

Nebraska Independent

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Independent Publishing Co.

LINCOLN, - NEBRASKA.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Address all communications to, and make all bills, money orders, etc. payable to THE INDEPENDENT PUBLISHING CO., LINCOLN, NEB.

Forbids annexation is criminal aggression, but I am going to do it all the same.—Wm. McKinley.

This imperialist, Spanish war has already cost us nearly one-fourth as much as the civil war. McKinley is a great bond maker.

"Murder and money" is the battle cry of the imperialist. Murder the Filipinos and make money out of the commerce of their islands. Bloody handed preachers are willing to say prayers over the scheme.

Every plutocratic paper that one picks contains some reference to Bryan's mouth. No wonder. That mouth has played everlasting smash with a good many of their projects. They stand in mortal terror of it.

Mark Hanna has tuned up his sirens and set them on every rock in the channel. But we have heard their sweet voices before. None will be enticed away by the song that it is "The Last Hope of the Republic."

The millionaires of New York have adopted a new fad. It is not now considered good form to get married unless there is a chance to marry some other man's wife. The Vanderbilts started the fad and all the 400 now rigidly adhere to the example.

Poor old Senator Hoar thought he could restrain Mark Hanna and McKinley by telling them that imperialism was "immoral and wicked." That only made Mark smile. Hoar did not seem to understand that immorality and wickedness was the delight of Mark Hanna's life.

The editor of the Barpy county Herald wants the stuffing shot out of the Cubans because they would not accept the bribe of \$75.00 a piece and deliver their guns to Gen. Brooks. That is the true spirit of the Mark Hanna follower. If a man won't accept a bribe and then stay bribed, then shoot him.

There are some fellows who have attached themselves to the pop party and who have perhaps contributed a quarter some time to party expenses. Now they declare that they are entitled to run the whole shooting match and they will have goose liver pie or bust the whole thing up.

"Yes," says the cheerful idiot of the gold bug order, "I would be for free silver if I owned a silver mine." Then he smiles a smirking smile which he thinks will lead people to believe that he is a gold bug because he has a great big gold mine.

Just as soon as McKinley was convinced that the reports of General Otis about having carried his campaign to a glorious finish was all false and that a new campaign requiring large reinforcements was about to begin, he ordered a peace jubilee to be celebrated in Washington over which he and the Algerians presided with a great deal of dignity.

Our exports exceeded our imports last year \$618,482,283. But we only received \$104,985,293 in gold. What became of the other \$503,447,000? Toil away you mule heads. We know now just how much we must send to the money lenders of the old world every year. Keep at it. Raise the corn, wheat and pork. Sell it and get the money. Those money lenders must have it.

The editor of the Independent met a republican lawyer on the street and was accosted with the remark: "Don't you think you are a little too hard on our fellows when you call us and our preachers, Mohammedans? Now all of us pray every day." "What do you say when you pray?" "We say: 'Lord let thy kingdom of heaven and Babes come and give us a seat on the right hand of the plow seat.'"

There are a few editorial noodles in this country who are so very large and great in their own estimation that everything that they look at except themselves appears little. So they call all other persons except themselves "little Americans." Then, why they, are "big Americans." Specimen never runs to the top high water mark before. It has done it now. No coming generation will ever be able to equal it.

RETURN OF THE FIRST.

The people of this state would be glad to have the First regiment return to the state capital and be mustered out at the place where it was mustered in, so that thousands of the people could assemble and show the brave soldiers how proud we are of their deeds. But if that arrangement cannot be made except at a cost of \$100.00 for each of the privates then we don't want it. The fate of the private soldier will be that of all others of previous wars. He will be let and fatted for a day or two and then he will be turned out to hunt for a job. He will find that a hundred dollars in his pocket will, under such circumstances, be of much more benefit to him, than a few days of feasting and adulation. If justice were done to them, they would be brought to Lincoln as a regiment, mustered out here and given the hundred dollars besides.

THEORY OF A THIEF.

The republican convention in Ohio attempts to revive the catch phrases in use in the campaign of 1896. Congressman Kerr talked of "confidence" and "we intend to pay our debts in the best money in use in the world." The people got pretty well acquainted with that "confidence" game in the last presidential campaign and are not likely to be taken in with it again. As to paying our debts in the best money in the world, that is the cry of a thief. If he had said we will pay our debts in money of the same value in which they are contracted, that would be a statement of honesty. That cry has lost its force. It always was a cry of the thief and every intelligent man now knows that it is.

The republicans are fond of referring all the ills of the past 12 years to "the democratic times." The sufferings under Cleveland were only made possible by the united aid of the republican party leaders. It was in fact, the leadership of the republican senators that made the repeal of the Sherman act possible. Instead of being "democratic times," it was "republican times." If the Cleveland times were hard, the men who fought Cleveland and all his policies should now have the support of these republicans who denounce them, and most prominent among them all, is W. J. Bryan. The men who made the Cleveland times were Sherman, Hoar, Hale, Hawley, Aldrich and the rest of the gang that are now denouncing them. The men who tried to avert them, were Bryan and his present enthusiastic followers. The cry of Kerr at the Ohio republican convention was pure hypocrisy. But it is impossible for a man to be a republican leader and not be a hypocrite.

The State Journal undertook to give the mullet heads some religious counsel the other day and it talked about "the twelve tables of Moses." All that any christian ever heard of was two tables of stone. Since it has adopted Mohammedanism and has taken up the Koran, it gets its scripture badly mixed. It can shoot with considerable clearness: "Conversion by the sword, destiny and great is Allah," but is losing its old power of playing the christian saint.

The republicans have become so ignorant and degraded that even their editors speak a kind of "patois" like the lower classes of Europe. The best informal people are sometimes put to great inconvenience by not being able to understand it. Many of the words of republican patois, while the same as in English, have in the dialect of the mullet heads an entirely different meaning. As an example: The word "traitor" in the republican patois, means one who is opposed to changing this republic into an empire. The word "copperhead" means one who is opposed to foreign wars of conquest. In the same patois the word "republican" means one who is opposed to all the principles ever advocated by Abraham Lincoln. By keeping these definitions in mind, one may be able to understand them fairly well.

The land grabbers are never idle. At the Trans-Mississippi convention in Wichita last week the effort to secure the passage of a resolution favoring the cession of the so-called "arid lands" to the several states led to a hot debate which was the great feature of the meeting. The out come was the adoption of a modified resolution which while recommending cession hedges it about with so many restrictions as to make it, in the language of Governor Murphy, a "jog-fall." The effort to secure a cession of the remaining public lands to the state is the same old scheme sprung in Nebraska seven or eight years ago when an effort was made to get Senator Manderson to push such a bill through congress. Manderson started in that direction, but the protests that came up from the western part of the state, from republicans as well as populists, were so vigorous that he was glad to switch. Back of all these efforts is the syndicate of land sharks who want to get hold of the vast remaining areas of free land on the plea that it is necessary for their "development."

THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR.

The worship of the dollar has become so engrained into the hearts and minds of the people of this country that it controls every idea and every emotion. In it all honor lies. Outside of it there is nothing for which men should strive.

The way to show honor and gratitude is to take up a collection and present dollars to the one honored. It is the lowest and vilest thing that the world ever saw. What would Washington have said if upon his retirement from public service it had been proposed to take up a collection and present him with dollars? The degeneracy of these United States exhibited in this worship of the dollar is appalling. There is no honor in anything any more except the almighty dollar.

SUPERSTITION.

The growth of superstition in the United States in the last few years, especially in the cities is awful to contemplate. One will meet every day persons, some of them college graduates, who are simply slaves to superstition. Or shall we call it insanity? One will be talking to a person to all appearances, well educated, and will be astonished to hear them speak of ghosts, mahatmas, spirits, mind reading, communications from the dead or some other superstition with an air and a manner of perfect belief. A lady who was ill was visited by several ladies all of whom go in the best circles of society in Lincoln. One, (and each and all of them were perfectly serious,) advised her to go to a divine healer who had just appeared in town, another wanted her to go to a medium, another advised her to destroy the medicine that the physician had prescribed although the doctor was a graduate of one of the best medical schools in the United States still another wanted a mind healer sent for and others had similar superstitious notions.

Now if this had occurred among ignorant and uneducated foreigners, it would not have been so astonishing. But every one of these persons was American born, some of them held degrees from universities and all were fairly well educated.

The rush that is constantly made to palmists, fortune tellers, divine healers, mediums, shows that superstition is as deeply seated in the United States as it is in China. And the superstitions believed in, in our own country are just as degrading and harmful as those of the Celestial Empire.

If this growth of superstition goes on unchecked it will be the destruction of civilization. Something should be done to stop it. Men and women who still have sane minds should lay aside their politeness and plainly make manifest to all such persons, no matter what grade of society they move in, their utter disgust and contempt for these superstitions, which might be overlooked in savages and barbarians but are utterly inexcusable in men and women who have had the advantage even of a common school education.

While the superstitious number hundreds in Lincoln, that sort of degradation is still more prevalent in the great cities of the eastern states. Recent investigations in New York and Boston, has revealed the fact that thousands of persons there constantly consult oracles, rely upon charms and a black art is in vogue among them as degrading as the fetich worship of the darkest part of Africa. The lives of many of these people are entirely controlled by signs and omens.

There are societies without number all devoting their energies in various ways to what they think will be for the improvement of society, but it seems that there is room and a want for more. A society whose energies shall be devoted to the suppression of superstition. Such a society could take for its motto the words uttered by Paul on Mars Hill nearly two thousand years ago: "I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious."

WHERE WAS HE?

The West Point Free Press says that the republican party started in life pledged to protective tariff, against the extension of slavery, for free homesteads, sound money, every dollar as good as every other dollar, free soil and free speech and free press, loyalty to the union and the flag. Where was that fellow when the republican party was organized? Now here is a man who was there and it makes him laugh to read that summary of the first republican platform. The sound money business never was advocated by the republican party until Mark Hanna got control of its machinery, then about every intelligent and honest republican got up and marched out of the convention.

THE BEST OF ALL.

This paper has a great many valuable exchanges, but best of them all is the Nebraska Independent. It is clean, able, earnest and business. It has no sense to exhibit, and it is broad, liberal and masterly in the discussion of every living issue. Every editorial is marked with the good sense and wisdom of an earnest honest and generous-hearted man. The Independent deserves the support of every reformer in the state of Nebraska. The more we see of the Independent the better we like it, and the stronger our faith becomes in Brother Tibbels' integrity of purpose and lovable qualities as a man.—Butler County Press.

Under head of Hog Cholera in last week's Independent the article was made to say the Capital Mutual Hog Insurance company paid one-third the market value of all hogs that died when it should have paid two-thirds.

THE LAWYERS.

This country has raised up a breed of lawyers that have been an unmitigated curse to the whole land. In their practice they have abandoned all the principles of the common law and in their lives been guided by no principle of morality known to christian nations. Big fees, regardless of how or in whose service they obtained, have been the only objects sought after.

The lawyers of the land could have prevented the formation of any or all trusts if they had been disposed so to do, whether there had ever been an anti-trust act passed or not. The common law was sufficient to prevent their formation and to overthrow them if formed. What ought the lawyers to have done? Inasmuch as courts from the days of Lord Coke to the present time, have never given monopoly a standing, either in equity or law, the lawyers could have long ago killed every monopolistic concern in the United States if they had wished to do so. But while they have killed one of them, they have the impudence to come before the people claiming all patriotism and ask for all the offices. They had better do something to show their patriotism. The lawyers, if they had wanted to do it, could have taken the following principles laid down by Lord Coke and gone into the courts and cleaned out the whole gang of trusts and combinations. They are so axiomatic that there is not a judge in the land who would dare to disregard them. Lord Coke is speaking of monopolies says:

"First the price of the commodity will be raised, for he who has the sole selling will always make the price as he pleases; second, after the monopoly is established a commodity is not so good and merchantable as it was before, for the monopolist, having the sole trade or control, always regards private benefit before he considers a benefit to the commonwealth. third, it always has impoverished many artificers and working men, who, before, by the labor of their hands in their art or trade, had maintained themselves, their families and their communities, and, who, after such trusts are formed, are constrained to live in idleness and beggary."

The Independent proposes that the populist party lay it down as a rule that until these lawyers get a move on them and go into the courts and do something to relieve the people of the oppression of the trusts and combinations of capital, not one of them shall have an office of any kind, even if we have to elect farmers to the positions of judges and attorney generals. If they will do their duty as officers of the court to protect the rights of the people against the aggressions of the concentration of capital in the hands of the few, they can have all the offices as far as this writer is concerned. But until they go to work and really do something, we are in favor of shutting them out.

STANDING ARMIES.

Recent statistics show that the cost of maintaining the standing armies of the eighteen nations of Europe, including Turkey, is \$1,153,000,000 a year. The system there has gradually grown until it is impoverishing the producers and brings indescribable suffering upon millions of men, women and children who have done no harm to any one. It is the most cruel thing of all the ages. Just at the time when this system of standing armies is becoming unbearable in the monarchies where it originated, Mark Hanna proposes to inaugurate it in this country. How completely plutocracy controls the press can be seen when it is observed that not a single great daily or magazine in the whole land has had the courage to make a vigorous protest against it.

We have had perfect peace and good order for quarter of a century in the United States with a standing army of less than 25,000 men. Now Otis wants, he says, 30,000 for the Philippines alone. To hold the Philippines after they are conquered, will require at least that many. These will have to be renewed every five years. It will be seen that the first thing that results from imperialism is the more than doubling of our standing army. A corresponding increase will also have to be made in the navy. European conditions will soon be upon us in full force. American mothers must learn to bear and rear sons whose bodies will be food for powder. Many a baby boy now nestling in his mother's arms, will die on the battle field or in some military hospital because of the schemes that McKinley is concocting.

Go on, mullet heads! Roar your sons to be shattered with shot! Write wrinkles in the faces of fair women. Sprinkle their hair with gray and bring them down to their early graves in sorrow. Make the happy land a land of mourning. Keep old glory at half mast most of the time in sorrow for dead and dying. Go on! You are on the road to hell and you will land yourself and your country there in short order. Go on. You don't seem to have any brains, so it is no use to try to reason with you. Give us standing armies, big navies, bloody battles. Great is Allah and destiny cannot be changed.

REPUBLICAN BANKRUPTCY.

There are not less than spheres of republicans in this city who a few years ago considered themselves rich. Now many of them are completely bank-

rupted and dare not own in their own name anything. Others of them, while not quite that bad off, cannot afford to live in the fine houses that they built for themselves and their families and are offering them for sale at less than half of what it cost to build them. It is said that nearly every prominent residence in the city has been offered the state for a residence for the governor that was provided for by the last legislature, and at such ridiculously low prices that a general demand has been made on the state officers to keep the bids from the public because, if known, it would be a blow to the price of real estate in the city.

Now there is just as much wealth in this city, or nearly so, for the fires have destroyed some, as there ever was. Is it not a strange state of affairs that this wealth has made the owners of it poor? Why are not the men who built these fine mansions still rich? There can be but one answer to that question that will commend itself to the common sense of mankind. The wealth is still here, but its value in money has been reduced about seventy-five per cent. Money, in comparison with real estate in Lincoln has increased in value about 150 per cent. That increase in the value of money has made bankrupts of the men who built and owned these fine mansions.

A stranger thing than all this is, that the men who have thus been made bankrupts, insisted upon, voted and fought for the very thing that reduced them to poverty and bankruptcy. There is not one of them but who knows that if they could sell their property at the old value, that is, if the value of money were reduced 75 per cent, that every one of them could pay off all of their debts and have enough left to live in comfort the remainder of his life.

Here is a mansion offered for \$25,000. If the owner could sell it to the state for \$100,000 he would be very glad to do it no doubt. If he owed \$25,000 he could pay his debt and have a comfortable sum left. But that would mean the cheapening of money and an increase in the price of real estate. No man can deny that. Is it not strange that every one of these republican bankrupts are out on the street every day denouncing the advocates of such a policy as repudiators, anarchists and copperheads.

What is the republican bankrupt to do after he sells his mansion? If he gets enough to pay his debts he will be lucky. Then, past his prime, he must face a world where every business is in the hands of a trust. What can he do? He can go around the streets denouncing cheap money, free silver and shouting for the gold standard and imperialism. And that is probably what these mullet heads will continue to do until they are laid away by the hands of charity in a pauper's grave. Go on. The grave is not very far off for most of you. Your children will serve the trusts as employees if they are so fortunate as to get a situation, and those that are not, will join the innumerable throng who are homeless and propertyless.

NEW OFFICIAL OATH.

They are bribing some of the Filipinos by giving them office. When they wear them in they don't make them swear to support and defend the constitution of the United States. Not much. That would not do at all. No one is defending the constitution of the United States over there. If one should so swear, he would have to take up arms against McKinley's troops and fight on the side of the Filipinos. The oath that these new found officers take is: "I recognize and accept the supreme authority of the United States." As McKinley is, just at present, the supreme authority in the United States, this is simply an oath to accept the authority of McKinley, or to be exact, Mark Hanna.

Every day this imperialism gets us into contradictory and ridiculous situations. What would be more ridiculous than an officer of the United States being in such a position that if he swore to support the constitution he would be committing perjury.

These new found policies, new found officers and new found islands will yet disintegrate and destroy the best government the world ever saw. Go it, you mullet heads. "For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction."

THE LATEST LIE.

The goldbug press is running the following lie made out of whole cloth: "Colonel Bryan has recently written a new book and placed it in the hands of a notorious rat printing office to be printed. Union printers throughout the country have taken serious offense at this and are organizing to defeat Mr. Bryan, first for the nomination, and if they fail in this they will carry the fight into the election."

Bryan hasn't written any book and has no interest in any book now on the market except "The First Battle." A book has recently been published in Chicago containing a great deal of matter taken from Bryan's writings and speeches, but he has no interest in it whatever. If a gold bug editor could publish a lie about Bryan every day or two his salary would be stopped. He therefore always uses it that the only way doesn't stop.

The plutocratic regime has so far advanced that now they are passing laws

to prevent tramps committing suicide. Several states have on their statute books laws making suicide a crime. We suppose that the way they intend to punish a suicide is to bribe St. Peter to lock the doors against him or hire the devil, if the tramp goes to the other place to give him several very extra roasts. Go it, you plutes. The like of you was never seen before.

ANGLOPHOBIA.

There is not a man in public life that has so disappointed his friends and former admirers as John D. Long, secretary of the navy. The editor of the Independent knew him personally some years ago, when the love of liberty had not died in the hearts of the cultured writers and scholars of Boston. The spirit that had lived in the hearts of such men as Phillips, Garrison, Whittier and others was still reflected in the lives, speeches and writings of the better classes. The worship of the almighty dollar had no considerable number of followers. In the best clubs and highest circles, the millionaire churches and millionaires of New York were sneered at as "the newly rich" while they themselves, were proud to be considered the followers of the motto "noblesse oblige." Now all seems to be changed and among those who have adopted the new cult is John D. Long.

As an example of how far he has departed from the old Boston ideas, his recent action in regard to uniforms in the navy gives a good illustration. Boston used to be proud of the Declaration of Independence and the glorious heroes of Bunker Hill. Long seems to have discarded all that sort of sentiment and is for anything that will ape England. A few dude naval officers wanted to adopt the English uniform. Long issued an order commanding it to be done. But the American navy that has fought England for a hundred years refused to submit without a protest.

"If the English navy," said an officer, "adopted a linen duster, pair of boots, paper collar and straw hat and a service uniform, some of the American officers would go insane if our navy did not adopt the same. Any old thing so it is English. The blouse is the most comfortable, dressiest and neatest garment ever worn by any officer in this or any other country. No other navy in the world has the blouse, and it is military looking and dignified. It was adopted by Rear Admiral Porter several years ago, and nine-tenths of the officers protested against its being discarded."

The consequence of this protest from "nine-tenths" of the officers of the navy was that Secretary Long had to countermand his order to ape the English uniforms. The incident shows how far John D. Long has gone astray from the principles he advocated in his younger days.

Hardy's Column.

Sow Wheat—Consistency—Thompson Still in the Ring—Civil Service—Annexation and Expansion—Brewer and Millionaire.

Farmers will do well to sow a good share of their corn ground, between the rows, to wheat in September. The ground should be cultivated thoroughly this summer; it will be all the better for the corn crop, then it will be in better condition for wheat sowing. It gives the farmers two chances for a crop. If the wheat does well during the fall, winter and spring it will be out of the way of the drouth and hot winds, and if winter kills there will be still a chance for a corn crop. Crops should be rotated anyway. The same crop after crop of any kind soon strikes bottom.

Do the state officers stop all the supplies and salaries of state institutions when a legal question arises as to who is the rightful manager of that institution? The supreme court has lately decided what constitutes state institutions. Consistency is a political jewel and it stands a party in hand to wear that jewel when they have no votes to spare.

It is currently reported that Senator Rooke is to be county treasurer again for two terms at the hands of D. E. Thompson. It would seem that one office was enough for any man, but

Use Kansas Lump Rock Salt For Stock. Western Rock Salt Co., St. Louis, Mo.