

# The Nebraska Independent.

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## PENCE AND JUDGE BELL

The Peoples Party is the Great Coming Party.

IT WILL CIVILIZE THIS COUNTRY

They Have Forced the Silver Platforms all Over the Country.

It Will Settle the Land and Transportation Question.

One day toward the close of the last congress Life Pence came to us and said: "Come out in the park here. I want to have a talk with you." When we had found a nice seat he went on to say that he was going out of politics; that he had a young family growing up and he must provide for them, and the way it was with him down there he could never keep a cent in his pocket, which was a fact, for whenever money was to be raised to pay expenses in the populist cause in any part of the Union, Life was always the first to say, "Come, boys, let's chip in," and out with his pocketbook.

He then went on to tell how he had been engaged by a big firm down east as their attorney, and he had signed a contract to keep out of politics for five years.

"You'll never keep that contract, Life," we said.

"Oh! yes; I will," he replied. "You see I've got to. I've signed."

That is a little over two years ago, and now we see reports in the Denver papers that Life is back there again making populist speeches. Here is part of what he said:

"There is no argument now as to what we want," began Mr. Pence, "the only argument is as to how we are to get it. The education of the past four years is bearing its fruit. History will some time record the fact that no little band of people ever influenced events as much as the peoples party. In 1892, without money and without influence, it began its work, and today the disintegration of parties that were warring is the result of that organization. No organization has ever grown and developed so magnificently, and the present wave of monetary reform is the result of that growth. There is no better presidential timber in any party than in the peoples party. The white house has held no better men for generations than Allen of Nebraska, Butler of South Carolina, and others, too numerous to mention. But with one accord they have subordinated all personal ambitions to the necessity of obtaining a united vote on the silver question. History will some time record this also to their credit."

Judge Bell, Pence's colleague in the house, was at the same meeting. Here is part of what he said:

"The peoples party, under whatever name it may be known at any time in the future, is the great coming party that is going to civilize this country. It was the peoples party that forced that bolt at St. Louis. It is the peoples party that will force a silver platform and a silver man at Chicago—the peoples party and no other. That is just one point on which the eastern press speaks the exact truth. Free coinage is a populist measure, just as they say. I believe we are reasonable people, and are willing as reasonable people to make any proper concessions to get what we want on one of our planks. If we could get all we want at this time get enough outside to carry the rest of our platform. The transportation question and the land question are just as important as the silver question to the country at large, and we will never eliminate them from our platform. We will make our own platform at St. Louis, and embody in it our beliefs on the land, transportation and referendum questions. Then we will say, 'We are willing to vote with you on this question on this proposition on which we agree.' Then we will go right on educating. It is the education propounded by the peoples party that has brought public opinion to its present point on the silver question. In Colorado it is likely that democrats, populists and republicans will all have the same presidential electors at the head of their tickets. Then, when we are all together on the silver question, we may consider that we don't need to do any more work in that line, and we will continue our educational work along the other planks of our platform. Should we eliminate the land, transportation and referendum planks from our platform, another party would immediately spring up to make them an issue, for those questions are before the people today, and will never be downed till they are settled right."

## SOME VALUABLE FACTS

Tariff, Circulation and Panics.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—I have prepared the following table with care and deliberation. I trust the same may be read and compared with the law of the case. I submit this letter to the careful consideration of a discreet people. Prove all things and hold fast to what is good and true. Wear this in your hat, and when an old party boss comes around telling you that high tariff or low tariff will prevent panics, just fire this record at him. You need have

no fear of the correctness of the statements herein made. In dealing with this subject I shall use round numbers.

From 1818 to 1816 we had from \$45,000,000 to \$100,000,000 in circulation, contracted by 1820 to \$44,000,000. Panic in 1820. Continually rising tariff from 1812 to 1828. Circulation increased by 1837 to \$149,000,000. Next year circulation contracted to \$116,000,000. Panic in 1838. Lowering tariff from 1832 to 1842. By 1843 circulation contracted to \$58,000,000. Panic in 1843. Rising tariff from 1842 to 1848. Circulation increased by 1857 to \$214,000,000. Contracted by 1860 to \$153,000,000. Panic in 1858. Lowering tariffs from 1848 to 1861. Circulation increased from 1866 to \$2,200,000,000. Contracted by 1873 to \$1,000,000,000. Panic in 1873. Rising tariff from 1861 to 1873. Circulation contracted by 1895 to \$850,000,000. Financial stringency in 1884 and 1885. Lowering tariffs from 1875 to 1885. Circulation contracted by 1890 to \$600,000,000. Panic conditions in 1890, and 1892. Rising tariffs from 1893 to 1894. The king of panics in 1893. Circulation contracted by 1894 to \$450,000,000. Tariff lowered in 1894. Further contraction by 1896 to \$350,000,000. Lowered tariff of 1894 still in force. Continuing and deepening prostration and distress from 1895 to 1896.

In the face of these facts republicans have the gall to say that it is necessary to raise the tariff to get relief and prosperity. (God Save the Queen!)

The old parties have been trying for years to convince the people that tariff and not money was the issue in this country. Their contention has been and is to this day that there is no scarcity of money; that there is as much money in this country as there ever was, and other like nonsense. Their position reminds me of a dream I had the other night, which I will relate. If the reader will substitute in his thought the word money for the word water he will understand its application to the old party arguments. My dream took me overland to California. I got along all right till I reached the desert of Utah where my horses became lame and thirsty and finally gave out for want of water. They got down and I could not get them up. I recalled and believed the teachings of the old parties that "there is as much water in the country as there ever was; that the country is full of it." I went in all directions searching but could find no water that I could get. I found it in various places but could not gain access to it because the owners guarding it would not part with it except upon special and unusual conditions. I finally came back to where I had left my team. To my sorrow I found them dead. By this time I myself was suffering for want of water and becoming very weak. Water was then the only thing of any value to me. I at last broke down. I fell asleep. In my delirium I could see oceans of it, out of reach. Oh inexpressible agony!

Being a pop I couldn't help having a vision. I thought I heard angels singing. As the celestial singers drew nigh I managed to turn my head, and to my surprise there stood the republican band wagon with McKinley and Thurston on the driver's seat. In flaming golden letters on the side of the wagon I read: "On to Washington." They were singing at the top of their voices, "Dem Golden Slippers I'm Gwine to Wear; Oh, dem golden slippers." Their song was cut short when they saw me lying in the road. They would have driven right over me, but the dumb brutes drawing them turned aside and stopped. They looked down at me coldly and asked: "What's the matter? Why don't you get up and go to work?" I informed them that I was famishing for water—dying for water. They told me in a grandiloquent way that there was no scarcity of water, that there was as much as there ever was, that the country was full of it, and that the charge for it was never before so low. I tried to convince them that it was "all-fired" scarce around there. Strange as it may seem, their plausible words soon convinced me that I didn't need any water. They said it would be unsafe to let me have any more without an "international agreement; that I must adjust myself to surrounding conditions." I instantly did as advised—and woke up dead—dead broke.

I. N. HARRAUGH,  
Chadron, Neb.

Teller is the Man.

UNION, Neb., July 1, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—In my view of the presidential question Henry M. Teller is the man who ought to be nominated by the Chicago and St. Louis conventions. Our party can well afford to nominate him. Our party first and continually declared for 16 to 1, besides our party was the first to declare the financial question to be the issue. A part of the democracy have caught on, and attempt to reap where they have not sown, but there is a large element in the democratic party that cannot be trusted.

For this, and many other reasons, I think it is our right to nominate Teller. If, however, anything should happen to make Teller impossible, then, of course, our own man, Senator Allen, should be pushed. In my view Bland will be the strongest candidate presented by the democracy. Perhaps it would be better to take him than to fail altogether, but if Teller or Allen is not on their ticket, I would be inclined to let the tail go with the hide.

G. T. TODD.

Rather Strange.

If the free coinage of silver is so outrageous a thing, utterly ridiculous and utterly wicked at the same time, how under heaven is it that it took Messrs. Bynum, Carlisle, Smith, Herbert, Wilson and the whole army of cuckoos so many long years to find it out? What a cometary it is upon their intelligence.—National Bimetallist.

## NEBRASKA IS FORTUNATE.

This State Has an Able, Honest and Patriotic Governor.

And He Will Continue to Govern for the Next Two Years.

The Topeka Advocate prints a fine double column cut of Governor Holcomb and remarks as follows:

The state of Nebraska enjoys the distinction of being the only state in the union which now has a populist governor. It is fortunate in having one of the best, purest and ablest men in the state in that position. He is one of the most popular men in the state and commands the respect of all of the people. His strongest characteristics are firmness, integrity and love of labor. He is one of the hardest workers who ever occupied the executive chair in any state. His careful and methodical attention to business has enabled him to familiarize himself with the smallest details of his office and of the institutions under his charge. His first term is now drawing to a close, and whatever his fortune may be, he will go down into the history of Nebraska as a monument of sterling integrity and will be remembered as the working governor.

Some points in reference to his life may interest readers. He was born on a farm in Gibson county, Indiana, in 1858, and is now 38 years old. When 17 he left farm work and began teaching school in order to earn money enough to obtain an education. At the age of 20 his father died and he became the head of the family. This grave responsibility with the attendant trials which he encountered and overcame developed in him that determined and self-reliant character which in later life brought him into prominence among his fellow men. In 1878 the Holcombs moved to Nebraska, and in the following year he went to Grand Island to study law. In 1885 he settled at Broken Bow, where he has since resided. He soon became a leading attorney and was elected district judge in 1891. At this election his republican opponent pledged himself to decline if re-elected to permit any more mortgage foreclosures until times improved, while Holcomb declared that he would be governed by the law and his oath of office and that he would enforce all laws on the statute book. His judicial career was so satisfactory that he was nominated in 1893 for Judge of the supreme court. He then ran 10,000 votes ahead of his ticket and lacked but 7,000 of being elected.

His campaign for governor made in 1894 was a remarkable one. He was nominated by the populists and democrats. A large majority of the business men of Omaha combined against him, claiming that the election of a populist would injure the credit of the state. An association was formed, the motto of which was "Stand up for Nebraska," and the test of loyalty was a vote against Holcomb. In the face of all this opposition and after a most exciting campaign Governor Holcomb received 3500 votes more than his republican opponent and more votes than any other candidate for governor ever received except one.

His administration has been a successful one, but it has not been very pleasant for him at times. The legislature, which was republican did everything in its power to harass and embarrass him, but when it adjourned he had the respect of his enemies and the confidence of all conservative citizens. The business men of Omaha acknowledged that they had misjudged him and gave him a banquet and there declared that they had done him an injustice and rejoiced that their efforts to defeat him had been unsuccessful. As an evidence of their confidence in him he was elected president of the Nebraska club, an organization composed of the business men of Nebraska cities for the building up of the interests of the state.

He is a fair sample of the men that populists desire to elevate to office. He is a credit to his party and to his state. As the one populist governor in the entire union populists regard his achievements and his record with pride and satisfaction. The country would be fortunate if more such men were in positions of public trust.

## FOR A RED HOT FIGHT.

And Wants Abbott to Make it—A Few Suggestions.

FALLS CITY, Neb., June 26, '96.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—If you will grant me the space I will offer a few suggestions.

You will agree with me that we are on the verge of one of the greatest political contests in the history of this great republic—since the establishing of American independence, and upon the final settlement of which depends the liberties of the American people, bought by the blood of our forefathers.

It is plainly to be seen from every lookout that unless the common people rebel and take the proper steps in time, we will find our liberty loving people once more in the clutches and under the damnable influence and control of Great Britain. The present conditions have been brought about by electing to offices of trust men as traitorous as John M. Thurston, John Sherman, Grover Cleveland, John G. Carlisle, Dan Voorhes and Hoke Smith, who swore with uplifted hands to high heaven that they would protect and guard our interests and liberties and homes against the avarice and greed of Wall street and the gold power of Great Britain. But they have violated every pledge and obligation, and are now about to surrender the grand old flag to John Bull.

At this critical moment we must use the greatest care in selecting our officers

of trust to send to Washington to protest against the avarice and greed of Great Britain and her American agents, John Sherman and Wall street, and we should not give way to those who seek those places of trust, but use our influence in presenting men with honor and ability to fill those offices—men whose eyes and ears are ever alert for the approach of the enemy, with powder dry and in the pan; and who are not in the market with pockets open ready to receive a bribe, as many of our trusted guards have done. We, the people of the First congressional district, now desire to be represented in congress by a man of this type—whose honesty, ability and integrity can't be assailed. A man who, if elected, would go to Washington with his pitchfork and join Mr. Tillman and help him to handle the straw and anything down there to be handled with that implement.

He, whom we would point to as such a man, is a successful farmer, out of debt; has a cultured family, and is in every respect an honorable, upright citizen. This man is Hon. George A. Abbott, whose residence is a well kept home just outside of the city limits of Falls City. A man who, if convinced by his friends that he is their choice as a candidate in the First congressional district, and that they want him to serve them in this capacity, I believe would accept the nomination; and should he be willing to make the contest, will make one of the most vigorous campaigns that was ever made in this district, as he has the will and ability to meet his opponent at any time or place upon the issues of the day. Aside from this, I think that he will be willing to go into any part of the campaign into which the state committee desires to send him, and some of the members know his ability as an economical campaigner. Especially Mr. Wolf, of the old committee, remembers that Mr. Abbott helped to stump this state two or three years ago, making twenty-five or thirty speeches and traveling a distance of over twelve hundred miles, and returned back to the treasurer (Mr. Wolf) \$15 out of the \$50 given him for campaign expenses.

Economy this year is one of the best traits of a populist campaigner, as our fund is like John Thurston's free silver—very limited.

Now, voters, I hope you will help me to influence Mr. Abbott to accept our nomination, and should he consent to do so, with the aid of every free silver and populist citizen, we can defeat the mites who represented us in the last congress.

Years to be represented by a man that can and will say and do something, as we are opposed to mites and wooden men representing us any longer in congress.

J. M. WHITAKER.

## STILL THEY COME.

Democrats, Republicans and Populists all for Union.

CHADRON, Neb., July 6, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—The populists of Dawes county send greeting with the following expression of their opinion on the subject of meeting with other reform elements:

"We favor a union in one party, under one flag, of all the forces opposed to bank monopoly, gold standard and bonds. This union cannot be had in either the democratic or republican parties, for both have proven false to the people. We favor instructing the Nebraska delegation to the St. Louis convention to vote for the nomination of no candidate for president who holds ALLEGIANCE TO OLD PARTY ORGANIZATIONS. We commend the brave and patriotic course of Senator Henry M. Teller of Colorado, and his colleagues in breaking old party ties for the sake of principle and hail their example as one to be followed by millions."

One word more—how the "union" here spoken of is going on in Dawes county. We had three precinct chairmen of the silver democrats heretofore sitting as delegates in our convention last week. All three are men of ability and influence. We have a list of forty republicans who will vote with us this year for the first time on a national ticket. Let the good work of "union" go on.

A. E. SHELDON.

## Glad of It

The NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT is one of those papers which imagines it is the entire populist party. It says the country weeklies have no business in the reform press association because "they represent nobody." We are of the opinion they represent about as much as the INDEPENDENT.—Seneca News (Kans.)

[If the NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT had ever made any such statement, the above criticism, would be proper, but it never did. We are glad to see that the News has printed the name of this paper in its columns at last. It never does at the end of the articles it reprints from it, in its own editorial columns.]

## A Scotch Populist.

Recently a story was told in the campaign against John Morley in Scotland. As his conservative opponent was addressing the scotch audience in behalf of a more masterful military policy he was nonplussed by the question from the crowd: "Is Maister Wilson in favor of spending thirty-six millions a year on the army and navy and only twelve million a year on education—that is to say, twelve million for pitting' brains in an' thirty-six million for blawin' 'em out?"

## They Will Never Do It.

Southern populists, who now control about half the southern states on a fair vote and an honest count, can not be brought to unite with the machine that has systematically hounded them from post to pillar, and stolen their ballots.—Progressive Farmer.

## OVATION TO TELLER.

It Starts at the Missouri and Culminates in Denver.

The People of all Parties Honor Him.

There was an ovation to Henry M. Teller from the time he left the Missouri river until he arrived in Denver such as has never been accorded to a man in the United States, save to Gen. Grant when he crossed the continent on the return from his trip around the world. All Colorado crowded into Denver to do him honor. The parade, the decorations, the enthusiasm of the people was never equaled in that city before.

The following short extract taken from the many columns of descriptive matter gives some idea of this historic occasion:

"Far as the eye could see stretched the living sea of upturned faces, in a solid mass from the curb to the corner diagonally opposite across Broadway, blocking the street car track, and affording not one inch of room for passersby. At first thousands of slowly revolving wheels wound their way amid the fast gathering throngs, and now and then a horseman found his way through. But soon every avenue was closed, and the scene from the reviewing stand, looking out upon the crowd, was one almost awe-inspiring, so great was the impression of numbers, of thousands, upon thousands, all inspired by one common feeling. The excitement was great as the crowd came up the street dragging the carriage containing Senator Teller. Thousands of hands found a place to grasp the long rope attached to the carriage, and it is safe to say there was not one among the thousands that split their throats in welcoming the hero, who did not wish that he could have a hand on the rope too. Then every eye was bent on the reviewing stand, watching for the appearance of Teller."

Senator Teller's speech was just what was to be expected from him. It is a plea to stand together, not for free silver alone, but for "a monetary system that is an American system." Silver is but a small part of such a system. He said:

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen of the committee and fellow citizens—I realize how difficult it is for you to hear, and I cannot attempt at this time to say much to you, hoping on some other occasion, under more favorable opportunities for speaking, I may have the privilege of addressing you.

I can only say there are no words at my command that can express the gratification and satisfaction that I feel for this magnificent demonstration which you have given me tonight. (Applause.) No man anywhere has ever had a better one and I thank you very heartily for it; but I do not, my friends, take it all to myself. I realize that the cause we are all interested in has much to do with this great outpouring of the people of Colorado; that it is intended not only to signify your approval of my conduct, and the conduct of my associates at St. Louis, but to signify your determination to work in this cause until we shall triumphantly achieve that which is so dear to us and to all the people of the country, the securing of a proper monetary system. (Applause.)

Since I have been your representative now nearly twenty years, it has been my great object and purpose to endeavor to represent the people of this state honestly and conscientiously (applause and "That's Right!") advocating the sentiments that they entertained; and I want to assure you if the hour ever comes that I cannot do that, I shall say so to you frankly, that you may select some one who will. (Applause.) Fortunately for me, the people of this state have been in accord with me on great public questions as I have presented them in the senate of the United States.

I am delighted—I am more than delighted—I am repaid for many hours of hard labor and toil by this demonstration. I heard a distinguished man say recently that in political life there was but little compensation for labor. The twenty years that I have endeavored to serve you—every hour that I have sacrificed and labored—is fully compensated by this magnificent demonstration of your generous approval. (Applause.) When the opportunity presents that I may speak to you nearer, face to face, and when I take you, as I trust I may—great as is your number—by the hand as fellow citizens, I will try to make you feel that these are not idle words of mine, but they come from the depths of my heart. (Applause.) Until then I beg your indulgence and ask you to excuse me from further trespassing upon your time. (Cries of "Go on!")

I will only say a word or two more. I believe now that all the friends of silver have to do in this country is to get together. (Applause.) And when we get together, I believe the friends of silver will dominate and control this country. (Applause.) and place it upon a monetary system, that is an American system—a monetary system that we will adopt without asking the consent of Great Britain or any other land. (Renewed applause.)

Whatever the republicans may do in other sections, I know that the republicans of this state believe that the great American nation is big enough and strong enough and wise enough (amen) to promulgate a system of its own ("You bet") that is American, without the approbation or approval of any nation on the earth. (Applause.)

For that let all the people of Colorado be united as one man. When we are united the other sections of the country will be united with us, and we will accomplish that which to some of us has seemed very remote—the securing—I re-

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peant—of a true, honest American system of finances. I thank you. (Great applause.)

The newspapers add that Senator Teller was almost exhausted, for like Senator Allen he has been giving his very life for the people in this long continued fight in the senate and elsewhere.

## CHICAGO CONVENTION.

Still at Work on Preliminaries and Contests.

FREE SILVER GAINS THE DAY.

Hundreds of Populists and Free Silver Men in the City.

Tobe Castor and His Followers Cast Out Without Ceremony.

Up to the time of going to press the Chicago convention was still in session, not yet having made any nominations.

The first day Tobe Castor and his gold bug delegates were seated by the national committee, and Bryan and his followers had to sit in the gallery, but the convention having been captured by the free silver men and Senator Daniels of Virginia being elected temporary chairman, Bryan got in and his followers ousted Tobe Castor, pitched them out of the convention.

Up till Thursday noon, the convention had engaged in settling preliminaries, hearing contests etc. Senator White of California had been chosen permanent chairman and the Michigan gold delegation kicked out. Now the silver men have a two thirds majority and can do what they please.

Many prominent silver republicans and populists are attending. The populist tell them point blank that if they nominate any one still connected with either of the old parties, populists will have nothing to do with him, but if they will nominate some one who has left the old parties, who is not antagonistic to the principles of the Omaha platform and is a man of ability in whom we could have confidence, that they are willing to make an effort to unite all the free silver forces and elect him, and they believe that the St. Louis conventions will endorse him.—See populist manifesto on page 3.

If anything was ever certain in this world before it happened, it is certain that populists will not support a democrat nominated at Chicago.

The committee on resolutions has reported a platform which had not yet been adopted. They have stolen the whole of the Omaha platform except the government ownership of railroads and they may steal that yet. But if they do, that will not make the populist trust the democratic party. For thirty years their platforms have been all right and their performance all wrong. All that time old Mrs. Democracy has been riding backwards on a blindfolded donkey, falling into every ditch, running against every stone wall and standing in front of every locomotive that came whizzing along. Populists want a party that rides a modern steed, that has eyes to see and can see.

At this hour no one can tell what old Mrs. Democracy will do—whether she will mount the blindfolded old donkey again and ride straight against the stone wall, built 100 feet high by their gold bug president and congress, or get a new mount and take to the broad highway of sure success.