

THE OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE

In this department we will publish communications of a worthy and suitable character, received from subscribers to this paper. No communication should contain more than 300 words. Manuscript will not be returned.

Replies To Mr. McShane.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:

On the 9th of this month an article appeared in the Philadelphia Public Ledger, declaring that Mexico was not prosperous and that her deplorable condition was due to silver.

DECEIVING THE PEOPLE. In the Wednesday, Feb. 9th issue of the Philadelphia Public Ledger there appeared a statement by Mr. John McShane of Omaha, Nebraska, upon the effect of "depreciated currency upon the laboring men of Mexico."

Mr. McShane says "there is much activity and great apparent prosperity." The expression used is similar to that of an imitation of a noise, being very difficult to conceive of an imitation that does not closely resemble the thing imitated.

Regarding the condition of the Mexican workingman, it is very much better than it was, but if Mr. McShane will show where the working people in the world who are ignorant are in a prosperous condition, he will have gained a strong point in his favor.

Without entering at all into the causes which have produced this "apparent prosperity," but adhering only to the facts, it would be well to note that Mexico had no railroads twenty-five years ago, and today has 8000 miles in operation and nine railroads under construction.

There is no doubt but that in New England both the mill owners and the workmen would be glad to welcome some of this "apparent prosperity," as it is very evidently a better kind than the one which we are told is with us.

It is strange that men will chase shadows, theories, doctrines, and herd into sects and parties and let the substance, the facts, and realities escape them.

G. D. COLEMAN, Phila. Penn., Feb. 17, 1898.

Jefferson and Lincoln.

Populists have been in the habit of asserting that Jefferson democracy and Abraham Lincoln republicanism are not such very different articles.

Jefferson at the very inception of our nation declared "that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

they conflict with the interests of corporate and organized wealth. Lincoln's letter speaks for itself.

"SPRINGFIELD, ILL., April 6, 1859. 'Gentlemen: Your kind note inviting me to attend a festival in Boston on the 28th instant in honor of the birthday of Thomas Jefferson, was duly received. My engagements are such that I cannot attend.

"Bearing in mind that about seventy years ago two great political parties were first formed in this country, that Thomas Jefferson was the head of one of them and Boston the headquarters of the other, it is both curious and interesting that those supposed to descend politically from the party opposed to Jefferson should now be celebrating his birthday in their own original seat of empire, while those claiming political descent from him have nearly ceased to breathe his name everywhere.

"Remembering, too, that the Jefferson party was formed upon its superior devotion to the personal rights of man, holding the rights of property to be secondary only, and greatly inferior, and assuming that the so-called democracy of to-day are the Jefferson, and their opponents the anti-Jefferson party, it will be equally interesting to note how completely the two have changed hands as to the principles upon which they were originally supposed to be divided.

"I remember being once much amused at seeing two partially intoxicated men engaged in a fight with their great-coats on, which fight, after a long and rather harmless contest, ended in each having fought himself out of his own coat and into that of the other.

Of course it is met with the old cry of the plutocratic press against "confiscating socialism," and is falsely represented as a movement toward the "equalization of wealth."

It is "socialism" to demand that taxes for the support of the government be levied with some regard to benefits received and ability to pay, then we need more of this socialism in the United States. At present wealth, as such, pays nothing toward the support of the Federal government.

As direct taxes are forbidden, the only way to make superabundant wealth pay something like its just proportion toward the support of the government is to tax incomes above the ordinary. This is done in nearly every other civilized country in the world.

"Your obedient servant, 'A. LINCOLN. Messrs. H. L. Pierce and others."

Does not this sound like populistic literature? Lincoln was literally the heir of the political principles of Jefferson, though there had been no connection in party organization.

Answers Sheldon.

Editor Independent: Please allow me space in your valuable paper to reply to Hon. A. E. Sheldon in regard to the school land law. I can't see it as he does. I do not think it just to take from the few to benefit the many without giving him a chance to pay off his debt sometime.

if this land was sold and the money invested with good security, it could not possibly happen, and every body would have to bear their share of the burden. We all kick because we have to pay taxes to enrich the bondholder.

Now, Mr. Editor, I expect my letter too long. If so, cut it to suit the space and I would like Mr. Sheldon's post-office address. Yours respectfully, JAMES E. LINN, Paxton, Neb., Feb. 22, 1898.

RUNNING EARS.

The Result of Chronic Catarrh of the Middle Ear.

Mr. W. Brigham, Pilot Knob, Wis., writes to Dr. Hartman as follows: "Last April we commenced doctoring my son Edgar for chronic otitis, running of the ears. He is now about fifteen years old and had been troubled with it since he was two years old. It became very bad and ran constantly. He began to get discouraged himself and we had little hopes of his recovery, when I wrote to you. But we were persistent in carrying out the prescription that you sent me. It has now been about seven months since there has been any discharge. Wax has formed in the ear and he appears perfectly well. I am very much pleased with your remedy."



Dr. Hartman has lately published in book form a series of lectures on the different phases of catarrh. It is called "Winter Catarrh," and will be sent free to any address by the Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company, Columbus, Ohio.

To Equalize Burdens.

An amendment to the constitution has been offered in the senate providing that—

The congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on all incomes, regardless of the source from which the income is derived or acquired; but all income taxes shall be uniform throughout the United States.

Until the Supreme court reversed itself by the change of a single vote, a few years ago, an income tax had been held to be constitutional. It is to meet the point made in that decision that this amendment is proposed.

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It is "socialism" to demand that taxes for the support of the government be levied with some regard to benefits received and ability to pay, then we need more of this socialism in the United States.

As direct taxes are forbidden, the only way to make superabundant wealth pay something like its just proportion toward the support of the government is to tax incomes above the ordinary.

And through a constitutional amendment or in some other way such a tax will eventually be levied and collected in this country.

With unblushing effrontery the gold-advocating press has asserted that the banks offer a better security on note circulation than the government.

In discussing this grotesque assumption, attention has been called in these columns to the failure of the chestnut street bank of Philadelphia.

By all means let "the government go out of the banking business." By all means destroy the greenbacks. By all means place the issuing and control of currency in the hands of the banks.

It is to be hoped that the gold press will quote frequently the history of the financial management of the chestnut street bank of Philadelphia and the chemical bank of New York.

A WORD WITH HUSBANDS.

Give Your Wife a Little Praise and See How It Works. "If husbands only knew, or if knowing only cared, how very much their words and manners affect the temperature of the home world, they would never, by word or deed, leave it enshrouded in gloom."

never, by word or deed, leave it enshrouded in gloom." argues M. A. Marquet in an article entitled "Praise Your Wife," in the March Woman's Home Companion. "To most wives the husband is the sun around which every thought revolves. There is scarcely an instant in which his presence is not felt as she goes about her work, or even when at rest.

"There is no true woman but will repay her husband over and over again for kind thoughtful treatment. He is ready to call her childish, and she may seem so to him; but one thing is sure, a woman never forgets. A little deed of love or thoughtfulness sown by his hand yields a certain and abundant harvest. She may love her home better than any other spot on earth, yet she sometimes gets so weary of the daily routine of never ending duties that fall to her lot that she cannot help an occasional feeling of envy for those who have more time for recreation, for going abroad for all the little things dear to the heart of every woman, but which the stern hand of duty most effectually debars her from enjoying.

"The Homeseekers Land Company will be ready in about ten days to send out blanks to any one in the state who wish to have their farms, raw lands, ranches, city or town property placed in the catalogue which will be ready for distribution when the exposition opens on the first of June. Notice will be given in this paper when the company is ready for business.

Allimony on the Installment Plan. Lida E. Howell was divorced at Atchison the other day from her husband, George W. Howell, who will be remembered in western Kansas as the big lumber dealer who failed a few years ago. Under the terms of the decree Mr. Howell must pay his wife \$15,000 in installments of \$75 a month.

Speaking of allimony, an odd sort of case is reported from Arkansas City, where a man is paying \$5,000 to his divorced wife at the rate of \$50 a month. After procuring this divorce he married a rich woman, who, however, insists on handling her own money.

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ANTON SEIDL THE GREAT WAGNERIAN DIRECTOR Says: "Thorough professional trial of the Kimball Piano justifies me in commending it as one of our few strictly first-class instruments." A. HOEPE, General Agt., Omaha, Neb.

NEW TOURIST CAR LINE. Weekly Personally Conducted Excursions to Portland, Ore., via Burlington Route. On February 17, and every Thursday thereafter at 6:10 p. m., Pullman tourist sleepers, in charge of our own excursion conductors, are scheduled to leave Lincoln for Portland via Denver, Leadville, Salt Lake City, Ogden and the Oregon Short Line, passing through the grandest scenery of the Rockies and stopping several hours in at Salt Lake City to allow a visit to the many points of interest there.

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Alaska Gold Fields. If you contemplate a trip to St. Michael's Cruise City, Ft. Codak, or Forty Mile or in fact any point in Alaska let me quote you rates and savings. I have the very latest advices from Portland and Seattle. G. W. Donnell, C. P. & T. A., corner Tenth and O streets, Burlington Route, Lincoln, Nebraska.