson of righteousness, of the natural order and social harmony, is a lesson that must be learned. Think of the criminal folly of the present each for-himself disordered state in which millions of workers have lost the right to work and are in worse condition than slaves. Think of millions more whose productive labor is so unjustly rewarded that their lives are a dreary treadmill round, work, work, work; no playtime, no culture, no strength left when work is done. The people need to be saved from all this. But where can a savior be found?

"They will be done on earth as it is in heaven"—except on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. In heaven they are "all ministering spirits." On earth, Sundays (rest days) excepted, they are all grasping spirits. "Business is business." "Each for himself" is the only practical (?) thing. We don't mean it Lord. We can't stand it to have thy will done. We haven't any faith in it under present circumstances. It is not safe to love our neighbors as we do ourselves. So do not consider that we mean it when we pray.

THE South Carolina Constitutional Convention is admittedly called "to overthrow negro suffrage. Nobody tries to conceal it, nobody seeks to excuse it." So says the Charleston News and Courier. Those negroes who have education and property will not be disfranchised. It is a beginning against the equal rights of the poor as such that whites and blacks north and south will do well to ponder. It is a violation of the fundamental principle of democracy. It is not property nor even education that makes the man. "A man's man."

THE New York Board of Trade and Transportation calls for the creation of a National Forest Commission whose business it shall be to study and control the public timber lands reserves and parks to ascertain their relation to the public welfare. This is socialism but manifestly sense also. Only, what a pity the lumber regions were not also retained by the government and the timber used by the people profit the whole people, instead of making a lot of millionaires.

THE State Journal says Norval will be elected over Maxwell by 30,000 to 40,000 majority. "You can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time," was Abe Lincoln's remark. The State Journal and the Republican railroad and boodle ring have gone too far and are discredited. Judge Maxwell will draw 25,000 votes from the Republican party 10,000 from the Democrats and all the Populist strength.

We give elsewhere Judge Maxwell's letter of acceptance. He will be the candidate of the best element of all parties and it will not be possible to smirch his character or detract from his well-earned reputation. The people will, by electing him, administer a stern rebuke to the railroad machine that packed the convention to retire him, because he would not serve the corporations. One firm friend of the people on the supreme bench is not enough, but through him the rights of the people and the voice of justice will be heard.

JOHN E. GORST in the (English) Nineteenth Century says: "There are two diseases or disorders of the body politic which, though of old standing, have in recent times undergone a new and alarming development. They not only obstruct progress, but threaten to destroy the stability of the existing social order. They are (1) strikes and lockouts, (2) the unemployed. The first of these disorders is not so hard to deal with as the second."

FROM the reports of many disinterested unprejudiced parties the New York City Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor has found the general judgment to be that farmlands in that state have depreciated 48 to 50 per cent in the last twenty-five years. The railroad mileage in the state in the same time has increased 4,182 miles.

EX-JUDGE LITTLEFIELD of Perkins county, former editor of the Nebraska State Laborer, has started a new paper at Nebraska City. It is a hummer and will make interesting political times in that part of the state. Mr. Littlefield is on to all the tricks and schemes and record of the g. o. p.

WHEN will business become Christianized?

Report of the Meeting

The county central committee met at headquarters on the 21st with nearly every precinct represented. John G. Seidell was nominated by unanimous vote as candidate for county superintendent of schools, Prof. Bowers having declined the nomination. The committee will hold another meeting on Saturday, the 28th, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of A. H. Weir. J. M. THOMPSON, Secretary. F. D. EAGER, Chairman. Pay up your subscription and get a few new subscribers for THE WEALTH MAKERS. Only 80c. from now till November 1st.

THE CENTURY'S END

Emperors, stand to the bar! Chancellors, halt at the barracks! Landlords and Lawlords and Trade-lords, the specters you conjured have risen—Communists, Socialists, Nihilists, Rebels, Strikers, behold! They are fruit of the seed you have sown—God has prospered your planting. They come From the earth like the army of Death. You have sown the teeth of the dragon!

Hark to the bay of the leader. You shall hear the roar of the pack As sure as the stream goes seaward. The crust on the crater beneath you Shall crack and crumble and sink with your laws and rules That breed the million to toil for the luxury of the ten— That grind the rent from the tillers' blood for drones to spend— That hold the teeming planet as a garden plot for a thousand— That draw the crowds from the cities From the healthful fields and woods— That copulate with greed and beget disease and crime—

That join these two and their off-spring, till the world is filled with fear, And falsehood wins from truth, and the vile and cunning succeed, And maubood and love are dwarfed, and virtue and friendship sick, And the law of Christ is a cloak for the corpse that stands for Justice! As sure as the Spirit of God is Truth, this Truth shall reign, And the trees and the lowly brutes shall cease to be higher than men. God purifies slowly by peace, but urgently by fire.

John Boyle O'Reilly.

Congressional Debauchery

When Mr. Watson wrote his famous letter from Washington City, in 1891, describing the maudlin condition of the members of the fifty-second congress, and gave a graphic description of the gentleman from Alabama asking, "Mr. Speaker where am I at," public sentiment appeared to be blocked. The Associated Press dispatches denied the allegation; the democratic press denounced Mr. Watson; and little General Wheeler, of Alabama, frothed at the mouth. So great was the little general's indignation that nothing short of the appointment of an investigating committee saved him from hydrophobia.

He got his committee, the committee got the facts, and the facts got pigeon-holed from the public. Many an honest Christian man in Georgia was embittered against Mr. Watson, by the denunciation of the democratic press, for this, one of the bravest and most fearless acts. They could not believe that men chosen to make laws for a great Christian republic could be guilty of reeling in drunkenness upon the floor of the house of representatives.

The mills of the gods grind slowly but surely. Here is a description from the Herald of the closing hours of the fifty-third Democratic congress. To the great sin of violating the Sabbath, is added drunkenness galore.

Georgians will regret to learn that the barroom is under control of the speaker of the house of representatives—Charles F. Crisp: "The closing hours of congress were characterized by the wanton destruction of great thirst. The debauch did not reach its accustomed proportions until the session of yesterday (Sunday) and Sunday night. On Sunday night the congressmen, particularly the representatives began drinking heavily, and on Sunday the onslaughts on the bar under the house of representatives became so ardent and so prolonged that placards were posted on the walls bearing the legend, "For members only." In order to prevent anyone but congressmen from breaking the Sunday law, policemen were stationed at the doors of the saloon to keep out the jam. Waiters working night and day, in relays of from fifteen to twenty-five each, frantically endeavoring to keep up with the demands made upon them, and two cashiers were kept drumming on their cash registers in typewriter fashion, till the sweat streamed from their faces.

"The congressional thirst raged with such fierceness that Sunday afternoon several were disabled and taken from the field of battle. Great care was taken not to permit a congressman to get too far gone. Whenever he became too garrulous he was quietly hustled to a diet of ice water and setzer until himself again.

"Sunday evening Congressman J. A. Scranton of Scranton, Pa., managed to break loose from the inebriates and reached the floor of the house, and in a maudlin fashion began to object to a private bill being called up by De Armond, of Missouri. "Mr. Speaker, I'd like to know if a member as drunk as that has a right to object?" shouted De Armond. "The drunken Scranton then began to abuse De Armond until he was taken out by the sergeant-at-arms by direction of the speaker.

"The drinker became so excessive that the chief of police detailed ten extra policemen and three detectives to prevent the general disorder from becoming an open riot. "Late Sunday evening some women became intoxicated, and taking possession of a vault under the house, danced a can can for the edification of a crowd of men until dispersed by the police. "The saloon under the senate also ran full blast all night Saturday night, all day Sunday and all night Sunday night, but managed to keep up a better pretense of decorum. The lobby and the rabble were here permitted to drink as well as senators, with no policemen to make them afraid. "Today, on being asked the proceeds of his sales for Sunday, the cashier of the house saloon said to a Herald representative that they had not had time to check up the cash, but said it was enough to require more than \$200 expense for extra help alone. The saloons in the