

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

BY THE Independent Publishing Co.

At 1190 N Street, LINCOLN, - NEBRASKA. TELEPHONE 538.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Address all communications to, and make all drafts, money orders, etc., payable to THE INDEPENDENT PUB. CO., LINCOLN, NEB.

State Committee Meeting.

The state central committee of the people's party is hereby called to meet at the Hotel... for the purpose of making necessary arrangements for the election of delegates to the national convention...

It is men that make this government what it is and not platforms.

We are in the Valley Forge of the battle now. We'll make it a Yorktown next November.

We have eight kinds of dollars, seven of them discredited by the government, and that is what gold bug idiots call 'sound' finance.

The Arkansas Kicker has got to kicking the right parties. Now blaze away until you wear your copper-toed boot out, and then get another.

Boodler Russell appearing in the United States supreme court in behalf of the farmers against the railroads was a sight for gods and men.

You must have garden seeds and you can get a dollar's worth for 30 cents by ordering through the INDEPENDENT in accordance with the advertisement on other page.

The national banks held as reserves on the first of February, \$110,378,360 in gold, \$143,866,685 in greenbacks and Sherman treasury notes, and only \$33,312,920 in silver. They discriminate against silver as much as they can.

Whenever a politician begins to rave about "national honor," put it down that he is contemplating some dishonorable deed. When he raves about "patriotism," mark him for a disreputable coward. Men of honor and patriotism never rave about either.

A great London daily asks parliament to pass a law forbidding the ownership of English papers by foreigners. If that principle was enacted into law in this country every prominent New York daily would have to shut up shop within twenty-four hours.

The Progressive Age criticises very severely the coarse language of Senator Tillman, and then heads its leading editorial with these words: "A Damnable Conspiracy." "Thou hypocrite, first cast the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

A busy editor hired a stout young man under a contract to read every word in the Congressional Record every day, and mark the pages of interest. The young man died after five days, and three hours, another took his place and he lived four days and seven hours, another tried it and he succumbed after two days and one hour. The place is now vacant.

The editor of one of our republican exchanges says he's as "independent as a hog on ice." That's the way of it exactly. Did you ever see a hog on ice? He can go neither backward, forward or sidewise. All he can do is to squeal until some one pulls him off the ice. That's the fix of the republican editors in this state. Some squeal for Manderson and some for McKinley, and the best they can do is to squeal.

The first thing the republican city central committee did to open the spring campaign was to assess each candidate for a city office \$20, and each candidate for a ward office \$10. No doubt the State Journal spent the whole night in prayer after hearing of that sinful act. Its recent editorials on populist subscription papers show that its soul would be all harrowed up over the thought of such a thing.

Donnelly found some irritating typographical errors in his paper. He got even with the type-setter after this fashion: "We sincerely hope that if Pirrnie's comet does run into the earth it will hit a few hundred compositors a chug that will knock them, in a sitting posture, over onto the planet Mars. We wouldn't want to hurt them much, but simply knock their intellectual apparatus into their heads, where it ought to belong."

IS THERE NONE TO HELP?

STELLA, Nebr., March 4, 1896. EDITOR INDEPENDENT.—The sentiment of free silver among the distressed farmers of both old parties is almost universal. These are evil times for them. They are told by the patriotic bankers that they have as much money as ever they had, and unlimited resources, yet not a dollar to loan on the very best security until certain evidence was shown of a return of high tariff and the election of Wm. McKinley. I wish it were possible to place in the hands of the people at least one hundred copies of the Independent, where only four or five come to this postoffice now.

I am satisfied if a good solicitor would go out among the people with no other business in hand except to secure subscribers a large number could be secured. I saw a Lincoln Journal man on the street Saturday getting renewals and pushing this corporation sheet. I also see a gold bug paper clubbed with some local sheet at 25c per year. So it goes. They are crowding the mails with material like this, to the exclusion of such facts as should justly alarm the friends of free government, and prepare them to arrest the hand of plunder that is certainly bringing want and ruin to the people. It would be a very easy matter here in this farming community for an organization from all the parties on the matter of the restoration of silver, 16 to 1, to be made. We will undertake it if we can have instructions and arrangements for literature.

Please let us have your views, especially as to increase in circulation of our state organ, The Independent. For your encouragement, we hear nothing but a voice of praise in regard to the ability and fearlessness of the Independent.

T. B. PERKINS.

[The suggestions in the above letter are good, hard sense. The old monopoly organs have sufficient capital to put canvassers in the field and keep them there. The INDEPENDENT has not. Its income is only sufficient to pay for the mechanical work, white paper and carry the hundreds of delinquent subscribers who beg not to be cut off, without any salary to the editor, who works about fourteen hours a day. We must depend on the unselfish devotion to principle of men in the state, who will each go out in his own neighborhood and get a few subscribers.]

Reader, will you do it? Let us go back to the time of which the prophet Isaiah speaks when he says: "They helped every one his neighbor, and every one said to his neighbor 'be of good cheer'."—EDITOR INDEPENDENT.]

WHAT SOME EDITORS THINK.

Some editors seem to think that the one thing of importance in the fight against plutocracy is to make a platform. If they get a platform to suit them, then the thing is done. The INDEPENDENT believes that the thing of greatest importance is to get the government out of the hands of the shilylocks who are grinding the life out of the workers of this land by creating debts and collecting interest by law, and to put men in charge who will administer the government in the interest of the workers and not that of the idlers. The editor of this paper is the most radical man in the state of Nebraska, but he knows if he put all his ideas of reform into a platform and went before the state in a contest upon it, in the dense ignorance that prevails among the people on economic subjects, not a single county would be carried. They must come to these principles by slow evolutions. It is not always the best way to get a thing done to put it in a platform. When John Sherman wanted to demonetize silver he didn't put it in a platform. If he had, it would never have been done. Remember the saying of the greatest reformer: "Behold, I send you forth as sheep among wolves; be ye therefore as wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

CONTRACTION IN LETTERS OF BLOOD.

The claim made by Mr. Lambertson in his speech to the University Economic club, and various other representatives of the gold standard, that we have now a larger circulation, per capita, than we ever had before, is only vain imaginings. The following table taken from the official records of the United States Government, shows the various kinds of money and the per capita circulation during that period of wonderful prosperity among farmers and laborers—the years intervening between the period of the close of the war and the demonitization of silver in 1873. From that time contraction began, and the miseries of the American people have been written in letters of blood.

The following is a table of money in circulation between 1866 and 1870.

Table with 2 columns: Money type and Circulation amount. Includes Old issue demand notes, New issue legal-tender notes, One year 5 per cent notes, etc.

Total money in circulation 1866... \$2,062,326,519 91

Divide this amount by the population in 1866 which was 35,469,000 and we have a per capita circulation of \$58.01.

It is useless to deny that all these various issues were issued and used as a circulating medium, for Mr. F. E. Spinner, treasurer of the United States in the report of this year says (page 244) under the head recapitulation: "All kinds of government papers, that were issued as money, or that were ever in any way used as a circulating medium and that remained outstanding and unpaid on the 30th day of June 1869." The following is the list which Mr. Spi-

ner says was used as a circulating medium: Seven and three-tenths notes, (that is to say, the 7-30 notes, old issue) 7-30 notes new issue; temporary loan certificates; certificates of indebtedness; 6 per cent compound interest notes; gold certificates; 3 per cent certificates; old two year 6 per cent notes; one year 5 per cent notes; two year 5 per cent notes; demand notes, payable in gold; legal tender notes; fractional currency; first series; fractional currency, second series; fractional currency, third series." It cannot be denied that Treasurer Spinner was the best qualified man in the United States, at that time, to give an accurate list of the various kinds, and the amount of money in circulation during his terms of office.

When the gold bug orators appear on the stumps claiming that we have a greater circulation per capita now, than any previous period of our history, read to them the testimony of Senator Plumb, and Treasurer Spinner and show the above table, taken from the official reports of the United States Government.

The Clay County Patriot was exceedingly bright and readable last week. Its illustrated article on John U. P. Thurston, Parson Andrews, and the congressmen who went back on their silver pledges, would be reprinted in the INDEPENDENT if we had the cuts.

The new republican free silver Senator, Brown, from Utah, has flunked. In a letter he says he will vote for the tariff bill, "no matter what becomes of silver." That's right, send some more free silver old party senators to Washington. That's just what the gold bugs like.

Cleveland turned preacher! Dr. John Hall presided at the trial sermon. The sermon was criticised in the house and disapproved. No one would defend it. Cleveland ordered a new brand of whiskey and will try again. Cleveland thinks the west needs regenerating. The west thinks he needs damning.

The Moorhead (Minn.) Daily News, a strong republican paper, has quit and joined the populists. Like all new converts it is extremely radical in its demands. It wants a platform that will contain free coinage of silver, government issue of paper money, and government ownership of all monopolies.

The farmers' institute in many places are discussing the question of debt. That's a wise thing to do. There can be no interest without debt, and interest is the thing that is making paupers of us all. Read your Bibles and follow the instructions there laid down: "Owe no man anything."

The Red Cloud Nation says: "Wedon't blame the THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT, for kicking when some editor appropriates its editorials as his own without due credit. THE INDEPENDENT has a world of bright things that deserve credit." We wouldn't kick at all if we were not so distressingly poor that we needed every line of advertising we can get.

The Southern Mercury tried to boss the whole peoples party, and got knocked stiff and cold. Furthermore, it got so well converted that it now devotes much its space to warning populists against bosses. It is wasted ink and paper. Bosses have been taught a lesson and will not show their heads at St. Louis.

The chairman of the republican committee, Senator Carter, the man who was chosen to lead the republican campaign, charges his party with abandoning its principles and with being guilty of the grossest dishonesty, in a speech on the floor of the senate. The old thing must be pretty rotten when the leaders talk about it that way.

On the tariff question Tom. Reed, John Sherman and their followers have gotten clear over onto the democratic platform. The tariff bill that Reed whipped through the house and Sherman, Aldrich and Morrill tried to put through the senate, was, according to their own statements, "a tariff for revenue only." It repudiated every tariff principle heretofore advocated by the republican party. Tariff campaigns are all a sham anyhow.

The official report of Charles M. Preston, superintendent of banks of New York, shows that the total resources of all the moneyed institutions under his supervision is \$1,538,522,894, and that the increase of resources since Jan. 1, 1890 is \$281,615,680. No wonder the New York banks like the gold standard. They can contribute \$80,000,000 to campaign funds every four years and still get \$200,000,000 clear profit out of the game.

The Bankers Magazine, in speaking of the Sherman bill, to increase the revenue by tariff legislation until there is a surplus, and then take in greenbacks and not pay them out, says: "Senator Sherman is very shrewd. By this process, as they now are the greenbacks would be as surely retired as if they were funded into bonds." Yes, Sherman is very shrewd. No one denies that. That is the way he got silver demonetized. But the people are "onto his game," and he can't work it as easily as he once did.

THE LOGIC OF THE HIRELING.

If one takes any of the great magazines of the east and examines them critically he will see that they work into their arguments every material fallacy which is noted in the text books on logic. As most of these writers are university men, it is impossible to believe that it is accidentally or ignorantly done.

Take the fallacy known in logic as the Post hoc, ergo propter hoc argument. There is scarcely an article written for these publications that the writer does not purposely and skillfully use this fallacy. One thing happened after another thing. Therefore the thing that happened first is the cause of the thing that happened afterward. There was an eclipse of the sun. The prince died immediately afterward. Therefore the eclipse was the cause of the death of the prince.

A fair sample of the use of this fallacy by the learned literary hirelings may be found in the American Economist of last week. It is printing a lot of tables giving the price of farm products in 1892 and 1895. It says: "We thought that we had given sufficient evidence during the year 1895, to prove to farmers the intense loss they have suffered since the republican policy of McKinley protection was abolished." Then it prints a table like this:

Table with 4 columns: Wheat, Corn, Loss, and Gain. Shows price changes from 1892 to 1895.

The argument is: The McKinley bill was repealed. Afterwards prices of farm products fell. Therefore the repeal of the McKinley bill was the cause of the fall in prices.

Now remember it is not unlearned men who are pressing this fallacy, but men who have been trained in the science of logic. They saw in the text books many illustrations of this fallacy, picked it out and used it to deceive the unlearned.

It would be just as good logic to say: "Harrison put on his grandfather's hat. Afterward the prices of farm products fell. Therefore the putting on of his grandfather's hat caused the fall in the price of farm products." Or this: The tariff on foreign imports was reduced 3 per cent. Afterwards the price of wheat and corn fell nearly one-half. Therefore the reduction of a tariff three per cent causes the reduction of the price of wheat and corn nearly one-half.

Another fallacy which these learned literary hirelings use is known in logic as petitio principii, or begging the question. The New York Independent prides itself upon the learning and scholarship of its editors and contributors, yet in its last issue it deliberately makes use of this fallacy. It takes a conclusion for a premise. It says that in consequence of the silver agitation large quantities of American securities were sent home, which were "obliged to buy." Reduced to a syllogism it is this: We are obliged to buy American securities when sent from London to New York. American securities were sent from London to New York. Therefore we were obliged to buy them. The premise is also the conclusion.

Did a London owner of American railroad bonds come over, go down on Wall street and say to the bankers there: "Here, I have railroad bonds, you buy them," then pull out his gun and tell them he would shoot them full of holes if they hesitated, and "obliged" the bankers to buy the American securities? It appears to an unlearned western editor that this is hardly the way business is done on Wall street. If the Wall street bankers bought returned American securities, they did it of their own free will and were not "obliged" to do it at all. They bought them for the same reason they buy anything—because they could make money on the transaction.

In the writing of these hired scholars during the last week, besides these fallacies, we have noted also the argumen- tum ad populum, the non sequitur, and several others, and it struck us that the cause must be very weak indeed when the acutest intellect can only support it by using every fallacy pointed out by Aristotle.

WHAT IS BIMETALLISM.

John U. P. Thurston says he is a bimetalist, B. M. Manderson says, "I am also." John Sherman says he is a bimetalist, Grover Cleveland is a bimetalist. As Rothschild belongs to the same gang we suppose he claims to be one too. What then is bimetalism? The following is John Sherman's definition: "I believe that the policy of the United States, adopted in 1833, of coining fractional silver coins in limited quantities from silver-bullion purchased at market price, and making them a legal tender for small sums, is the only way to preserve the parity of gold and silver coins at a fixed ratio. This is properly called bimetallic money."

All the rest of the world accept the definition of the Royal commission given years ago. They said: "A bimetallic system of currency, to be completely effective, must, in the view of those who advocate it, include two essential features: (a) An open mint ready to coin any quantity of either gold or silver which may be brought to it; (b) the right on the part of a debtor to discharge his liabilities, at his option, in either of the two metals at a ratio fixed by law.

That is the definition of bimetalism accepted by English speaking scholars and writers everywhere, and when the above enumerated chaps say they are bimetalists, they are just common every day liars and nothing else.

With B. M. Manderson president and U. P. Thurston senator, wouldn't the railroads of Nebraska have a jolly time of it?

England for green lawns, and smoke making manufactories, Germany for science and lager beer, France for fashion and politeness and America for Rothschild and Wall street. That is the way the world wags these days.

The deficit in the revenue for 1894 was \$29,803,260.58 and for 1895, \$52,805,222.18. The McKinley tariff was in force for part of the year 1894, and now the gold grabbers are howling for it again, so they can issue more bonds.

In 1892 a barrel of potatoes would exchange for 28 pounds of sugar. Now it will exchange for only 14 pounds, and the farmers who voted for that sort of thing don't seem to like it. A republican farmer is the most unreasonable creature God ever let live. He will vote for a thing, get it, and then growl about it.

The American Economist has taken the figures from Senator Jones' speech of '93, which he compiled with such infinite care and labor, showing the loss suffered by the farmers on account of the contraction of the currency and demonitization of silver, prints them and says "that it is all on account of the tariff."

The INDEPENDENT returns thanks to its contributors. They materially aid in making the paper what it is. The editor is grateful to you all. To those whose communications are crowded out as well as to those whose articles are used, but like all other newspaper offices this one cannot return rejected manuscript, unless return postage and an addressed envelop is enclosed.

The general postoffice appropriation bill as it passed the house the other day is another sop for the rich. The committee inserted in it a great many innovations, involving large expense for the benefit of the large cities, and turned a deaf ear to every appeal for something to be done for the rural districts. The plutocrats who run congress have no sympathy with the men who live on the wide prairies of the west and its all on account of the tariff.

John U. P. Thurston says that "the old tin dinner pail in the hand of the American workmen is the badge of American nobility." Suppose he joins the "American nobility" for while, instead of keeping his membership in the "railroad nobility," and see how he will like it. Of all the bombastic, gas-bag orators who ever undertook to orate in the United States senate, John U. P. is the most imbecile and witless.

The Cincinnati Commercial Gazette asked all the republican candidates for the presidency by telegraph: "Do you favor a decided expression by the republican party of the national convention on the money question?" Quay and Elkins openly favored equivocation. McKinley, Davis, Manderson, Allison, Reed, Cullom and Morton make no response whatever which is a worse kind of equivocation.

Wool is shipped from Australia to Boston and New York, including commissions and all other charges, for one cent a pound, while the freight from the Pacific coast and mountain states, is from two to five cents a pound. The tariff lunatics say the way to equalize this is not to make reasonable freight rates, but to increase the tariff, or in other words, take it out of the pockets of the farmers and laborers instead of the vaults of the millionaire railroad barons.

We want a financial system in this country that will put a roof over the family, paint the cottage, music in the parlor, good literature on the center table, something good to eat in the dishes, carpets on the floor and peace, happiness and contentment in the hearts of the occupants. Then when all have all they want and there is something left of the beautiful or useful things that art, labor and science have produced that no one wants or will have, then we will believe in overproduction.

A correspondent asks of the INDEPENDENT a list of the different kinds of money in circulation. We may not be able to think of them all on the spur of the moment, and our library is ten blocks away, but here goes for as much of the hotpotch as comes to mind. The reader must remember that they are all different kinds of "money," not simply different materials on which the money function is stamped, but each sort having a different legal tender power. They are greenbacks, treasury notes, national bank notes, coin certificates, currency certificates, silver certificates, old demand notes, gold, silver, copper and nickel. That makes up at least most of John Sherman's hotpotch.

These literary hirelings who fill the magazines in their bought and paid for opinions are getting to be such perfect verbal gymnasts that it is a great pleasure to watch their performances. One of them in the North American Review speaks of paying savings banks depositors "in money which had lost part of its intrinsic value." If value is "intrinsic," how could it get out of the money? This same writer says: "There is no real money except gold." Who made gold money? Was it money while man was differentiating himself from the Simians by slow evolutions? If not, when was it made money, and who made it?

ABOUT POPULIST CONVENTIONS.

Word comes from the populist headquarters at St. Louis that the national committeemen from all over the Union are writing to the national officers asking them to urge upon populist everywhere not to make any nominations, either local, state or national, until after the national convention.

It seems to the INDEPENDENT that the national committeemen do not take into consideration the good hard sense of the populist masses, and are unduly anxious. Populists know enough not to hold conventions before they know who our candidates for president and vice president are to be, or what the form of our platform of principles will be, without anybody telling them not to do it.

However, it seems that so many letters have been written, that the executive committee have passed a resolution recommending that no nominating conventions be held until after the national convention. As there is no good reason for holding them before, and a hundred why they should not be held until afterward, which any average populist could give, it is not very probable that any will be held.

As far as a campaign in the populist party is concerned, the candidates out a very small figure. The populist party is not in existence for the purpose of electing this man or that man to office. Its mission is to secure legislation that will relieve the miseries of the people. The campaign is always on, with us. Whatever the result, as soon as the ballots are counted, we begin again. We have all enlisted for the war and shall fight till we die.

BRYAN ON PAPER MONEY.

Mr. Bryan delivered a very able address to the students of the State University on Tuesday night on the subject of paper money. In discussing the theme he took the same view as that taken by John Stuart Mill, Jefferson, Calhoun and populists generally of the present day.

His strongest point against banks of issue, either state or national was that any law granting the right to issue money to any group of men was granting by law a special privilege.

This he illustrated very strongly in the same way that populist speakers and economists generally do. But he seemed to take it for granted that no one, living under our form of government would openly advocate the granting of special privileges. In that assumption Mr. Bryan is mistaken.

THE INDEPENDENT calls Mr. Bryan's attention to the testimony given before the house committee on Banking and Currency in 1894 where some of the bankers claimed that a government could not exist without granting special privileges.

Mr. Bryan's inimitable stories and illustrations of the "endless chain" arrangement by which gold is drawn out of the treasury brought down the house in round after round of applause, but he settled a deep conviction on the mind of every one by a concise statement of facts, that the destruction of the greenbacks, instead of stopping the work of the end less chain would only increase it. The theory upon which treasury department is run i. e. the payment of gold to every one who presents a government obligation, and the "maintenance of the party," if the greenbacks were destroyed, would immediately bring up the question of what is to be done with Sherman treasury notes, silver certificates and silver dollars. If silver is to be only a "token money" there must needs be a gold redeemer for silver also. There is no way to stop the drain of gold except to obey the law and pay silver, or to destroy every treasury note, and contract to a minimum the amount of silver in circulation.

The voracity of the money grabbers in New York has accumulated billions of property on that little island. Now they want to tax the farmers \$100,000,000 to build forts to defend it. They won't pay taxes to do it themselves. Every attempt to make them pay their share of taxes they defeat. If they can't beat it in congress, they can in the supreme court as they did the income tax.

The man who denies that the amount of money in circulation affects its value, would deny that the sun rose in the east, that man was a biped or that chickens had feathers on them. To claim that, if unlimited tons of gold were discovered, every ounce of it would have the same value it has now, is so extremely idiotic that we doubt the possibility of any sane man believing it. So we say, that these magazine writers who attack the quantity theory of money, being sane, are a set of lying scoundrels, who lie for pay, and it is all on account of the tariff.

Chairman Edgerton has issued the call for the meeting of the state central committee. It is hoped that every member will attend. The cost of attendance will be too much for some of the members to bear and they ought not to be called upon to do it. Let every neighborhood from which a committee man comes, be manly and generous and chip in, keep good the word of Holy Writ where it is said: "They helped every one his neighbor." There are many reasons why there should be a full attendance. One of them is that this campaign should be laid out after plans made by direct representation of the people. They should all have a hand and a share in it. Let every one make it a point to be there.