

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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PLAIN TALK.

In the last two or three weeks we have sent statements to all of those who are behind on their subscription to the paper. A few have responded with the cash. Some have written that they would pay in a short time. The remainder have ignored the statement entirely. To this last class we have to say that we cannot go to the expense of sending out another statement, nor can we afford to write between 7000 and 8000 personal letters to delinquent subscribers. Those who do not pay or make some satisfactory explanation for not doing so, will have their names taken off the list and the accounts will be sent to the Publishers' Collection Agency for collection. It costs us money to hire help and buy white paper. We cannot send this paper for nothing and shall not try.

INDEPENDENT PUB. CO.

Populists in two or three counties in the state are making arrangements to subscribe for, from 300 to 1,000 copies of the INDEPENDENT, in their several counties to be sent from now until the close of the campaign. Other counties desiring to do so please write immediately for terms.

The political boss culminated in Mark Hanna.

We'll never do it, so that's an end of it, and our friend Bryan will please take notice.

The Brocton Diamond (Mass.) calls J. A. Edgerton "the poet laureate of the peoples party."

Allen and Holcomb are done for now. The F. A. & I. U. is down on them. That ends their career.

Both the temporary and permanent chairman of the republican convention were corporation hired men.

The hotels in Grand Island have made a rate of \$1.25 per day during the populist state delegate convention.

The surroundings were so depressing at the McKinley convention that even Chauncey M. Depew couldn't make a joke.

Cyclone Davis of Texas says that the Lord delivered him once out of the camp of the democratic party and he will never have to do it the second time.

We are delighted to notice that the Lincoln local dailies do not at all approve of the matter or style of the INDEPENDENT and plainly say so.

The greenback which put down the slaveholders' rebellion will yet conquer the bankers' insurrection. It conquered slaveocracy and it will conquer bankocracy.

The Nebraska delegation came back from St. Louis enthusiastic—not over principles—not over their candidate—but over some tin canes Mark Hanna gave them.

Some of the republican dailies have already begun to howl about free trade, which comes about as near being an issue in this campaign as the African slavery.

The "God and morality party" turned Sunday into a pandemonium at the republican national convention in St. Louis with their parades and drunken revelries.

The St. Louis convention proved one thing. The money power can buy votes, but it cannot buy enthusiasm. It was the most stolid convention ever held in the United States.

Gen. Van Der Voort says in his letter "Nobody knows better than you that the charges were false." Glad to see the general sustaining the INDEPENDENT in this unqualified way.

The populists from the south who were at St. Louis last week were unanimous in their declaration that a democrat nominated at Chicago could not get even a small percentage of populist support in the south. Everyone at all acquainted with the terrific fight the populists in the southern states have made, knows that to be true.

SENATOR TELLER.

The name of Senator Teller is on more lips today than that of any man in the United States, not excepting McKinley, the gold standard nominee of the republican party.

Senator Teller was born in Alleghany county, N. Y., May 23, 1830. He went to Colorado in 1860 and practiced law until 1876, when he was elected to the United States senate, and has held his seat continuously, except the four years he was a member of President Arthur's cabinet.

The editor of the INDEPENDENT had the privilege of intimate relations with him for two years while at Washington, and he proposes to tell the readers of this paper what manner of man he is.

While in Washington Senator Teller lives in a very modest way, always going to and from the capitol in the street cars. He is very abstemious in his habits, eating only two meals a day—his breakfast in the morning and his dinner when he comes home at night. On the street he would be taken for an ordinary, well-to-do farmer, so careless is he of his attire.

Of course the many interviews the writer had with the senator were of a confidential nature, except those printed at the time, but it will be no violation of confidence to state that Henry M. Teller two years ago made up his mind as to what he was going to do, having become convinced that the republican party had abandoned the republicanism of Lincoln and the interests of the common people, and was trusting its fortunes wholly to the money power.

At one time he gave to the writer an interview for publication announcing his purpose, which was to have been given to the press the next day. Early the next morning he sent his private secretary to the writer and requested a further conference. He was eating his breakfast when he arrived, but he came right out. He said in substance that he had been thinking over the matter most of the night and had come to the conclusion that it was not the proper time to make the announcement or the best mode of doing it. We wish we could, without violating any confidence, relate the conversation that followed. It would make every patriotic heart in America burn with joy.

Upon leaving we laughingly remarked: "Senator, without doubt you are right in your conclusion, but you have spoilt a big scoop on the other newspapers."

Hestood still as if thinking for a moment and then said:

"I'll tell you what you can do. You can give the substance of the interview and say that is the rumor around the senate and that Senator Teller does not deny it."

The next issue of the Nonconformist contained that statement.

Senator Teller is not a single silver plank man. He is a thorough populist in his ideas on money, as the following extracts from his speeches will prove. In the appendix to 53d session, page 357, will be found this statement of his:

"If the United States, wiping out all its money, should declare that it would have \$1,500,000 in paper, and, although not redeemable in gold or silver, it should be taken for public dues and should be a legal tender between all citizens of this great country, the demand for it would be so great that it would be as good as gold."

Again, on the same page, he says:

"Suppose all the world declared that gold was no longer money. What use can you put it to? It is good for bangles and spangles, and cases of watches, but there is more gold in the world than the world could use for such purpose in fifty years. Over forty-nine-fiftieths of it would be hunting a market and nobody would want it."

On page 1420 of the Congressional Record of the 53d congress will be found these words:

"I see a senator in front of me who objected one day to certain proposed amendments to the bank bill by saying it would be fiat money. Mr. President, there is no money that is not fiat money. There is no money that is not made so by direct declaration of law. Old Aristotle laid down that principle, and nobody has been wiser on this subject than he. While they (the Romans) allowed the emperor to coin money whenever he saw fit out of gold or silver, and fix the relation of one metal to the other, they said nobody but the Roman senate should ever issue a bill—sometimes it was of one material and sometimes of another—and they put upon it in great capital letters 'S. C. Ex-Senatus Consulto.' The senate has consulted and issued this, and therefore we order that it shall be taken as money. That is what it meant, and it became the money of the realm and was current everywhere."

There are eight or ten senators who spend nearly as much time in the supreme court room arguing cases for corporations as they do on the floor of the senate. Senator Teller is an eminent lawyer, but in the whole twenty years that he has been in Washington he has never appeared once for a corporation. He has a perfect hatred for that kind of senators. One day he remarked: "Whenever a bill affecting corporations comes up you will see either"—naming five or six senators—"jump to his feet as if he were a jack in the box and someone had pulled the string."

Teller is a man of unflinching courage. One day Sherman made a statement for

the evident purpose of having it sent out by the Associated Press. Senator Teller arose and said: "The statement of the senator from Ohio is false, and the senator knew it was false when he made it. Furthermore, the senator from Ohio has been in the habit of knowingly making false statements on the floor of the senate for the last twenty years."

That night there was a great deal of excitement at the press club rooms and along newspaper row. Reporters kept coming in saying what Sherman or his friends were going to do. By 11 o'clock the newspaper men had about come to the conclusion that there was going to be some shooting done, and this writer concluded he would go and see Senator Teller.

He found the senator sitting at his desk quietly answering letters. When asked about it he replied, in substance, as follows:

"Yes, I understand there is a good deal of excitement down town over this affair, but it will all amount to nothing. John Sherman knows he told a falsehood, and he will not want the proof of it read on the floor of the senate. The money power are not fighting men. That is not their game. Their success is in lying, cheating and robbing. However, if any one of them wants to do any shooting, let him come along."

The next morning the press gallery of the senate was crowded to overflowing. Sherman came in, took his seat, the morning hour passed and the senator from Ohio had not opened his lips. So the incident was closed.

Everyone knows Senator Teller's antipathy to the corporation gold bug lawyers in the senate, but he had a perfect loathing for such men as Quay and Chandler, and their methods, which he never made any effort to conceal.

Such is the man who walked out of the republican national convention after it had surrendered to the money power.

REFORM PRESS ASSOCIATION.

There has been a meeting called of the reform press at St. Louis, two days before the meeting of the populist convention. Here is one pop editor that don't propose to have anything to do with that affair. No more inappropriate time for such a meeting could have been selected, unless it was the intention to create a little notoriety for a few egotists who think that because they edit weekly papers they are the brains of the populist party and have a right to dictate a policy and platform for it. They have no such right. They represent no body. They are not sent to the meeting by any vote of any section of the people's party. Their sayings and doings have no more authority than that of any other lot of fellows who come together and talk politics. The reform press association could do a good deal of good, if it would confine itself to matters that concern the circulation and improvement of populist newspapers and let the matters pertaining to regular organized delegate conventions alone.

When the people's party wants to define a policy or give out an authoritative declaration of principles, it allows the whole party to send delegates to do it. The members of the party select men they have confidence in and who know what populism is, to do that work. They have never delegated that kind of work to a lot of editors and they never will.

If such papers were read as that furnished by Henry Vincent at the last meeting of the association, and topics of like nature were discussed, this editor would like to take a hand. But when it comes to making platforms and denouncing this man and endorsing that man we beg to be excused.

The INDEPENDENT hopes Gen. Van Der Voort will go down there, and all by himself, hold a session. He can then write resolutions praising himself and denouncing Allen, Holcomb, Weaver, Taubeneck, Judge Maxwell and everyone else connected with the populist movement, pass them "unanimously" and give them out to the Associated Press Liars to be printed in every old party paper in the United States the next morning. Oh! wouldn't the General have a glorious time! We are too busy attending the exacting duties of publishing a live weekly paper—something the General knows as much about as a peacock does about music—to waste it at such a gathering as that.

SHIN PLASTER FRAUDS.

A government can do no more disgraceful thing than to go hawking its due bills around, or what is the same thing, putting out paper promises to pay with no day set for payment. Such a performance might be expected from a bankrupt or sharper who wanted to cheat; but a government cannot do that and maintain "untarnished honor." Its duty is to coin money and regulate its value, not to issue shin-plaster promises to pay, no one knows when. Every one of these "promises to pay," whether issued by the government or national banks, is a fraud and a cheat, and everybody knows it is. It is to be hoped that the days of these shin-plaster frauds are numbered.

From the scores of republicans one meets on the streets of Lincoln who openly declare that they will not vote the gold standard republican ticket, one is led to believe that about all that is left of the republican party in this city is the State Journal, Bud Lindsey, and the reservation.

WHAT IS SOCIALISM?

The peoples party is not socialistic—Senator Allen. When Senator Allen asserts that populists are not socialists he will find nine-tenths of them taking issue with him on that question.—Sound Money. New York is not the only city to realize that cleanliness is the next thing to godliness. Philadelphia is to have public baths which will be open the year round, together with twenty sets of stationary tubs for laundry work, and ample drying rooms. Socialism is an awful thing, truly.—Denver News.

The Omaha platform is socialistic in its nature—not extremely so, but nevertheless it is socialistic.—Arkansas Kicker.

What is characteristic of socialism is the joint ownership by all the members of the community of the instruments and means of production, which carries with it the consequence that the division of the produce among the body of the owners must be a public act laid down by the community.—John Stuart Mills.

Socialism, while it may admit the state's right to own property over against another state, does away with all ownership on the part of the members of the state, of things that do not perish in the using; or of their own labor.—Woolsey, Communism-Socialism.

We demand the public ownership of all the means of production and distribution.—Socialist Platform.

There has been a great deal of confusion created by the use of this term "socialism." If socialism means the entire overthrow of our present system of government by the destruction of the right of individual ownership of property, except such things as are owned for a few hours only and then consumed, the populists are not socialists, and have no sympathy with it. That is what Mill, Woolsey, and all the standard writers say it is.

But educated men begin to call the public ownership of street car lines, telegraphs and telephones, socialism. In that sense all populists are socialists. But there is a limitless distance between the two things. Under socialism as defined by the leaders of that system, a man would be designated by the central authorities to run a street car. He would have no salary, but an equal ownership in all the products of the community. Under public ownership as populists believe in it, a man would be hired to run the street car, he would be paid a salary, and he could spend his salary as he pleased. There is a very wide difference there. Populists believe in the public ownership of certain monopolies now used to oppress the people. But under no definition of any standard authority can that be called socialism. No populist believes in the common ownership of all property.

PROVE THE CHARGES.

The following correspondence is printed fully understanding the whole matter. The editor of the INDEPENDENT, as far as in his power, will mete out exact justice to all. He refused to publish Chairman Edgerton's personal reply to Gen. Van Der Voort. The populist public have nothing to do with that, but they have with serious charges against Allen, Holcomb, the last state convention and the present populist organization in this state. If there are any men in this state traveling up and down to elect delegates who will work to overthrow populist principles, we want to know who they are. If there are any such they will get a worse dose than was ever served up to John Sherman:

Omaha, Neb., June 23, 1896.

T. H. Tibbles, Lincoln.—Dear Sir: I have had no reply to my request for space to reply to charges in Independent. I again request the privilege. I presume you will all be up to the Rosewater reception this week. I shall seek another avenue to reach the people unless you answer my letter. No one knows better than you that the charges were false.

PAUL VAN DER VOORT.

Lincoln, Neb., June 19, 1896.

Gen. Paul Van Der Voort.—Dear Sir: I beg pardon for not answering yours of June 13th sooner, but I am constantly overworked and all correspondence has to wait its turn. In reply I will say that if you have any proof that men are traveling over this state seeking to influence the people to pack the populist state convention, as you charge in your populist club circular, I will print it, but I want evidence, not charges. I want to know the names of the men and the places they have visited.

I will not give you space in this paper to publish slanders on the populist party—for the Independent is a populist paper—like the following from your populist club circular, where you say: "In these days, when old party methods are being constantly used in our ranks, when men are going all over the United States seeking to elect delegates who are willing to abandon some of our fundamental principles."

I have as good an opportunity as you to know whether such things are being done, and I have never heard of them. But if you have any proof of your charge, I will print it. Always bearing in mind that Associated Press dispatches are not accepted as evidence in this office.

T. H. TIBBLES, Editor Independent.

HE DARE NOT TELL.

The Nonconformist criticizes an article in the INDEPENDENT in the following humorous language: "Low and mean," "Venomous," "A willful libeler," "Independent liar," "Lying interpretation," "contemptible sheet," "Worse than a lie." "A creature posing as a reform editor."

That article created more fun in the INDEPENDENT office than anything that has happened for a long while. Even the editor of that historic Arizona sheet could not beat that very much, for one short article. Dollars to doughnuts, the Nonconformist dare not tell its readers who the editor of the INDEPENDENT is.

The editor of the Nonconformist was moved to use all those complimentary phrases on account of an editorial in the INDEPENDENT about the Denver News. And yet the INDEPENDENT was right. Tom Patterson has been trying to coax or force the Chicago convention to nominate Teller and in the article which was quoted, when he spoke of the democratic nomination he meant Teller. He said

fifty times in the last few weeks that the nomination of a democrat at Chicago meant defeat even if endorsed by the populists. The editor of the Nonconformist is excused for the use he makes of adjectives for he does not seem to have the intellectual capacity to understand the good English that usually appears in the Denver News.

THE HAND OF FATE UPON THEM.

Of all the conventions which I have attended the convention of 1896 was most distinguished for its paucity of orators and its lack of soul-stirring oratory.—W. E. Azlin in State Journal.

How could flights of oratory be expected from men who were planning to make serfs and slaves of the farmers and laboring masses of their native land? The thing was impossible. Men cannot be eloquent over the prospect of crushing out every hope of independence among the common people. Such conduct does not inspire oratory. Annin's records of the efforts to enthrone is as follows:

The speeches of the nominating orators, from which so much is always expected fell flat. Men looked at each other as they tried to cheer as if to appeal for assistance. The applause sounded as if it drew out by violent effort. The occupants of the galleries moved restlessly in their seats. In some sections yawns were the loudest approach to appreciation.

This report is made by a gold standard writer and printed in a gold standard paper, the State Journal. Editor and proprietor both seem to be within the shadows that coming events cast before them. But the shadows will roll by and the bright sun of prosperity will shine again when these gold standard robbers are whipped from office, as it now seems they surely will be after the 4th of March 1897. The hand of fate is upon these men. Their doom is sealed and there is no further appeal.

DRIVING CAPITAL AWAY.

The Baldwin Straw Plating works of Milford, Connecticut have shipped all their machinery to Japan and will go into business there.

A City of Mexico special says: "The bank of London and Mexico will increase its capital to \$10,000,000, in order to provide funds for its growing business. It has just paid 14 per cent. dividend."

"The national bank of Mexico has purchased Hotel De La Gran Sociedad, and is expected to build a magnificent edifice on its site."

"The Deutsche bank of Berlin has decided to open a branch here with ample capital on the first day of June. There is a great interest aroused in financial circles by this attempt of the greatest bank of Central Europe to secure business in this country, and the fact that it will open a branch is taken to indicate confidence in the financial solvency and continued prosperity of this country."

Can not any one see how the free coinage of silver drives capital out of the country? We refuse to coin any silver, and yet neither Americans nor foreigners want to invest in property or industries in the United States.

THEY CAN'T DO IT.

Mark Hanna went to canton and consulted with McKinley on Monday. Afterwards he said to the newspaper men in answer to a question as to the shape or direction the campaign would take: "Oh, it will be strongly tariff, you may be sure of that." Another of the prominent managers present said: "The money question will out no important figure." There is now no doubt that the Wall street game is to carry the Chicago convention for gold if they can, but at any rate to make it declare for free trade. Then they think they can get the people to fighting over the tariff again and while that is going on, permanently fasten the gold standard and European conditions upon the people of the United States. They can never do it. They cant fool all the people all the time.

TELLER ON BANKS.

I hold, as I have on this floor many times stated, that the control of money is the prerogative of nationality and sovereignty, that no government is justified in surrendering it; not justified in surrendering it even for the most patriotic and most intelligent of all the men who could be selected and it cannot be trusted to the hands of corporations. It must be controlled by the general government.

THEREFORE I HAVE ALWAYS GIVEN MY VOTE AGAINST THE CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL BANKS AS BANKS OF ISSUE.—Extract from speech in the senate August 29, 1893. Cong. Rec. p. 1021 53 Cong.

Senator Teller's speech on Banks from which the above is taken will be printed in full next week.

THE LIARS BELT.

There was a sharp contest during the week for the Liars Belt but the St. Paul Pioneer Press won with hands down with the following coldblooded lie, in an article in which it was denouncing congressman Towne for bolting the party along with Teller. After reading the statement no one will deny that it is the biggest lie printed during the week. It said:

In what has the republican party changed its principles on the money question? When it came into power in 1861 it found the gold standard prevailing as it had prevailed for nearly a century. All the vast financial transactions of the government thereafter, throughout the war, were based on the gold standard.

WHO KNOWS.

Senator Teller walked out of the republican convention in a storm of hisses and groans, but he may walk into the White House amid the plaudits of a redeemed American people and take a place in history by the side of Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln. Who knows?

There will be 30,000 majority in this state at the coming election against the Thurston-McKinley gold bug combine.

There were 61 men in the republican convention vile enough to vote for that public defaulter and all-round villain and thief, Matthew S. Quay.

The State Journal says "that the republican convention was notable for lack of three things: Crowds, enthusiasm and oratory." Robbers of mankind usually lack those three things.

The free silver managers of the democratic party might just as well expect the Ethiopian to change the color of his skin as to expect populists to vote for a democrat nominated at Chicago.

The pictures of Senator Teller which are appearing in the daily papers have hardly a resemblance to the man. The only thing correct about them is that the senator combs his hair back with no attempt at parting.

The goldite dailies announced that all the bolting republican senators terms were about to expire and they expected to ride in on a silver craze in the west. But the facts are these. Pettigrew's term expires March three, 1891, and Cannon's at the same time.

The southern populists got an experience of "reform within the democratic party" the time they elected fifty two alliance congressmen and every man of them deserted, except Tom Watson, as soon as they got to Washington. They will never try that thing again.

At the headquarters of the Nebraska delegation to the republican convention there was posted up on a large mirror a placard, on which was printed in big letters these words: "WE ARE FOR GOLD." What do the 25,000 free silver republicans in this state who voted for Thurston think of that?

Any man can now tell why Thurston insisted that Peter Jensen should be a delegate at large from Nebraska. He had contracted with Wall street that the Nebraska member of the committee on platforms and resolutions should be for gold and gold only.

"Can't you trust us? See how we have denounced our own president," say the democrats. Every pop in the land not only denounced his own president, but denounced his own party and left it long ago, and that is what you will have to do before the American people will "trust you."

In three states in the Union the republican national convention could not find a man who was mean enough to accept the position of national committeeman, and for the first time since the war the g.o.p. goes before the country with a big gap in its lines.

The Nebraska delegates to the republican convention were the most bitter and pronounced goldites in the whole convention. They out-did Wall street itself in their demand for gold, gold, gold. Peter Jensen was put on the platform committee and there he yelled louder for gold than ever would Ickelheimer and Heidelberg.

As soon as the republican sub-committee had drafted the financial plank it was telegraphed to J. Pierpont Morgan and he replied that it was satisfactory. It was then reported to the convention and adopted. Not a man on the committee would run the risk of adopting the plank until it had the approval of Wall street.

The goldite democrats have evidently made up their minds to take in the Chicago convention. Millionaire Whitney, Cleveland's first secretary of the navy, gave up his European trip and will go to Chicago as the leader of the goldbug forces. Gorman has announced that he will be there. With Whitney's millions and Gorman's wiles, things will be pretty lively at the Chicago convention.

The populist editors outside of Nebraska are beginning to understand Gen. Paul Van Der Voort's schemes. The Topeka Advocate remarks that "Paul Van Der Voort can expect little sympathy from the populists of the country in his fight against Governor Holcomb and the party organization in Nebraska. Populists generally regard Governor Holcomb as a true, able and sincere man."

The behavior of the gold bug crowd at St. Louis was so disgraceful that even Annin recorded the fact in the Sunday State Journal that, "Probably no one but the hotel keepers, the restaurants and the street fakirs regret what seems to them the premature departure of the embattled hosts of sound money and protection. The old resident breathes a sigh of relief and satisfaction over the announcement that the last special train of delegates has started out of the city."

If the Liar's Belt had not been awarded to the Pioneer Press before the following appeared, the State Journal would have got it, for the following editorial statement Tuesday morning. It said: "While the populist managed to reap some benefit from the state election this year, their vote in Oregon is smaller by 4 per cent. in 1896 than it was in 1892." The truth is that the populists made a gain of nearly 6,000 votes over the last election.