Its Composition and Some of the Important Measures Introduced.

OLD LANDMARKS MISSING.

Sentiment in Favor of Retrenchment, Economy and Honest Official Service.

No Oil Room in Sight.

The present legislature now in session in Lincoln is not made up of slouches by amendment. any means. As for intelligence and business tact, they equal any legislature ever brought together in the state. True it is wanting in old political landmarks. Church Howe, Tom Majors and Pollard of Cass, all republicans. Clark John Watson are not there. Then the leg-pullers, Tom Cook and Walt Seeley are also conspicuous in their absence. As yet there are no signs of an "ile thereupon the committee rose, reported back to the house and the report room." In every way there is a great adopted. improvement over '91. They have had more experience and know better what

A majority of them are farmers. And why should we not have strong men to represent us as long as we have more college bred men tilling the soil in Nebraska than they have either in New York or New England.

The prevailing sentiment seems to be that neither our taxes or public debt shall be increased but that retrenchment, economy and honest official service shall be made to pull us out of our present embarrassing predicament. Spending less is just as much a gain as

earning more. The republicans in and out of the legislature are greatly disturbed over the amount of time the pops squander on questions of no importance. They have figured out to a cent how much it takes to run the legislature every minute then ed as follows: In counties having 12,000 they bawl out so many minutes and so and less than 20,000 inhabitants,\$1,200; many pennies lost to the taxpayers. If several of our republican legislatures in 50,000, \$1,600; in counties having 50,the past, had fooled away more time, it 000 and less than 80,000, \$2,000; in would have been better for the state. counties having 80,000 and over, \$2,-We expect to pay five dollars a day for sixty days and that amount cannot be increased. There is no danger but that we will get legislation enough with all their fooling thrown in.

REFORM BILLS INTRODUCED.

House Roll No. 6, introduced by Hull of Harlan is sort of "valued policy" measure, only one pertains to mortgages, and the other insurance policies, Just opinions have settled down upon the question that when a company takes a risk and pockets the premium and the property is burned the juli face of the policy should be paid whether the property was worth it or not. So this bill of Mr. Hull, provides that when a mortgage is foreclosed, the property shall pay the debt in full, with no deficiency udgment to hang over the mortgagor. We believe such a law to be just. It may tend to discourage money loaning, but by a vote of 19 to 9. all the better for that.

House Roll No. 22 by Soderman of Phelps, is a bill worthy of notice. Labor of all kinds has gone down, property of every description has declined and why should not the salaries of all officers? Why take a man from the farm, pay him two or three thousand dollars a year when he could not make half of that sum were we to give him the use of a good farm thrown in. Then remember that farmers are made to pay a large proportion of these high salaries. Then 37, by Horner, regulating the bridging there are the salaries of the district of ditches or cauals across public highcourt clerks, more outrageous still, some ways, as amended. The report was of them get fifteen or twenty thousand a year. Go for them too Mr. Soderman and we will hold your hat.

House Roll No. 33, for the repeal of the sugar and chicory bounty law, introduced by Moran will undoubtedly pass and should, for there is no justice trust. If the sugar business is best the five years trial ought to prove it and farmers will go in, if not best, they will stick to their corn and hogs. Better put the bounty into a sugar factory on the state farm and let the university students run it and become experts in the

House Roll No. 36, provides for municipal suffrage. A similar law has run in operation in Kansas for several years ing printed, while the rules provided and works well. Since ladies form political clubs, march in campaign procession and cheer for political candidates why not let them vote. There is no by the republican secretary of state, Mr. question but that the legislature has the power to grant suffrage to women in corporate towns and cities. These corporations are creations of the legisla- a republican, was a bigger man than the ture and not of the constitution as in house of representatives. the case with state and county voting. There are four states on the west of us, that have granted full suffrage to both men and women upon the same terms. Nebraska better get into the band

House Roll No. 41, introduced by Snyder, compelling all railroad companies, operating roads in the state, to give free transportation to the state officers, members of the legislature and court judges, should pass. They get their transportation anyway and why not legalize it. County and city officials should be added. Then it would be received as perquisites of office, not as bribes. This would be a better way out of the muddle. A law making it a misdemeanor to accept passes would be disregarded by most officials. Counting this as a part of the taxes, railroads even then would not pay their share.

No one will complain if lawyers and politicians are cut off.

In the House-Thursday.

At the afternoon session yesterday Wooster of Merrick, in committee of the whole, responded to an editorial in the World-Herald, in which he was quoted as having an opinion that was not complimentary to the country press. He de-nied having said what he is quoted as

Felker secured the recommitment of his anti-cigarette bill to receive amendments, and the supreme court of Iowa has just held a similar bill unconstitu-

H. R. 5, tor the recount of the votes cast on the amendments for an increase of the number of judges of the supreme court, was referred back to the house for passage. It was opposed by Clark of Lancaster, but was favored by a vote of 50 to 34.

H. R. 19, reducing salaries of officials of the Kearney industrial school, was reported back for passage with slight

H. R. No 20, to reduce the salary of the superintendent of the deaf and dumb institute from \$2,000 to \$1,500, was opposed by Clark of Lancaster and Crow of Douglas, Smith of Douglas and of Richardson, Hull of Harlan and the speaker spoke in favor of the reduction. Several amendments were rejected and the bill was reported back for passage,

In the Senate-Thursday.

The senate devoted the afternoon to work in committee of the whole, McGann presiding. S. F. No. 4, by Caldwell, for equalizing valuation of property assessed for taxation, was taken up.

The bill provides that the owner of property on the first day of February in any year be liable for taxes of that year and that real estate shall be assessed in the year 1898 and every fourth year thereafter; that county assesors meet in January, 1898, at the state capitol, and every fourth year thereafter, for the purpose of agreeing upon a basis for fixing the value of real and personal property, and the value shall not be less than the actual cash value. A list of taxable property shall be taken in each county every year. Each county assessor shall receive an annual salary, gradin counties having 20,000 and less than 500. Any assessor violating the provisions of the act, including the provision requiring real and personal property at not less than its actual cash value, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor

After considerable discussion the bill was reported back for amendment by the committee on revenue,

Ransom's bill to reduce the number and salaries of county commissioners in Douglas county was referred back for When the committee reported to the

senate the report was adopted. A resolution by Talbot directing the committee on revenue to prepare and submit a bill to require counties to pay into state treasury state taxes collected and held by county officers was defeated

In the House-Friday.

Hamilton of Butler presented a joint resolution for a memorial favoring a a high court of arbitration and opposing any increase of the standing army. Committee reported back for passage H. R. 31, by Clark of Richardson, to authorize mutual plate glass insurance companies: H. R. 24, by Sheldon, to require exhibition of neat hides by purchaser or slaughterer, as amended; H. R. of ditches or canals across public high-

Committees reported back for in definite the Rossian thistle law.

cept the one on his files.

had made a practice of sending copies of paign. each bill to every postoffice in his district, and as there are only 500 bills printed, he had thus robbed some other members of their proportion.

Jenkins suggestively inquired why it was that 500 copies of each bill were bathat only 250 should be printed. Speaker Gaffin explained that the con-

tract for printing the bills had been made

Clark of Laucaster explained that the contract for printing the bills, had been let by the state board before the house

had met and adopted rules. Wheeler suggested that it was a fundamental principle of the majority to Harrison vote of four years ago. The violate no past contracts.

After further discussion the resolution prevailed. The following resolution was introduced by Wooster of Merrick:

"Whereas, The house granted to the legislative committee of the Nebraska Beet Sugar association the use of this hall for a public meeting last night;

"Whereas, At said meeting there was much disorder, the gentlemen of said legislative committee being treated very

[Concluded on Eighth Page.]

Senator Allen of Nebraska Exposes Mark Hanna's Manipu-

lations.

Notwithstanding These Facts, Bryan Ran Ahead of the Votes Cast by Either Party in 1892.

Interesting Figures.

The remarkable changes that have occurred in the political status of the senate and in the position of independent members of that body are well illustrated by the great prominence attained by Senator Allen of Nebraska. Next to Senator Jones of Arkansas he is the recognized leader of the silver majority in the senate. Although a populist, Allen has the entire confidence of the silver democrats, and thus far this session has been in charge of the floor for the friends of silver and has most frequently appeared in debate.

The other day Senator Allen, in a tilt with Vilas of Wisconsin defended the regularity of the Chicago democratic convention and sliuded to the gold gathering at Indianapolis as "that pump affair." Vilas glorified the Indianapolis convention as the hope of the democratic party of the future, and also took occasion to express his great grati- Facts and Figures Concerning the Exfication that the people of Wisonsin "patriotically voted for McKinley.

Senator Allen is physically the largest, as he is intellectually one of the strongest men in the senate. He first attracted attention by his phenomenal the principal Atlantic and Gulf ports as achievement of speaking for sixteen straight hours in opposition to the repeal of the Sherman law. Since that time he has developed rapidly, and the close alliance between populists and democrats in the late campaign has brought him to the front as one of the most prominent figures in the senate. The circumstance of his residence in Bryan's own state and the friendship that exists between the late candidate for president for the month of October was 3,185,212 and the senator has been helpful in de- bashels, being more than twice the termining his new position in the sen- smount shipped from New York.

The Nebaaska senator has presented of water over the bar of twenty-four to the senate a very interesting compila- feet. She comes to the front in grain and may be fined not less than \$500 or tion of the results of the campaign of shipment for October of 1,802,000 bushbe imprisoned in the penitentiary one 1896. It has been ordered printed as a senate document. It shows the vote cast in twenty-four states of the union at the election, together with a comparison of the vote cast for Harrison, Cleveelection of 1892. The tables presented with the statement are luminous expositions of the manner in which the election of 1896 was carried. Senator Allen presents the following compilation of the vote in the twelve states which were regarded as doubtful that were carried for McKinley.

	Vote	Maximum		McKin-
ret	turned.	vote.	excess.	jority.
Marylanad	240,866	232,152	8.700	32,231
W. Virginia	19×,221	189,875	5,300	11,487
Ohio 1	011,576	9:0,000	94,500	40,400
Michigan	544,278	514.5 8	29,700	56,076
Indiana	637,284	597.600	39.700	17,948
Illinois1	,051.106	954 000	127,000	140 427
Kentucky	445,934	402,600	43,800	1281
lowa	52 ,551	444.500	77,500	74,552
Wisconsin	448,106	416,650	31,300	104,507
Minnesota	341,539	328,440	12,100	53,875
Oregon	96,846	8.,600	7,200	1,972
California	294,000	272,000	22,000	1.812

He also brings out the fact that it was not only in these states where the fraudulent excess appears. There were three others -Tennessee, Missouri and Texas -the three southern states which Hanns made a desperate effort to carry, but which were saved, notwithstanging the effort to repeat the fraudulent methods postponement H. R. 25, by Billings of Keya Paha county, repealing sections of dle west. There was a fraudulent excess of 30,000 in Tennessee; 41,000 in Mis-Zimmerman submitted a resolution souri, and Hetty Green's hopeful young that each member be entitled to three son worked up an excess of 46,000 in in taxing ten cent corn to help the sugar copies of printed bills and no more, ex- Texas. But the democrats rallied gallantly and saved all three states, de-The chair stated that it had come to spite the millions that were employed by his knowledge that at least one member the managers of the republican cam-

Another strong point is that in all the remaining states of the union there was no excess. In many states the total vote fell far below the maximum legitimate vote, and this was true in every state carried by Bryan except the three named

above. Senator Allen concludes his statement with the following most significant figures, showing how the people railied to the support of Bryan "without money and without price," even in states where Jenkins intimated that he didn't think fraud, corruption and coercion over-whelmed them. This table gives the a secretary of state, even though he was total vote for Bryan in the middle western states, and the vote for Harrison and for Cleveland and Weaver (united) in 1892. Bryan ran far ahead of the highest vote polled for either party in 1892 in all these states except Wisconsin. following are Mr. Allen's

tonoming are	mer. milen	e ugures.	
	For	Harri-	Clevela
	Bryan.	son.	Weav
West Virginia	92,927	80,203	88.
Ohio	478,547	405,187	418.
Michigan	237.251	222,708	999
Indiana	305,771	255,615	284.
Illinois	466,703	399,288	448,
Kentucky		135,441	198,
Iown		219,688	216.
Wisconsin		187,244	170.
Minnesota		122,736	130,
Totale	9 949 494	0.000.000	0.400

ceived in them more than 167,000 votes write owner. more than Cleveland and Weaver did

1892, and 320,000 more than Harrison. Yet Cleveland, without Weaver's help, carried Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Wisconsin and West Virginia, and secured electoral votes in Ohio and Michigan, and Bryan got only one small vote from the ancient democratic stronghold of

Debts of the United States,

The United States census bureau has tabulated recorded debts of all sorts in the United States. The bonded debt of railroads, street railroads, telephone FRAUDULENT BALLOTS CAST companies, private water companies, electric light and power companies, and other transportation companies amounts to \$6,200,000. The mortgages on farms amount to \$2,209,000,-000 and on city property to \$3,810,000. The United States, state, county, city and school debts amount to \$2. 027,000,000, loans on crop liens \$650, 000,000, bank loans \$3,077,000,000. A reasonable estimate of bank deposits. merchantile debts, retail store accounts and other personal debts would carry the total debts, of the United States, public and private, to probably \$30,-000,000,000, or an average of \$2,140 to each household of five persons. It is easy to see from these figures how pauics and depressions arise, and the ques-tion is naturally raised whether credit is a blessing or a curse.

money to spare.

OCTOBER GRAIN EXPORT.

port of Agricultural Products.

The government report for October and for the ten months since January shows export wheat, corn and oats from

tonows in thou	Sauu	ousner		
1	896.	1895,	1896	1895.
Baltimore 4	82.6	9428	28981.6	9766,7
Boston 13	732.6	1368,7	44082.0	8215 5
Newport News. 8	24.3	317.1	11570.0	5093;1
New York 47	60.3	5373 1	43769.3	33048.8
Norfolk 9	96.2	316.0	10356,0	2446,7
Philadelphia 13	67.8	592.2	10733.7	3663,5
Galveston 18	802.0	34,4	7301.1	34.4
New Orleans 40	070.6	886.8	23198.1	4676,7
200	036.4	9831.1	150:91.8	66945,8
The export of	corn	from	New O	rleans

This year finds Galveston with a depth

Galveston now has an elevator pacity of 1,000,000 bushels of grain per day. As soon as the railroad rates can

be made reasonable there is no reason and and Weaver at the presidential why she should not handle all export grain tributary, which will include all west of the Mossissippi river to the mountains and north of the British line. The price of our export farm products is fixed on the Liverpool market by competition with Russia, South America, Australia and India, when India has a

surplus. This market not only fixes the price of wheat we export, but fixes the price of every bushel produced in the United States. The present cost of shipping wheat to the foreign market is thirty-five cents per bushel. The present cost of shipping corn is thirty cents per bushel by the way of the eastern sea-The average haul to the Gulf is 750

miles, or one-half the distance to the eastern ports, with far better grades and no toll gates to pass. By this route just as soon as we can get a steel toll road open to all that wish to use it, the cost of getting our exports to markets will not exceed one-half the present cost. Our annual production of corn in the United States is 2,000,000,000 bushels. The annual production of wheat in the United States is 500,000,000 bushels. The added price to our wheat crop would

be 17% cents per bushel, a total gain in price of our wheat crop of \$87,500,000. The corn crop for Nebraska this year is not less than 350,000,000 bushels, and is not worth today to exceed 10 cents per bushel to ship. But suppose we could ship our surplus for 15 cents instead of 30 cents per bushel. It would make our corn crop worth 25 cents per bushel, as it should be. The difference would be in favor of the producers of corn in Nebraska to the amount of \$52,-

500,000. Our agricultural export products are all produced west of the Mississippi river, as the east consumes what it produces east of that line. Our export of sheep and cattle meat products amounts yearly to \$200,000,000, and the same rules apply here. All our imports can come back by the same route and we be the gainers in the reduced prices of all imports. By this gulf route we would come in contact with 50,000,000 in Mexico, Central and South America, Cuba and all the islands in the Gulf of Mexico. They have coffee, sugar and all tropical fruits to exchange for our bread stuffs and meat products. E. STNDDARD.

For Sale or Trade.

"Jerome B," a beautiful Hambletonian stallion, the fastest in the state, young and sound and has no record. Trotted an exhibition barefooted after winning a race at Holdrege, Neb., last Fourth of Washburn closes with the suggestion July, at a 2:08 gait. Never in the hands that a meeting of party leaders be held of a trainer a day but will show a 2:10 as soon as practicable to perfect plans gait any time barefooted He has booked for the future. his owner more than one thousand dollars every year. Will sell and give time Thus, although these were the states of for payment, or trade for good, smooth, the greatest gold deflection, Bryan re- clear land well located. For particulars C. J. BEEDLE, Holdrege, Neb.

The American Goldbug Welcomed by the British Allies.

COXEY'S MEETING A "FROST."

Gov. Pingree's Recommendations Popu listic.—Reforms Urged by Hol-

comb.-Cabinet Timbers

Scarce.

In our last letter we referred to the departure of Senator Wolcott for London to attend an alleged bimetallic conference. He has been welcomed there in his true colors. The London Times of Jan- their residence from year to year; beuary 8, says: "Senator Wolcott will be tween the time when the assessments welcomed here. For several reasons are made, and that when the taxes are welcomed here. For several reasons are made, and that when the taxes are Mr. McKinley could not have chosen a liable to be collected. Under the well-more capable envoy. But public opin-known existing conditions it would seem ion in England is more hostile than be- that the class of persons above referred fore to bimetallism. Nothing can be to, will increase largely in the years to hoped from the visit, except as a politi- come enlarging the evil complained of cal movement and a salve to the silver- correspondingly.

and offers a good chance for girls to put in spare time to make some money. It all events, as long as bimetallism apwould be no harm to investigate in these pears to be dropped or revived accordence. Secondly, by compelling assessors to list all property at its reasonable value to be determined. hard times when there is more time than ing to the exigencies of American domes- mined by the best means in their power

> was reported to be in a moribund con- family residing in this state exempting a dition, has taken a new lease on life and sum (not exceeding five hundred dollars) a plan for co-operative work is being prepared by Anna L. Diggs and others.

> Rockefeller, George Gould, Calvin Brice able, and also from the real estate value and others to get a government fran- in behalf of every family residing in the chise, built and control a vast system of railroads in China: "Reaper" McCormick has had his picture taken off of the from taxation or their families from betreasury notes because other business ing driven to the streets. men object to his getting so much free Our supreme court has handed down advertising; Claus Spreckels' daughter the opinion that "it is not the object of has not only eloped with a poor man but has returned with thanks the one and one-half millions that he had given her for pocket change; and Hetty Green. has contrary to all precedent, been obliged to buy her a new bonnet; so we must conclude that even the "plutes" have troubles of their own.

With gold democrats celebrating erally? Jackson Day, by banqueting and speeches at one place, and silver democrats (popocrats) doing the same at another we lear that the shade of "Old Hickory was moved to righteous wrath. W. J. Bryan was an honored guest at Chicago families of necessary support? the 7th and at Lincoln the 8th, the banquets having been so arranged that he Nebraska if her law makers do not might attend both. At both places he again reiterated his desire that no clubs should be called by his name and that he should not be held in the attitude of a presidential candidate for the next

four years. Governor Pingree in his inaugural address urged the abolishing, in his state, Michigan, of political conventions and the use of the direct vote in nominating candidates; the use of the referendum in granting quasi public franchises; two cent railroad fares; and inheritance and income tax. Pretty good people's party man is Pingree, if he is, like others, afraid of the name. At the joint meeting of populists, silver democrats and republicans held there they did not endorse this message in its entirety but warmly commended the portions referred to. The joint meeting was harmonious.

Governor Altgeld in his final message displayed his wonted vigor. He scored newspaper men and methods and it is generally believed he intends starting a paper to show just how it should be run. Tanner cut Altgeld's name off the inaugural program and then openly declared himself against the "common" people and for corporate wealth. Governor Holcomb's message is char-

a better ballot system, economy in state affairs, an anti-railroad pass law and speaks against the beet sugar bounty. It is conceded that Governor W. J. Stone could have succeeded George Vest in the senate had he indicated a wish for the place. He was urged by the new democracy and populists to accept the nomination but he declined.

acterized by great good sense. He urges

President McKinley is having a serious time getting his cabinet made up. All so far honored decline, and Thomas and that is what all McKinley appointees must be.

Among the many signs of better times (?) is the eviction of 51,000 families in Greater New York. Kansas will be avenged for the recentslanders of the press of that metropolis by sending several train loads of grain and provisions to the sufferers.

George F. Washburn, of Boston, whom every populist knows, has issued an address filled with earnest words to the party but the rather unnecessary assertion that populism is not democracy. He reiterates the facts, in which all real populists are not silverites' but believers in scientific money, that the union in the last election did not injure our cause or party but that on the contrary we have today every reason for satisfaction. Mr.

Ugly stories are current as to Hanna money having been used in the North Carolina legislature to secure the reelection of Prichard, who was a pronounced goldbug in the recent campaign. Coxey's meeting at St Louis on Jan- from Hawaii.

uary 12, to organize a new party, was something of a "frost." About twenty persons of more or less prominence were in attendance and regrets were read from as many more.

Our State Revenue Laws. For the Nebraska Independent.

There seems to be a general conviction that some changes ought to be made in the laws for the apportionment and collection of taves. The large amount of delinquent state tax, as reported, supplemented by that of county, city and school districts throughout the state, in connection with the expenses and embarrassments attendant, would seem a sufficient cause for the convic-tion more especially when it is acknowl-edged that a large part of the amoun cannot be collected except by assess-

ment upon other property.
Unquestionably an examination of the assessment rolls would develope the fact that a large percent of these delinquent taxes were levied upon the property of tenant farmers and others who change

The New Method Co. of Chicago, whose ad appears on page 5, is said by our Chicago representative to be all right chicago representative tic politics."

The Kansas Farmers Alliance, that ly; then, if the owner be the head of the from the value of household belongings, teams, tools etc. Also exempt such re-Li Hung Chang is getting credit for ligious, charitable and other semi-pub-breaking up a well-laid scheme of John lic institutions as may be deemed advis-

the law to render any man destitute.' This seems to be in harmony with the generous exemption laws against private creditors. Why should the state take the property of the citizen it will not allow a private creditor to lay hands on? Can not the people forego collectively, what they are compelled to sev-

Governments do not require personal service (in the army for instance) from those physically unable to perform it. Why should they levy taxes upon those who cannot pay without depriving their We shall or will protect the people of

J. A. UPTON. Younges & Co., of Geneva, Nebraska have issued a catalogue of prices which contains in addition a large amount of valuable information as to soil culture and the method of planting, cultivating and growing trees and shrubs. Anyone desiring trees, plants or seed should

write for this catalogue. Teacher-"Freddy, how is the earth divided?" Freddy-"Between them that's got it, and them that wants it.

CONFIDENCE AND DOLLARS.

Many of our subscribers have given no attention to the statement of subscription account which we sent out over a month ago. Of course you need money as well as confidence. That is the same boat we are in. We have plenty of confidence in our subscribers but it will not pay for white paper. If you will send us a dollar we will extend your subscription for another year and assure you that our confidence will be greater than before. Do not put off until tomorrow what you ought to do today.

COVERNMENT RAILROADS.

New Developments in the Pacific Rail. road Cases.

The Pacific railroad funding bill was killed in the senate the other day and proceedings of foreclosure at once commenced. Now it appears the old com-Reed gives it out cold that they do not desire to be the tools of Mark Hanna money, or a part of it, to pay off the government and keep the road them-selves. The high-back republicans are greatly pleased with the prospects, for they were scared ont of their boots lest the government might get a railroad to own and run. How the Journal can favor the ownership of waterworks by the city and condemn the government ownership of railroads, we cannot see. We were in hopes the road might be sold and bought in by the government. The two eastern branches could be connected at Chicago and then' extended on to the Atlantic, and we would be fixed for a while till we could open a branch north populists join without argument, that and south from Bismarck to Galveston. The government is actually running the road now through its receiver, and so of several other roads. The true American doctrine is to let individuals do all that individuals can do, and when a corporation is needed let the government be that corporation.

Remains of Minister Willis.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 26.-The re mains of the late minister to Hawail, Hon. Albert S. Willis, reached here at s o'clock last evening via the Penn-sylvania railroad, after a long journey