

**The Nebraska Independent**

Consolidation of

**THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.**

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Russia will not adopt the gold standard.

The populists and silver party men organized the Colorado legislature.

John Colvin, populist, has been chosen speaker of the South Dakota house of representatives.

An astrologer in London predicts the downfall of Turkey in June and the downfall of Spain in December of this year.

The "Silver Knight," of Washington, D. C., has been purchased entirely by Senator William Stewart.

Capital involved in failures in 1895 was \$158,800,000; in 1896, \$247,000,000. The latter year was nearly as bad as 1893, yet McKinley's election, the great prosperity panacea, occurred in 1896.

Pious John Wanamaker was turned down for United States senator from Pennsylvania and Quay's candidate elected by an overwhelming majority. The Independent does not love Quay, but welcomes the defeat of that Pecksniff of modern politics, John Wanamaker.

A new paper comes from the home of Carlisle, Covington, Kentucky, bearing the name of "The Extra." It flouts the following at the head of its editorial columns: "A sure winner in 1900. For President, William Jennings Bryan, of Nebraska; for Vice-president, John R. McLean, of Ohio."

I. D. Chamberlain, who will be remembered by most of the old guard, is still publishing a paper at Pueblo, Colorado, but the name has been changed. It is now the Independent Reform Press. There is no question about it being Chamberlain's paper. His individuality is apparent all over it.

The republicans have tried to make political capital out of the fact that no flags have been floating over the present session of the legislature. But they have failed to tell the reason. The republican legislature of two years ago sold the state house flags and the late republican secretary of state failed to purchase new ones. That is the cause of it.

Hon. W. J. Bryan made three notable addresses in as many days last week: The first was at the bimetallic state convention, Lincoln, on Wednesday; the second, in Chicago at the Jackson day banquet, Thursday evening; the third, at the Jacksonian club banquet, Omaha, Friday evening. Never in the history of American politics have equal demonstrations been made in honor of a defeated presidential candidate.

**CUBA MADE A SCAPE-GOAT.**

We have been waiting patiently for some republican organ to explain why the good times coming in case of McKinley's election, have not appeared as advertised; but, beyond being told to "Not be in a hurry," we had, until about two minutes ago, waited in vain. But at last it has come. It is Cuba—poor, down-trodden Cuba. Here it is in the New York Independent, which is a goldbug from the very throne of goldbugdom and therefore speaks by the card. See how nicely it is all explained away: The year 1896 has not proved a profitable one to the majority of people; but it is now gone, and the question which most business men are asking themselves is, what of the future? It must be confessed that there is disappointment in that the prosperity promised after McKinley's election has not yet presented itself. For this delay some reasons can be given.

For one thing the Cuban resolutions, agreed to by the senate committee and introduced into that body, have had an effect upon business which is serious, all though somewhat indirect. The commercial circles do not wish for war with Spain, except for most clear cause, for the reason that wars and rumors of wars depress trade.

There you have it. Before election it was the silver agitation. Now it is Cuba. What it will be next the prince of the goldbugs only knows.

Maybe it will be the tariff; or the atrocities of the unspeakable Turk; or the weather; or the influence of the planets; or the health of the queen; or—anything but the real cause—THE GOLD STANDARD.

Ripans Tabules cure dyspepsia.

**TWICE A WEEK.**

The Independent, during the session of the legislature, will issue twice a week—four pages on Tuesday and the regular eight page edition on Friday.

This will be without extra cost to our subscribers, and is done solely for the purpose of giving them a better news service. It will be a matter of considerable extra cost to us, but there is nothing too good for the readers of the Independent, even though it does cost money. They have staid with us a long time and we feel like rewarding them for past favors.

It is our intention to furnish as good legislative news service for the money as can be secured.

In return for this we ask every friend of the Independent to help push its circulation.

We propose to secure the best editorial talent available and the best news service possible; in a word, to make the paper the best it has ever been.

The Independent should go into every household in the state. We ask our readers to help put it there.

**THE SILVER KNIGHT.**

An interesting exchange comes to us under the name of the "Silver Knight" of Cleveland, Ohio. A unique feature of its heading is a picture of W. J. Bryan between the word "Silver" and the word "Knight." This occurs both in the main head and the sub-head on the editorial page.

The following from its columns is worthy the attention of every reformer: Another proof that the republicans carried on the campaign of false pretenses was shown in the World of Monday evening. Perry Heath, who had charge of the literary bureau of the republican party during the late campaign, in an interview with a World reporter said:

"The republican national organization will, I am sure, push the campaign against free silver with all possible vigor. We have the machinery and the agitation will be carried on largely by means of published pamphlets containing speeches delivered in congress. It has also been arranged to have the republican clubs throughout the country take a hand in the good work."

If this does not prove that the republican plank in favor of an international agreement was a fraud, we do not know the meaning of words. Perry Heath is certainly in a position to know what the future republican programme will be, as he has charge of the literary bureau. In view of the fact that the republicans are going to keep up the campaign of goldbugism, the silver men must keep up the agitation in favor of bimetalism. A great educational work must be accomplished in the next two years, in order to secure a silver congress in 1898. The silver forces must not be found napping.

**A SIGNIFICANT UTTERANCE.**

The Jacksonian banquet at Omaha last Friday night was quite an interesting affair; and of course, the most interesting portion of it was Mr. Bryan's address. We quote two suggestions from this, the last of which is significant: "It is time for us to say by statute that corporations shall not enter into politics or give financial aid to any political party. In the last campaign many banks contributed thousands of dollars and justified their action on the ground that they were protecting their depositors, but you can never tell until a bank fails whether the money has been taken from the deposits or from the bank."

"If Nebraska takes the lead others will follow, and it will be the first step in ridding the country of corporation domination. Another thing that we should do is to require that a tax shall be levied on a bank for its deposits from loss generally. We cannot reach the national banks, but we can apply the principle to the state banks and then the national banks will have to follow or abide by the consequences."

"Middle of the Road" populist papers have charged that Mr. Bryan is not in sympathy with populist principles, except the free coinage of silver. We ask such to study these two suggestions carefully, especially the latter as to the tax on banks to create a fund to protect depositors. If these two suggestions do not point in the direction of governmental control and ownership, then in what direction do they point?

**KICK OUT THE TRAITORS.**

We say to our populist brethren in the south, in all good faith: Don't allow such creatures as Paul Van der Voort to hoodwink you. You don't know him. He lives in Nebraska and we of his own state ought to be able to tell you what kind of a man he is. In the olden days he was the most notorious railroad lobbyist in Nebraska. During the last campaign he did the bidding of the republican party. The only work he performed was to assist in the election of McKinley. He has been repudiated again and again by the populists of his own state; and is, in Nebraska, a stench in the nostrils of decent people of all parties. He is a republican spy in the populist camp—is so regarded by everybody here; and up to the first of this year, when the

populist administration was inaugurated, Van der Voort was a republican office holder. His purpose now seems to be to disrupt the people's party.

A year ago this creature managed to worm himself in as president of the national reform press association—how, we have never been able to understand. There were no other representatives from Nebraska present, or it would not have happened.

Now, in pursuance of his plan, he has called a meeting of the association at Memphis, Tenn., as far from the populist strongholds west of the Missouri river as possible. He boldly announces his plan to read every man out of the association whom he cannot control. He is a candidate for re-election.

What supreme gall! What business has he in a press association? He never was editor of a paper, except for a very short time a little one-horse monthly at Omaha, and that long ago suspended. What business has he in a reform press association—he, the oil-room lobbyist, the railroad pass dispenser, the appointee of the republican party?

It is a burning shame that he is even a member of such an organization, to say nothing of being its president.

For the honest middle-of-the-road populists of the south we have never had other than the most kindly feelings. We are fighting for the same cause for which they are fighting. In all good faith, we warn them against Van der Voort. He is simply doing the work of his masters. He is trying to disrupt the people's party. He is a spy in the great reform army.

**STILL THEY COME.**

Another silver paper comes to hand—Vol. 1, No. 1. It is the "Champaign Orbit" of Champaign county, Ill. It is edited by the well-known Mont Robinson. We take a few gems from its salutatory:

Yes, there is need of another paper—just like this.

The republican papers club us and we have nothing to fight back with but the fists, and gloved fists at that.

We propose taking a club and meeting them with their own weapons.

Unless every patriot does his duty this will not be a free country much longer. Already it has come to pass that men dare not tell how they vote.

Thousands voted against their honest convictions because they had to.

One part of our people and their children after them are bonded servants to another part of our people for 30 years and now they propose making it forty.

All these bitter pills are sugar coated to make them go down. That coating is "honest money," "sound money," "national honor," "public credit," &c. That coating must be ripped off. It will take men to make this fight.

**KICKING OVER THE TRACES.**

The Sterling Sun, though a republican paper; has a habit of talking back that is refreshing. For example, note the following:

About every late redubian officeholder in Nebraska who is out of a job, now wants to be appointed to some fat place by the president-elect. Some men are like hogs, never know when they have enough.

If our republican readers think the above a little heterodox, then let them observe what follows, which is from another republican paper, the Lincoln News:

The news has never believed—and its belief is shared by hundreds of thousands of other Americans—that monometallism, gold or silver, was better for us than the concurrent use of two moneys of redemption. The gold standard has but a small number of advocates in this country, and the audacity of the spokesmen of these few to assert that the republican platform was a delusion and a snare, was only a bait to catch votes, is resented. And the resentment takes the form of a determined movement to see that bimetalism by international agreement is accomplished, or we will know the reason why. It is a matter of honor with the republican party that it shall endeavor to redeem its pledges.

**SOMEWHAT HYPOCRITICAL.**

The State Journal has been trying to make out a case against seating the two supreme judges-elect. The Independent has gone over this matter thoroughly heretofore, but will refer to it briefly again. The republican legislature framed the bill two years ago for the express purpose of declaring the amendment carried, provided more votes were cast for it, regardless of whether it received a majority of all the votes cast at the election or not. That was the reason separate ballot boxes were provided. John C. Watson, author of the bill openly and above board avowed that as the intention of the act: Then of course, the republicans expected to elect the judges.

Now that the populists have elected them, the case is somewhat different. Our republican friends make many wry faces about taking a dose of their own preparation.

The difference between the republicans and populists is that, if the republicans had elected their men, they would have seated them without any delay; while the populists will not seat theirs until the legislature fairly and thoroughly investigates the matter. Looking at the question in the clear light of facts, the objections the republicans are offering seem somewhat hypocritical, to say the least.

**AN INTERESTING LIE.**

The following interesting lie is taken from the New York World:

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 2.—W. J. Bryan is making many enemies among the silver democrats by the almost absolute authority he is exercising in the organization of the populist legislature and the distribution of its patronage.

Patrick Barton, an old-line democrat, became so incensed at the conduct of Mr. Bryan that he called him up by telephone yesterday and denounced him severely.

Two former employees of Mr. Bryan have recently been given responsible places in the postoffice here, and W. F. Schwind, another graduate of Mr. Bryan's law office, is sure to be secretary of the state senate.

The legislature will meet Tuesday. Mr. Bryan's candidate for Speaker of the House, Mr. Gaffin, will doubtless be elected. W. H. Waldron is certain to be clerk of the house, as he has Mr. Bryan's support.

This was sent out by the State Journal office, this city, to the gold-bug papers of the United States.

If W. E. Annin, the Journal's versatile Washington prevaricator were at this end of the line, we could readily understand the authorship of this item, but as it is we must credit it to some imitator of that eminent disciple of Annanas.

It is somewhat amusing to read that Patrick Barton, "an old-line democrat," "denounced severely" Mr. Bryan "by telephone." Those who know Patrick Barton can appreciate the joke. Those who do not know him can form any estimate of him from the fact that he did the "denouncing" "by telephone."

Then we read that two former employees of Mr. Bryan have recently been given responsible places in the postoffice here. This must refer to Tom Allen. We always found Tom quite numerous, but never heard him spoken of as "two" people before. Then Tom got his appointment not "recently," but three years ago; and he is the only one of "Mr. Bryan's former employees" there is in the Lincoln postoffice.

A little farther on we read of "Mr. Bryan's candidate for speaker of the house, Mr. Gaffin." This is news. We never before heard that Mr. Gaffin was Mr. Bryan's candidate. It is possible, though. He was everybody else's candidate. His election has been a foregone conclusion ever since the speakership matter has been mentioned.

A little farther down we find this: "W. H. Waldron is equally certain to be clerk of the house, as he has Mr. Bryan's support." Well, well. Here is one of "Mr. Bryan's candidates" who evidently went wrong. Mr. Waldron's name was not mentioned in the populist caucus. And when Mr. Eager was elected chief clerk the State Journal charged that he was "Mr. Bryan's candidate."

The fact of the matter is that nobody had less to do with organizing the legislature than Mr. Bryan. He refused to have anything to do with it, declining even to endorse his best friends.

The Independent begs the pardon of its readers for devoting so much space to so apparent a canard. We only do it to show what interesting lies some whiflets of correspondents can send out.

**THE SILVER CONFERENCE.**

The Independent went to press too early last week to print the resolutions adopted by the state silver conference. They are as follows:

Believing it to be impossible to restore prosperity in any general or permanent degree to the prostrate industries and business of the country, or to save the masses of the people of the United States from further and greater spoliation and business ruin, except by a change in the present monetary standard and policy.

And that, therefore, the money question, especially as involving the restoration of silver to free and unlimited coinage, equally with gold; into all legal tender money at the ratio of 16 to 1, as under the law prior to 1873, regardless of the action of any other nation, overshadows every other political question and must remain the paramount political issue of the immediate future and until settled;

And also believing that it is only through organization and systematic education that the mass of the people can be brought to see the fallacy and inevitable ruin in the present system, or that they can be united for its overthrow and to adopt a better system; therefore, we, as citizens of Nebraska in convention assembled, regardless of past or present party affiliations and for the purpose of effecting a more perfect union and organization of all parties for systematic education and work in propagating these principles among the people, with the view to ultimate union of the ballot box do hereby unite in organizing the Nebraska bimetallic union.

The object shall be to aid through educational work, the restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation.

And we demand that all money whether gold, silver or paper shall be coined or issued by the general government and shall be a full legal tender for all debts public or private.

All power shall be vested in a committee of four, consisting of one democrat, one populist, one republican, and one national prohibitionist, to be selected

by the general convention. It shall be the duty of the committee to appoint a similar committee in each county of the state and when possible to second the county committees in the appointment of similar committees in each voting precinct.

It shall be the duty of the committee to encourage the organization of silver clubs throughout the state and circulate literature and put forth every legitimate effort to advance the cause of bimetalism and to this end we seek the co-operation of the woman's free coinage of silver clubs throughout the state.

The members of this committee shall hold their office for one year and until their successors shall have been chosen. It shall have power to fill any vacancies which may occur in the committee.

A convention shall be held yearly in the month of January on a day to be fixed by the state committee for the selection of a new committee and such other officers as may be thought necessary.

The state committee chosen is as follows: Judge Gregory, republican, Omaha; A. C. Shellenberger, democrat, Alma; J. H. Edmisten, populist, Lincoln; G. E. Biglow, prohibitionist, Lincoln.

We do not know Mr. Shellenberger or Mr. Biglow, but the selections of Judge Gregory and Mr. Edmisten are good ones, especially the latter, for J. H. Edmisten is one of the best political organizers and managers in Nebraska.

**MARION BUTLER.**

Some of the middle-of-the-road populist papers, notably the Southern Mercury (Dallas, Tex.) and the People's Party Paper (Atlanta, Ga.) keep persistently and maliciously attacking Senator Butler. These are the same papers that made life a burden to Chairman Taubeneck; that abused Gen. Weaver; that misrepresented Sen. Allen, that have tried to smirch the character of the biggest and grandest men in the reform movement.

Marion Butler may not be perfect. He, however, probably as nearly approximates perfection as some of his defamers.

But he is a gentleman; he is patriotic; he is a man of keen intellect; tactful, resourceful, alert; he is one of the shrewdest political managers in America; he is broad-minded, and he is a thorough populist.

Watson's paper leads the fight on him. Yet the Watson forces made Butler chairman of the national committee; and Butler was Watson's best friend during the campaign. Whether Watson realized this or not, it was true—a far better friend than the boodle populists like Demming, Mathews, Van Dervoort, etc., who swarmed around Watson pretending to be his friends, but were really only friends to the republican party. Butler did more work for Watson, achieved more practical results for him than any other man. For Watson to attack him now seems to us little short of ingratitude.

There seem to be a small clique of men in the people's party who are bent on abusing every man they cannot control. They seem determined to run the people's party or ruin it.

The Independent gives them fair warning now that they cannot run the people's party; neither can they ruin it. If they persist in their course, they can only succeed in ruining themselves.

Marion Butler is a bigger and better man than all of them combined. He will stay where he is. The vast majority of honest populists throughout the entire country will stand by him.

**LITERARY NOTES.**

The Arena for January is as good as usual. The article on "Religion of Burns' Poetry" will be relished by all lovers of the immortal Scotch bard.

The Macmillan company have recently published a translation of the Recollections of Alexis de Toqueville, by Teixeira de Mattos. There are few men whose recollections are so full of interest as de Toqueville's. He was a man of many friendships among the most noted men of his time. Gladstone, for instance, writes to the translator: "I set a high value on the work and am perusing it with the greatest interest."

To Americans the work is of usual interest, as displaying so much of the character of the man whose brilliant work on American democracy did much to establish our country's place in the esteem of continental nations.

Some light may be thrown upon the question who is the most popular American novelist by a reference to the numbers of F. Marion Crawford's novels which have been sold in the United States. The sale of his first book, Mr. Isaacs, for example, are now in their fifty-third thousand, while his most popular book, Saracinesca, scores more than over ten thousand above the hundred thousand mark.

**Exposure to Disease**

Does not necessarily mean the contraction of disease provided the system is in a vigorous condition, with the blood pure and all the organs in healthy action. When in such a condition contagion is readily resisted and the disease germs can find no lodgment. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine to build up the system because it makes pure, rich blood, and pure blood is the basis of good health. In cold weather it is especially necessary to keep up the health tone because the body is subject to greater exposure and more liable to disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the safeguard of health.

**BRYAN FOR PRESIDENT, ALLEN FOR SENATOR.**

The Jefferson County Journal carries at the head of its editorial column the following:

"William J. Bryan for President in 1900."

In its last issue this paper pays a compliment to Nebraska's two foremost

souls in the following words:

The defeat of Mr. Bryan for the presidency this fall left in Nebraska two of the most—if not the two most—prominent, able and loyal advocates of financial reform and of industrial independence in the country, Mr. Bryan and Senator Allen. Both have been honest, loyal and courteous in their fight for the principles they advocate, and both have been willing to place the success of those principles above any consideration of personal success or party aggrandizement. Both have unselfishly sought the public good when the policy which alone could restore prosperity was unpopular, and when it called down upon its advocates the hatred and ridicule of a majority of even our own people. But their battle at home is won, and so long as republicans fail to give us relief, and as the reform forces remain true to the principles upon which they won, their lease of power in this state is certain and now when the chance is about to come to the people of Nebraska to honor one and only one of her two great statesmen with a seat in the upper hall of congress, some people have been heard to ask, "Which shall it be?"

Knowing that such a question has arisen our senior senator has already nobly spoken, to say that if Mr. Bryan wishes to be a candidate he will not stand in his way. Such words in such a true mark the unselfish patriot and the truly great man. Few ages and few states have produced the man who has been willing to retire in the midst of his career and in the midst of the fight, when every day sees the fulfillment of his words, when every passing hour vindicates his position, and when the glory and the fruits of victory are just ahead, to let some colleague who has grown up by his side step into the place which he has occupied and wear the crown that has been prepared for him. Such Senator Allen has signified his willingness to do.

But we have not heard from Mr. Bryan, we trust only because the matter of his possible candidacy has not received sufficient publicity to warrant his giving it attention. No less noble than Senator Allen's words, has been the grace with which Mr. Bryan has borne his defeat, and accepted the temporary verdict of a people that were under duress to render such a decision. Has gone forth to give his talent and energy to free them from the circumstances that prevented their expressing their untrammelled choice, and to educating those who still do not see the logic of his views.

But we hope the matter will soon come to his notice, for if he is to prove himself worthy of the high esteem in which he is now held, and we trust shall ever be held, Mr. Bryan will not be long in silencing the rumors that he may be a candidate to succeed Senator Allen. For Mr. Bryan to allow his name to be used as a candidate for the position of Senator Allen, in words, would be, in others opinion, the rankest ingratitude. And we think that those who presume that Mr. Bryan would think for a moment of doing so, do him great injustice. Mr. Bryan has not shown himself such a man. Let Mr. Bryan speak and settle this discussion.

P. S. For our views of Mr. Bryan's future see head of editorial column.

**COMMENTS UNNECESSARY.**

Look on this picture: If present indications augur anything, I believe that the pomp and splendor attending McKinley's inauguration will be the grandest ever seen.—Mr. Hanna's Interview.

Then on this: In the crowds that begged and pleaded for food yesterday were big, able-bodied men who could not find work, and who trembled in the cold and shed tears from fear that they would not be able to procure food to keep starvation from their families. Many women also shed tears from hunger and other hardships.—Chicago Newspaper.

All reformers can thank God that the bill to refund the Union Pacific debt to the government is dead. It was killed by a decisive majority in the lower house Monday.

**Farm-ers, Attention!**

Try our Golden Gem seed wheat. A No. 1 hard variety of the Red River Valley, produced by careful cultivation and study, producing a flour unexcelled by any known variety.

We believe this wheat can be successfully grown throughout the wheat-producing states and retain its fine milling and great yielding qualities.

Yields of 25 to 40 bushels per acre have been repeatedly raised. This grain stands up better, on account of its strong growth, than most any other variety.

We have a limited quantity of Golden Gem to place on the market at the following prices: Purchasers expense, 7 pounds, \$1; 15 pounds, \$2; 30 pounds, \$3. Remit by express, money or postal order. When ordering give name of nearest express and postoffice and your name in full. ENGLISH & Co., Fertile, Polk Co., Minn.