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IAMS' HORSE SHOW at the Omaha Exposition had all the people—judges, superintendents and all—on the run—to see the largest exhibit of Horses on grounds. More black Stallions than all exhibitors; more 2,000 pound horses, 1,800 pound two-year-olds (and not three-year-olds, either); more state prize winners, exposition winners—at leading Ill., Ia., Neb. and St. Louis fairs—and the largest Stallion and Mare in the United States, weight 5,000 pounds.

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would be contested, but when the legislature assembled they could only muster eight votes in the whole body favorable to such a proceeding so they dropped it as if it were a hot poker. The man the republicans wanted to seat in place of Governor Lee is a defaulter and will have to account to the courts. The ways of republicans in South Dakota are very much the same as in Nebraska.

The dispatches say that when General Miller arrived at Hilo he found that after the Spanish had departed the inhabitants had set up a complete government that met with the entire approval of all the foreign residents. The custom house, post office and other departments were working smoothly. There was no looting nor any attempts to loot. In their communications with the American forces they denied that they were a separate republic and refused to do anything without orders from Aguinaldo. It appears from these reports that the services of Mark Hanna and McKinley are not necessary in this case to enable the people to set up a government.

Judge Grimeson of Schuyler was appointed by Gov. Poynter to fill the vacancy in the Sixth judicial district caused by the death of Judge Marshall.

The sick reports of the First Nebraska in Manila are made out monthly, but it takes about eight weeks to get them here after they are made out. The last one received was dated September 30.

When Gen. Wood started to Washington from Santiago to protest against the transfer of the money coming into that city from customs to Havana, the whole population turned out and marched with him from the palace to the wharf, cheering with all their might the whole way. General Wood is realizing the truth of Bryan's statement that "the gratitude of a people is better than a jeweled sword."

Dispatches from Havana say that Gen. Gomez will never disband his army until his soldiers have been paid, and that he will lead his forces back into the hills and fight if the American policy is not changed. Imperialism is a rocky road to travel.

The administration is hurrying reinforcements with all speed toward the Philippines. Four more war ships and two additional regiments have been ordered there. Everything points toward Uncle Sam having a big job on hands.

Algeria is still rampant at Washington. Recently some troops ordered home from Porto Rico were landed on the frosty shores of New England dressed in the lightest tropical clothing, while the troops in Cuba were forced to march under a boiling sun clothed in garments fit only for a mid-winter Indian campaign in North Dakota.

Gov. Roosevelt has carried joy to the hearts of women suffragists by recommending in his inaugural message that woman suffrage be extended in the state of New York. Upon being interviewed, he said that he meant just what he said.

A long protest has been made by the relatives of the men of the First regiment against Col. Stotsenberg. They accuse him of several things—none of them so very bad—but they want him sent back to his own regiment in the regular army. The hardships that the First have endured have been very great, but these friends must learn that imperialism means much suffering and many deaths. It cannot be otherwise.

Gov. Altgeld calls Tom Reed "the poisoned ring master of monopoly."

That is the time that Altgeld bit the nail on the head.

Mr. Haller seems to have been the most completely sold out politician that ever appeared in Lincoln. After all the row he made and the promises he secured for going into the caucus and "making it unanimous," he did not get a thing. He is the chairman of no committee and the few that he is on, he lines up in the rear with the populists. Thomson must feel certain that he does not need him.

Quite a little sensation was produced in the senate at Washington the other day. Senator Caffery was reading from a book when Senator Spooner arose and asked, "What book is the senator reading from?" Senator Caffery replied: "This is the constitution of the United States." It seems that the imperialists have so completely abandoned all faith in the constitution that they don't know it when they hear it read.

In one of the dispatches from Cuba the clergy in that island is spoken of as "wards of the government." That is a queer state of affairs.

The republicans in the lower house of the legislature started out to adopt a Reed rule, but they ran against a snag. Before such a course of procedure can be adopted by any legislature every man in favor of it must proclaim himself a cur dog, who is willing to come and go at the whistle of the speaker. There were a few republicans who had not been trained down to that point and they kicked.

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SOMEWHAT SUSPICIOUS.

The democrat or populist member of the legislature, who votes for a republican for United States senator, no matter whom they may be, will be looked upon with suspicion. In the battle of reform, there can be no compromise with the enemy. The fight must be carried on until the hosts of plutocracy surrender unconditionally.

Beginning the Year

With pure, rich, healthy blood, which may be had by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, you will not need to fear attacks of pneumonia, bronchitis, fever, colds or the grip. A few bottles of this great tonic and blood purifier, taken now, will be your best protection against spring humors, boils, eruptions, that tired feeling and serious illness, to which a weak and debilitated system is especially liable in early spring. Hood's Sarsaparilla eradicates from the blood all scrofula taints, tones and strengthens the stomach, cures dyspepsia, rheumatism, catarrh and every ailment caused or promoted by impure or depleted blood.

MORE SAILORS WANTED

The secretary of the navy tells congress that he wants 22,000 American tars. Congress will probably consent. It will be easier for congress to make provision for their enlistment than it will be to secure them. We need a great many American merchant marine, manned by Americans, and then whenever the necessities of our navy require a large increase of men, we have a resource to fall back upon. Congress cannot provide an American built merchant marine unless it can get men. Take the tariff off ship building materials and the American merchant marine will take care of itself. In five years from that time there will be plenty of well trained American sailors.

Patrons those who patronize the INDEPENDENT.

PINGREE ON TAXATION

Congress Always has a due Appreciation of the Power of Corporate Wealth.

THE TELEGRAPH MONOPOLY

Denounces the Sources of Municipal Corruption—In Line with Gov Poynter.

Own the Railroads.

"When the present congress, the very embodiment of patriotism, was preparing a revenue bill to pay the expenses of the war with Spain for the liberating and uplifting of the oppressed and downtrodden of Cuba, it too, exhibited a due appreciation of corporate wealth when it exempted from taxation the telegraph monopoly. This corporation, that received millions of dollars in increased earnings by reason of the war that was being waged in the interest of humanity, was left exempt from taxation, notwithstanding other corporations throughout the country, notably banking institutions, many of which had a revenue stamp on every draft they issued. The telegraph monopoly pays no tax on its capital, and is even exempted from putting stamps on messages used by itself in its own business. The same bill provided for a tax of 10 cents a pound on tea and the ordinary mechanic earning \$9 a week has paid more on his ten alone in a single week toward bringing this war for humanity to a successful termination than the great telegraph trust.

"Still they say there is no corruption in congress, because some of our statesmen who helped to frame this revenue bill claim that they are not rich, but that they could have been, had they been dishonest. It seems to me, however, that it makes no difference to the people of this state whether such legislation was brought about by the use of trunks or favor, by the use of cash in hand paid or by reason of the lack of intelligence on the part of the framers of the bill. The effect is the same, and the people suffer the same."

In speaking of the granting of municipal franchises Governor Pingree says:

"The arguments in favor of municipal ownership are too many to be stated here in detail, but a few may be briefly stated: (1) The taking out of the control of the council of a matter which has always, in large cities, been the most fruitful source of municipal corruption. (2) The tendency of a public plant to give the greatest consideration to the lives and comfort of passengers. (3) The tendency of such a system, to confine the tracks to as few streets as possible, instead of, as in the franchise system, to cover as many as possible. (4) The reduction of fares to as low a point as is consistent with the cost of maintenance."

G. v. Pingree, after presenting a brief argument to justify the recommendation, says:

"I must earnestly recommend that this legislature inaugurate a policy looking to the ultimate purchase by the state of all the railroads within its limits. Laws equalizing taxation and regulating rates of fare only reach the symptoms. They do not reach the root of the disease, which is private ownership of public franchises. The only way to permanently cure such evils is to eradicate the cause by the state assuming the ownership and control of all franchises of a public nature."

All this is in line with the message of Gov. Poynter to the Nebraska legislature. In speaking of the railroad question Gov. Poynter said:

"The varied interests of the several states in the union are too closely linked in the bonds of commercial union for the states independently to properly adjust the great questions arising from transportation and inter-communication among the people. The national government itself must own and operate the highways of transportation and the electric means of communication, as it now does the great postal system, in the interest of all the citizens of our great common country."

GREAT MONEY POWER

(Continued from page 1.)

the only ones that could be compelled to tell in a court of justice the story of the tragedy at the solitary ranch on Powder river. The murderers were millionaires. The unwilling witnesses were uneducated trappers. It was imperative that they be got out of the country.

A lively stable keeper at Douglas was entrusted with the job. He gained access to the witness prisoners, told they would surely be killed if they stayed in Wyoming to testify, and if they would go with him they should be given plenty of money and gotten out of the country safely. On the night of May 2d, 1892, the jail was opened in some mysterious way—the two prisoners and the liveryman mounted three swift horses and by riding all night reached the Nebraska line the next day. They took the Elkhorn trail for Crawford, where they expected to board the B. & M. night train and get out of the country. They were stopped at Crawford, however, by Constable Morrison, who had a telegram from the Wyoming authorities asking him to hold them until officers from there could arrive. Something had to be done quickly or the whole plan of abduction would fail. Telegrams were sent from At-

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orney Donzelman of Cheyenne, counsel for the big cattlemen, retaining B. B. Jencks and W. H. Wesover, two of the most prominent attorneys in northwestern Nebraska, and instructions sent them to prevent the return of the witnesses to Wyoming in any possible way.

Following these instructions the Nebraska lawyers secured a writ of habeas corpus from S. M. Ballard, county judge of Dawes county, paid twenty-five dollars for a special train from Chadron to Crawford, brought the two witnesses to Chadron and lodged them in the county jail, where the writer of this article first met them and learned from their own lips the story of the murders at K. C. ranch and the subsequent vicissitudes they had undergone. Both of them were singularly simple-minded, child-like persons, with very little education. All their lives had been spent on secluded frontier farms or in trapping. They seemed dazed with the swift succession of events that had befallen them, from the burning of the K. C. ranch, through the siege of T. A. ranch, the capture by the soldiers, the Douglas jail, the flight and arrest. They sincerely believed their lives were in great peril and only wished to get away from all the contending parties and return to the quiet pursuit of the beaver and muskrat. The old man was past sixty and remarked to me that it "wasn't a fur while he had to live now," but he would like to save the boy—who was just twenty—any more trouble.

It was Friday when the prisoners were brought to Chadron. The county judge continued the hearing of their case over to Monday. Some of the Wyoming authorities had arrived and both parties struggling for the possession of the prisoners placed a guard to watch the jail and see that they were not spirited away.

Saturday night Deputy United States Marshal Hopfinger arrived in Chadron. He stayed around the hotel and had conferences with the Douglas liveryman and the attorneys interested in getting the prisoners away—who were now reinforced by the arrival of a couple of Wyoming lawyers. Monday morning Deputy Marshal Hopfinger went before United States Commissioner L. A. Dorrington and swore out a warrant for the two trappers charging them with selling liquor to Indians. No one but those in charge of that side of the case knew of this. The hearing of the habeas corpus case was set for ten o'clock. Before this time the court room was crowded. Rumor had gone out that the United States marshal would attempt to seize the witnesses and carry them off and many of the small stock men living around Chadron had come in—some of them armed—to witness the proceedings.

The trappers were brought into court and seated together. Marshal Hopfinger immediately took a chair next to them on the right and the Douglas liveryman the one on the left. After counsel on both sides had made their arguments on the legal questions involved—which was whether the prisoners were lawfully held by Constable Morrison and should be returned to the Wyoming authorities—the honorable county court relieved itself of a very large section of plug tobacco and began slowly to deliver his opinion. After reviewing the case the court said: "I therefore find that these men are held without legal authority and"—here the court looked significantly at Marshal Hopfinger and uttered the words quickly "Discharge the prisoners."

Instantly the deputy marshal sprang to his feet, placed a hand on each of the trappers and exclaimed, "You are my prisoners." At the same time Sheriff James C. Dahlman, now one of the state board of transportation, placed his hand upon them and produced a warrant saying "These men belong to me." Dahlman represented the Wyoming authorities and his papers were designed to return the witnesses to Douglas. There was intense excitement in the room. A hundred men sprang upon chairs and tables and formed a circle in whose center were the two trappers, the deputy United States marshal and the Nebraska sheriff. Everyone looked for a fight and there was not much doubt on which side the great majority stood. The deputy marshal had produced a bundle of glittering steel as he spoke and with the aid of the liveryman and another assistant proceeded to handcuff and leg shackle the two innocent objects of all this contention. I shall never forget the appalling, terror-stricken look in the eyes of old trapper Jones as the handcuffs and leg-irons were fastened on his limbs and he looked around him at that circle of intent faces.

Meanwhile the opposing attorneys came forward—with the praise-worthy ambition of their class to prevent all conflicts except those which involved the payment of fees. After a prolonged conference it was announced that Sheriff Dahlman relinquished his claim to the men. The reason given at the time was that the Wyoming authorities could not put up a sufficient guarantee to protect the sheriff from possible loss if he endeavored to hold the prisoners and become thereby involved in official litigation. There was no lack of "financial guarantee" on the cattle barons' side of the case. I have it from the lips of those who know that a cash deposit of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars was made by that side of the case with the county judge to "meet all possible cost" as it was phrased. None of this money was ever paid back or accounted for, so far as I can learn, and the present county judge of Dawes county writes me under date of December 30th, 1896, that he has diligently searched all the records in his office and nowhere in them is there a trace of this important habeas corpus case for which a fee deposit of one hundred and twenty-five dollars was made. Nor is there any record in the papers of the United States circuit court commissioner at Chadron of the complaint sworn to or warrant issued in this case.

The moment it was announced by the lawyers that Sheriff Dahlman's claim for the prisoners was withdrawn the United States deputy marshal pushed his way through the crowd and hustled them at as rapid a gait as they could walk down the middle of the

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street toward the depot. That May

day picture in mountain Nebraska—two innocent unoffending trappers, with glittering steel shackles on their wrists and ankles, the deputy United States marshal with his assistants hurrying them along, the successful attorneys for the millionaire murderers accompanying and the indignant, irrefutable crowd that followed after—will never be effaced from my mind. It lingers scarcely longer than it might be photographed. As they hurried toward the depot the purpose of their haste flashed into our minds. A turn of the street corner confirmed the flash. There stood a special train headed east, with hot hissing steam blowing off from the engine. The United States marshals, the lawyers, the trappers, and the circuit court commissioner hurried on board. Two shouts shrieked from the locomotive and the train was moving. Before half the following crowd reached the platform it had disappeared beyond the hills of the Bozedeaux valley.

Two hundred and eighty dollars was the price paid for the service of the special train. It ran a hundred miles east to Cody, a little station in the very center of the Cherry county sand hills. There it halted and after telegraphic communication with Cheyenne and Omaha the party got off. In a few hours they were joined from the east by Deputy United States Marshals Z. E. Jackson and S. M. Melek, both of whom are now residents of Lincoln. They had left Fremont that morning with instructions from the United States marshal's office at Omaha to go to Chadron and secure the trappers. On their way up the Elkhorn valley they had been apprised by telegraph that Deputy Hopfinger had succeeded in his task and were ordered to go to Cody to meet and assist him if needed.

The prisoners wore out with excitement and anxiety, were permitted to lie down on the depot floor and sleep while the rest of the party passed the time with cards until the arrival of the east bound express which they boarded for Omaha.

The entire party arrived in Omaha at 3:30 p. m. the next day. They were met at the depot by Attorney Frank Bassom, since then president of the Nebraska senate, who had been retained by the Cheyenne cattle barons.

They were driven at once to the federal building, to the office of E. S. Dundy Jr., son of United States District Judge Dundy, and himself circuit court commissioner. Here they were arraigned on the charge of selling liquor to Indians. They waived examination or somebody waived it for them. Their own personal recognizance in two hundred dollars and two hundred dollars cash bail was required for their appearance to answer the charge. W. A. Paxton, jr., son of the well known Omaha cattle magnate, deposited the two hundred dollars cash and the prisoners signed the personal recognizance. They were then taken down town, treated to supper, shave and hair cut, their rough frontier trapper costumes replaced with new suits of clothes, and then driven to the Missouri Pacific night train in charge of a man directed to take them to St. Louis.

This is as far as I have been able to authentically trace their story. I am informed by those in a position to know that they were to be given \$3,000 each and from St. Louis were to be sent to Mexico, but my informant was unable to say positively that this was done. At any rate the two trapper witnesses disappeared from the FOUR

plains of Wyoming and the prairies of Nebraska—never, I presume, to return and the most diligent search on my part gives me no clue of their ultimate fate or present whereabouts.

The record in the Omaha federal building shows the following upon United States Commissioner E. S. Dundy, jr.'s docket. Docket A., page 261:

"The United States vs. Benjamin Jones and William Walker, selling liquor to Indians, warrant issued by Dorrington at Chadron, 5-10192. Warrant returned served on Benjamin Jones and William Walker at Chadron, 5-9-92. Marshal's fees, \$263.64. Defendant present in court and waived examination. Bail fixed at \$200 for appearance May 20, 1892; same given and defendant released. The United States attorney directs the taking of a personal recognizance with \$200 cash." May 27, 1892. Received of E. S. Dundy jr., United States Commissioner, \$200 each, bail deposited for appearance of Benjamin Jones and William Walker.

(Continued on Eighth Page.)